



EDITH BOWEN
LABORATORY SCHOOL
Utah State University

**Edith Bowen Laboratory School
Governing Board Meeting
Official Minutes
The Collaboratory Room 233
March 21, 2024
3:30 PM**

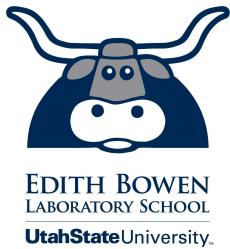
Board Members Present

Dr. Steven Camicia - Board Chair
Dean Al Smith - CEHS Dean
Gregg Miller
Frank Schofield
Dr. Jennifer Grewe - EBLS Parent Representative (Cache)
Dr. Steven Lucero - EBLS Parent Representative (Logan)
Jennifer Loveland - PTA Representative
Nate Justis
Dr. Laura Reina
Jennifer Barton
Joel Lopez
Carolina Harward (GB Secretary)

Visitors:

Elisha Helpingstine
Jan Farmer
Clint Farmer
Sharra Brown
Tracie Urie
Leslie Higley
Whittney Wick





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1. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

- a. Dr. Steven Camicia called the meeting to order at 3:30pm. Roll call
 - Dr. Steven Camicia - Board Chair
 - Dean Al Smith - CEHS Dean
 - Gregg Miller
 - Frank Schofield
 - Dr. Jennifer Grewé - EBLs Parent Representative (Cache)
 - Dr. Steven Lucero - EBLs Parent Representative (Logan)
 - Jennifer Loveland - PTA Representative
 - Nate Justis
 - Dr. Laura Reina
 - Jennifer Barton
 - Joel Lopez
 - Carolina Harward (GB Secretary)

2. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Vote to approve board meeting minutes from February 15, 2024
 - Action:** Vote to approve board meeting minutes from February 15, 2024
 - Motion:** Dr. Jennifer Grewé
 - Second:** Jennifer Loveland
 - Vote:** Dr. Steven Camicia
 - Gregg Miller
 - Frank Schofield
 - Dr. Jennifer Grewé
 - Dr. Steven Lucero
 - Jennifer Loveland





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Dean Al Smith abstained from voting because he did not attend the meeting.

3. BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

a. Monthly summary

There were no comments or questions about the report.

[Summary of Accounts February FY24](#)

[Monthly Comparison](#)

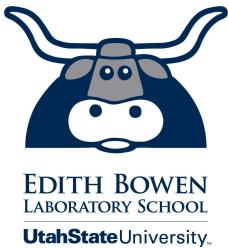
4. Public Comment

Mrs. Elisha Helpingstine expressed her enjoyment of working at the school. She took the job because her children are students at Edith Bowen. Her time here has positively impacted her personal and professional life, benefiting her family as well. Working at the school has even strengthened her relationship with her children.

Mrs. Jan Farmer, a dedicated educator, has contributed a decade of service to this institution. Her passion for teaching is evident in the commitment she has shown towards her students. Initially invited by Dr. Dan Johnson to join the faculty at Edith Bowen, Mrs. Farmer played a pivotal role in the transformation of the school from a struggling institution to a prestigious Blue Ribbon School.

Expressing deep affection for the school, Mrs. Farmer aspires for her grandchildren to benefit from the same enriching experiences she has witnessed within these walls.





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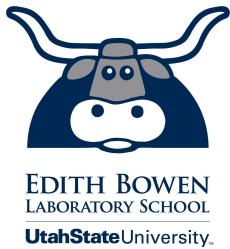
Despite her granddaughter being on the school's waiting list for the past four years, Mrs. Farmer remains hopeful for their eventual enrollment.

Clint Farmer has been dedicated to Edith Bowen for 15 years. Clint emphasizes the importance of an upcoming vote concerning the inclusion of "A child or grandchild of an individual who has actively participated in the development of the charter school."

Prior to joining Edith Bowen, Clint possessed a wealth of experience. He earned an LCSW degree from the University of Utah and ran a private practice at Northern Utah Psychotherapy. Clint held positions as a director at a Youth Corrections Facility in Cache and Ogden. Additionally, he served as the Cache School District Program Developer of Safe Schools and worked as a counselor, football coach, and Positive Behavior Support (PBIS) coach.

When Clint joined, the school faced academic challenges and safety concerns, with over 50% of students reporting bullying incidents. The principal, Mark Peterson, sought Clint's expertise to enhance school safety, establish an elementary counseling program, and transform the school culture. In response, Clint developed a school-wide elementary counseling program. Implemented a bully prevention program due to increased student aggression and established a School-Wide Safety Program, including emergency response plans. Clint also introduced research-based approaches to managing student behavior, despite initial resistance.





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Under challenging circumstances, Clint took on an administrative role and actively engaged in school improvement initiatives. His efforts led to significant positive changes in school culture and academic performance.

Clint's dedication and influence facilitated the school's recognition as a Blue Ribbon School, marking a turning point in behavior and academics.

He collaborated with colleagues to enhance the PBIS model, resulting in improved student behavior and academic outcomes. Clint's ongoing support and involvement in school activities have fostered a positive and safe learning environment.

Clint's commitment to professional development led to attendance at the National PBIS conference in Chicago with Nate Justis, demonstrating a dedication to implementing best practices in the classroom.

His contributions have been instrumental in creating a positive and safe environment at EBLs, where students feel safe and teachers are equipped to support all students effectively.

Clint's unwavering commitment to school improvement and positive leadership has left a lasting impact at Edith Bowen. He respectfully urged the board members to consider his request.

