

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 14, 2024**

**Board Meeting**

The Murray City School Board met in a regular board meeting on March 14, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Jaren Cooper, Kami Anderson, Elizabeth Payne, Jill Weight, Jennifer Covington, Superintendent and Richard Reese, Business Administrator. Kelly Taeloalii, Board Vice-President attended remotely. The meeting was held at the District office, located at 5102 South Commerce Drive, Murray, UT.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The audience was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Thayn Burnett.

**Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda included Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2024 and February 15, 2024, claims, and financial reports. Elizabeth Payne made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Delegations**

**Parent Teacher Association (PTA)** – Courtney Hammer, Liberty Elementary School PTA President, presented information regarding PTA activities. She mentioned that there have been 500 hours of volunteer work at the school. She mentioned the fun traditions at Liberty Elementary including the watermelon fun party, school carnival, holiday gift shop, science fair and Spelling Bee.

**MEA** – Isaac Beh, MEA Board of Directors, said that MEA has a great relationship with the district and said that teacher morale is good.

**MAA** – No comments.

**MESPA** – Thayn Burnett, President, thanked the Board for efforts spent on behalf of employees.

**Foundation** – No comments.

**Patron Statements** – Six people addressed the Board.

Merissa Graves, Christina Sanchez, Ray Diehl, and CO Wilkinson addressed the Board regarding the proposed boundary change and requested an additional .5 FTE at Parkside.

Brian McBride and Jaynann Daly spoke to the Board regarding the proposed changes to the Gifted program. They were both in favor of maintaining the current program at McMillan and possibly expanding that program to other schools in the district.

### **Report of the Staff**

**Request to do Research** – Kelli Kercher presented a request to do research from Dr. Amy Boza from 95% group. The purpose of the study is to determine the impact on student growth and achievement using 95 RAP, a Tier 3 intervention tool. The study is designed to measure the efficacy of the tool for both students and teachers. We are using 95% group curriculum in our elementary schools now as part of the approved ELA curriculum. The Teaching & Learning Team has met and approved moving this request forward to the board. Kami Anderson made a motion to approve the request. Kelly Taoalii seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Request to do Research** – Scott Wihongi will present a request to do research from Sarah Coyne from Brigham Young University. The study is designed to measure how social media and the new Utah law surrounding social media impact teenagers' experiences with mental health. The Teaching & Learning Team has met and approved moving this request forward to the board. Kelly Taoalii made a motion to approve the request. Elizabeth seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

**PS 409: Fundraising 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – This agenda item was tabled.

**School Fees Requests: 2024-25 School Year 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – Superintendent Covington presented the updated school fee requests as a second reading. Kami Anderson made a motion to approve the school fees. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Overnight Travel Requests: 2024-25 School Year 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – Superintendent Covington presented the travel requests as a second reading. Kelly Taoalii made a motion to approve the requests. Elizabeth Payne seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **Board Business**

**Contract Renewals** – The contracts for Superintendent Covington and Richard Reese, Business Administrator, were presented for renewal. The new contracts would be effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024. Kelly Taioalii made a motion to renew both contracts. Elizabeth Payne seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**Partnership with University of Utah School of Education** – Jaren Cooper, Board President, announce a partnership with the University of Utah to develop a lab school at Parkside Elementary effective beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

**Gifted and Talented Program in MCSD** – Jaren Cooper, Board President, initiated a discussion regarding recent proposal to created a new Gifted and Talented program in the District which would require the hiring of 6 new FTE. After a thorough discussion, Jill Weight made a motion to maintain the current Gifted program at McMillan, with the exception of providing the program to 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades, and to continue studying expansion of the program during the coming school year. Kelly Taioalii seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

  
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Jaren Cooper – Board President

  
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Business Administrator – Richard Reese