

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Study Session
and Closed Executive Session

June 17, 2014

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Study Session and Closed Executive Session at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Kristi Swett, Vice President Heather Bennett, J. Michael Clára, Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Tiffany Sandberg, and Laurel H. Young.

Members Excused: Lavenita Vaitai, Student Member.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Patrick Garcia, Associate Superintendent School Support; Kristina Kindl, Director of Policy and Legal Services; Craig Ruesch, Interim Executive Director Human Resources; Gary Smith, Chief Information Officer; Kenneth Grover, Director Career & Technology Education and High School Support; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Principals Paul Sagers, East High School, Paul Schulte, Highland High School, Mindi Holmdahl, Horizonte Instruction and Training Center, Larry Madden, Salt Lake Center for Science Education, and Parley Jacobs, West High School; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; JoEllen Shaeffer, Assessment Director, Utah State Office of Education; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; Tina Hatch, Business Administration Office; and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Study Session of June 17, 2014, two motions were made. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

The meeting was called to order by President Swett, who presided.

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:00 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

*(1) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, personnel, and property items.
**(Sandberg and Young)

Present for Closed Session were Kristi Swett, Heather Bennett, J. Michael Clára, Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Tiffany Sandberg, Laurel H. Young, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, Patrick Garcia, Kristina Kindl, John Robson, board legal counsel from Fabian Attorneys at Law, and Blake Ostler, external investigator from Thompson Ostler & Olson.

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. and returned to the Board Study Session at 6:37 p.m.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	X		
CLÁRA	X		
EMERY	X		
NELSON	X		
SWETT	X		
SANDBERG	X		
YOUNG	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

2. BOARD STUDY SESSION

- President Swett welcomed everyone in the audience. She introduced Josh Whisenant, the 2014-2015 Student Board Member.
- Josh Whisenant led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Limited Consent Agenda

*(2) A motion was made that the board approve the four items, including two policies, included in the Limited Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.

**(Young and Nelson)

- a. The Purchasing Report dated June 17, 2014, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000.
- b. Negotiations Tentative Agreement. Agreements with the Salt Lake Teachers Association, Salt Lake Association of School Administrators, Buildings & Grounds Employee Association, Child Nutrition Employees Association, Comprehensive Employee Association, Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association, and Transportation Employee Association.
- c. Board Policies:
 - i. Policy P-5/G-11, Workplace Safety
 - ii. Policy P-10, Educator Evaluations
- d. Audit Services.

Prior to voting on the motion, Mr. Clára asked if the salary schedules would be presented for approval separately from the Negotiations Tentative Agreement. Superintendent Withers said the salary schedules are developed using the negotiated agreements, and would not need to be voted on separately.

A. STUDY TOPICS

1. High School Accountability Model. JoEllen Shaeffer, Assessment Director, Utah State Office of Education, and Aubree Gardner, Salt Lake City School District Data Specialist, presented a PowerPoint presentation about the development of high school accountability measures for the district. They distributed a memorandum containing the information discussed in the presentation. Ken Grover, Director, Career and Technology Education and Secondary School Support and Innovations High School Principal; Principals Paul Sagers, East High, Paul Schulte, Highland High, Mindi Holmdahl, Horizonte Instruction and Training Center, Larry Madden, Salt Lake Center for Science Education, and Parley Jacobs, West High, participated in the conversation about high school accountability.

Ms. Shaeffer said because State and Federal guidelines are not sufficient to assess high schools, a district committee was formed to create a more complete accountability model. She said the committee included the Assessment Department, the district's high school principals, and Information Systems. She shared a calendar of monthly topics discussed as they developed the High School Accountability Measures for the district. She said the committee will continue to meet to refine the accountability measures. She distributed a handout titled "9th Grade On-Track Indicator" developed by the Information Systems Department. This document gives criteria to determine whether 9th grade students are on-track to graduate. The reverse side of the handout is titled "Illuminate On-Track Indicator", and outlines the factors that determine whether a 10th grade student is on-track to graduate. These measures assist faculty in determining which students would benefit from early interventions.

Ms. Shaeffer discussed the four components of the Salt Lake City School District High School Report Card: Academic Performance, Student Engagement, College and Career Readiness, and Climate. She said the Standards of Performance totals a possible 1000 points, and the number of points earned determines which standard the school has reached, and is a more accurate indicator of accountability. She distributed a report card for each high school, which include an explanation of the calculations. She noted Horizonte's report card follows a different format because it is an alternative high school. She and Ms. Gardner explained the make-up of each component, and talked about tracking students through their college experience. She also noted the Climate component is still being developed, and the current score is a place-holder. Copies of the handouts and the PowerPoint presentation have been added to the official minutes.

The Principals discussed the benefits of the new accountability measures, and said growth is an important component. They said working together will help determine best practices for each of the schools, and improvements will be made to the measures each year. They said these efforts will help parents find the best fit for their students. Ms.

Holmdahl, Mr. Grover, and Mr. Madden discussed the differences for non-traditional high schools.

Ms. Emery said she would like to allow choice in schedules in order to meet the needs of more students. She distributed a handout showing teacher loads using alternate schedules. The board and principals discussed allowing alternate schedules while maintaining a similar master schedule to enable students moving from school to school and CTE. Ms. Emery's handout has been included in the official minutes.

Superintendent Withers stressed the district's need for a customized accountability model, and said he doesn't feel the State's model is sufficient. He said this is a necessary addition to the Student Improvement Plans for high schools. He said initial Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence (SAGE) scores will be low, which will make measuring accountability more difficult in the short term, but SAGE has the potential to provide great data. He thanked the committee for their work and their focus on students.

President Swett thanked the group for the presentation and their hard work.

2. Budget Development. Superintendent Withers thanked the board for the direction given at the last board meeting, and said the schools are moving forward with the FTE adjustments. He said the district is looking for grant money to expand Pre-K. He asked the board for direction regarding district investments in full-day Kindergarten, science coaches, and technology. The board discussed options, and asked for clarification on the impact expanding full-day Kindergarten would have on Title I schools. The board discussed the options available for the funding of full-day Kindergarten, the cost of doing Kindergarten testing prior to the start of the school year, the impact science coaches may have in the classroom, the technology needs of the district, and a timeline for capital improvements, including the rebuild of Lincoln Elementary School. They asked for more information about the options available to them. Ms. Roberts said she will prepare further information for the July 8, 2014 Board Business Meeting.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

Assessment Schedule for Utah Public School Students. Superintendent Withers distributed a document with the schedule for assessments for public school students. He noted the SAGE Interim testing was the only assessment marked 'Optional'. A copy of the handout has been included in the official minutes.

ESEA Waiver. Superintendent Withers distributed a memo from the Utah State Board of Education titled "Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver Extension and UCAS Accountability System". He said the State Board has not voted to extend the waiver. If they allow the waiver to lapse, the state would return to AYP and lose all Federal education money. Ms. Roberts noted the loss could total approximately \$25 million. A copy of the handout has been included in the official minutes.

Graduation Requirements. Superintendent Withers distributed a memo from the Utah State Board of Education titled "Graduation Initiative Report". He said the purpose of the study cited was to gather information on graduation standards, including a traditional path and a flexible path. He will provide the board with additional information as it becomes available. A copy of the handout has been included in the official minutes.

C. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Study Session was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

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