Clint Farmer was recently recognized as an Outstanding Field Educator for the Social Work Department at USU.





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Mrs. Sharra Brown, initially worked as a playground supervisor and now as a part-time kindergarten classroom aide. EBLs has become a place for family reunification which offers a supportive setting for her and her granddaughter during challenging periods. The ability to interact with her granddaughter daily has been a blessing. Working at EBLs not only has facilitated relationship mending but also has enabled her to witness her granddaughter's development and growth. Sharra's consistent presence at the school has positively influenced her granddaughter's advancement. Sharra expressed her gratitude for working at the school.

Tracy Urie works part-time as a kindergarten classroom aide. She has two grandchildren who attend the school. Tracy's employment at the school not only benefits her grandchildren but also supports their parents, who both work full-time. Tracy is able to actively participate in her grandchildren's lives by attending field trips and occasionally taking them home. She is appreciative of her job and the chance to interact with her grandchildren on a daily basis.

Leslie Higley works part-time in the cafeteria at EBLs. After the pandemic, she needed a job to help support her family and chose to work at the school because her kids attend here. This decision was practical due to the convenience of not needing daycare, managing pick-up and drop-off times, and aligning with school schedules. Having her children at the same school allows her to have easier mornings and the flexibility to accompany them to school when needed. Working at Edith Bowen has





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also helped Leslie build relationships with teachers and become more involved in her children's education.

Whittney, who works part-time as a Paraeducator in the SPED Department, is a dedicated mother to a ten-year-old and a two-year-old, as well as a caring wife to her disabled husband. She wants the board to know that she truly enjoys her work here. With three enriching years spent in the school and the community, she expresses her love for her job and her commitment to performing her duties to the best of her abilities. Driven by the desire to benefit all members of the school community, part-time employees like Whittney play a crucial role in the institution's smooth operation. From special education to classrooms, lunchrooms, RTI, and facilities, each employee contributes to the school's functioning. Through dedication and diligence, students can rely on her for consistency, especially when teamwork is essential for their well-being.

Parents can trust Whittney to provide a solid and productive day for their children under her care. Special Education teachers find comfort in knowing that students are well cared for, allowing teachers to focus on the diverse needs of all students. Classroom teachers can depend on her for support and effective communication, both within and outside the SPED setting, enriching the overall educational experience.

Before the board meeting, Whittney took the initiative to discuss with various individuals in our department and school community about the possibility of having their children enrolled in the school. She is currently the only employee in this





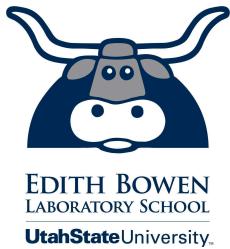
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situation. She believes this could greatly benefit hardworking part-time employees like herself by allowing their children to attend the same school where they work. This not only addresses logistical challenges but also fosters a strong sense of community and commitment among all of us. Additionally, she believes it could potentially reduce turnover rates, as employees strive towards a common goal and may consider enrolling their children in the school. Whittney respectfully urges the board members to carefully consider this proposal with thoughtfulness and compassion, recognizing its potential to enhance the well-being of employees and the entire school community.

Sasha Sweet was not present. Laura Reina was asked to read Sasha's estatement.

“I am Sasha Sweet, the 1st grade teaching aide at EBLS. I started as a substitute teacher for all of Logan, Cache and surrounding schools. I accepted a long term substitute position at EBLS in September of 2023, teaching Spanish. This is when I fell in love with teaching. I love everything about my job from navigating tough social situations between students, to witnessing them get excited about acquiring new knowledge. The thing that has made all of this possible for me is being able to work with my own children every day. I am a single parent of three active boys. They all attend EBLS so I get to be there when they need me as their mom when they have emergencies but they also get to witness their mother happily working. It’s made me a better teacher and a better mother having my children by my side as I balance work and home life. I feel motivated to be an even better teacher because not only are my





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students benefiting but my own children. They help with some of my lessons and it brings a sense of cohesiveness to our lives to all be together. I would hope every teacher, aide, and staff member has the opportunity to bring their children along with them. I have witnessed others interact with their children at the school and in my opinion it's a situation that allows us all to be the best.”

5. REGULATORY & STATUTORY COMPLIANCE

a. Annual review of fees and fee policies (vote)

Dr. Steven Lucero proposed to adjust the fee schedule to reflect the \$8.00 charge on Fridays and early out days.

Action: Vote to approve to adjust the fee schedule to reflect the \$8.00 charge on Fridays and early-out days.

Motion: Dr. Steven Lucero

Second: Frank Schofield

Vote: Dr. Steven Camicia

Frank Schofield

Gregg Miller

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Fees and Fee Waivers Policies Approved 3-21-2024

- b. Consideration of enrollment prioritization in admissions policy
 - i. Children or grandchildren of individuals who have actively participated in the development of the charter school (vote)
 - ii. Children of part-time employees (vote)
 - iii. Siblings of students previously enrolled at EBLs (vote)

The board members deliberated on the matter and agreed to postpone the vote until the next meeting. Dr. Steven Camicia assigned Jennifer Grew and Steven Lucero, along with Nate Justis and Laura Reina, to work together on outlining the policy details. This team will draft a proposal covering different facets for the board's evaluation and voting scheduled for April.

EBLS Admission Policy

6. SCHOOL REPORTS

Mr. Justis will present the school report next month. Mr. Justis thanked the board members for their continued support.





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7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:08pm.

