BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

92 Lodestone Way – Tooele, Utah

<u>Tuesday, October 8, 2024</u>

THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND, UNTIL SUCH FORMAL APPROVAL, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The public Session was held in the boardroom at the district office.

Board Members Present:
Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt, ValaRee Shields (arrived at 5:21 pm)

Administration Present:
Superintendent Ernst, Lark Reynolds, Jackie Gallegos, Marissa Lowry, Brett Valdez, Dustin Nelson, Charles Hansen, Brad Hranickey, Dr. Jeff Hamm, Dr. Cody Reutzel, Robert Curfew, Angie Gillette, Terry Christensen, Dr. Sarah Jarnagin, Heather Castagno, Andy Peterson,

President Rich conducted the meeting. Notice of the time, place, and agenda had been given to the Transcript-Bulletin and each member of the governing body more than two days before the meeting. The agenda was also published on the Utah Public Access Website. Support documentation for this meeting can be reviewed at: https://www.boarddocs.com/ut/tooelesd/Board.nsf/Public

1. Executive Session (Closed to the Public)

1.1 <u>Personnel / Negotiations / Property / Litigation</u>

MOTION:

Enter executive Session held in the executive conference room at the district office to discuss:

- Collective Bargaining
- Pending or reasonably imminent litigation
- Purchase, Exchange, or Lease of Real Property and
- Character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, and

Motion by Julia Holt, second by Emily Syphus
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Vote by Name:

Yea Elizabeth Smith
Yea Scott Bryan
Yea Emily Syphus
Yea Julia Holt
Yea Robert Gowans
Yea Melissa Rich

MOTION:
Motion at 5:58 pm to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Open Session in the boardroom at 6 pm.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Elizabeth Smith
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Vote by Name:

Yea Robert Gowans
Yea Melissa Rich
Yea Elizabeth Smith
Yea Scott Bryan
Yea Emily Syphus
Yea ValaRee Shields
Yea Julia Holt

2. Business Meeting, 6 pm (Start of Public Meeting)

2.1 Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

President Rich called the business meeting to order in the boardroom at 6:01 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Recognition and Good News

3.1 District Recognition for Employee of the Month-Ibapah Elementary

The following employees were recognized by Principal Gina Ruiz

- Angus Knight, 2nd Grade Student, Student of the Month
- Marilyn Linares, Aide, Support Professional Employee of the Month
- Deanne Bateman, K-3 and Lead Teacher, Certified Employees of the Month

3.2 School Presentation

Principal Gina Ruiz shared a short video of students.

4. Open Forum (Limited to three minutes per individual and a total of 30 minutes for all comments. To speak, sign up at the clerk's desk prior to the start of the open forum.)

4.1 Patron Comments

- Chelsea Miles spoke on behalf of TEA inviting the school board to attend the meet the candidates night.
- Morgan Rivera spoke to the Board regarding school lunches in her son's elementary school.

5. Consent Items (Routine items not requiring public discussion by the Board may be adopted by one single motion. A Board member may request to remove an item from the consent agenda for individual discussion and consideration.)

5.1 Minutes
5.2 Expenditure Report
5.3 Revenue Report
5.4 Disbursement Report
5.5 Personnel Decisions
5.6 Financial Reports
5.7 Policy
5.8 Surplus

5.9 LEA Specific License
5.10 SRO Contract-Grantsville
5.11 Vote on Consent Items

MOTION:
Approve consent items as presented

Motion by Robert Gowans, second by Elizabeth Smith
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt, ValaRee Shields

6. Action Items

6.1 2024-2025 TSSA Plans

Area Directors presented the 2024-2025 TSSA Plans for each school, for board approval. President Rich reminded the board that the board developed and approved the framework and board members should be looking to see if the plans are in line with the

MOTION:
Approve the 2024-2025 TSSA plans as presented.

Motion by Robert Gowans, second by Elizabeth Smith
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Robert Gowans, Elizabeth Smith, Julia Holt, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Scott Bryan, ValaRee Shields

6.2 New Policy, Kindergarten Student Toilet Training Requirements, 1st Read

Angie Gillette, Grantsville Area Director, presented a new policy to the Board regarding Kindergarten Student Toilet Training. The policy outlined the requirements for toilet training for students enrolling in kindergarten within the Tooele County School District. Starting with the 2024-2025 school year, in accordance with the Utah Code and Administrative Rule, elementary schools in the district will be prohibited from enrolling a kindergarten student unless they meet the toilet training criteria defined by the policy. Provisions for exceptions are also addressed in the policy.

MOTION:
Approve the new policy, Kindergarten Student Toilet Training Requirements for implementation.

Motion by Elizabeth Smith, second by ValaRee Shields
Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt, ValaRee Shields

6.3 New Policy, Board of Education: Conflicts of Interest, 1st Read

Terry Christensen, Director of Policy, Property, and Legal Affairs, introduced a new policy titled "Board Members – Conflicts of Interest." This policy is being developed in response to Utah Code 67-16-4, which outlines the responsibilities of board members to identify and disclose any potential conflicts of interest. The policy mandates that these disclosures be made on an annual basis to ensure transparency and compliance. Member Bryan suggested changing the occasional non-pecuniary gift having a value of not in excess of $25.00

MOTION:
Move the new policy, Board of Education-Conflicts of Interest forward for a second read and adjust B1 to not be in excess of $25.00

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by ValaRee Shields
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt, ValaRee Shields

6.4 New Policy, Kindergarten Admissions and Attendance, 1st Read.
Angie Gillette, Grantsville Area Director, presented a new policy to the Board concerning Kindergarten Admissions and Attendance. This policy aligns with Utah Code 53G-7-203, which requires each local education agency (LEA) governing board to offer free kindergarten programs to eligible children within their district or attending charter schools. The code, effective as of July 1, 2024, ensures that all children have access to kindergarten education in accordance with state law.

MOTION:
Approve the new policy, Kindergarten Admissions and Attendance for implementation.

Motion by Elizabeth Smith, second by Julia Holt
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt, ValaRee Shields

7. Information, Discussion, or Calendar Items

7.1 Business Administrators Report
Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented key financial updates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Three types of financial statements were provided: Fund Financial Statements, Utah Public Education Financial System (UPEFS) reports, and Combined Financial Statements.

Mr. Reynolds stated the General Fund reported a loss of $(136,627), significantly better than the budgeted $7M loss, due to one-time legislative funds and employee cost-cutting measures. Transfers included $350K to the Foundation, $229K to Student Activity Funds for mostly fee waiver reimbursements, $139K to Elevated Eats, and $155K for Technology.

Mr Reynolds presented graphs on the General Fund revenue and expenses which stated general fund revenues were primarily derived from state sources (74%), followed by property taxes (18%), federal sources (6%), and local sources (2%). On the expense side, salaries constituted the largest portion at 57%, followed by employee benefits at 26%. The remaining expenses covered various operational needs. By function, 59% of expenses supported instruction, with 10% allocated to the operation and maintenance of facilities, and other categories rounding out the remainder. Mr Reynolds also gave a summary of other funds such as:

- Student Activity Fund: Cash reserves increased from $2.5M to $4.8M, despite a $(78,914) loss after a General Fund transfer.
- Debt Service Fund: Revenues and expenditures balanced at $17.122M, with $155K transferred to the General Fund.
- Capital Projects Fund: Revenues of $35.2M and expenditures of $83.675M led to a $39.476M net change in the fund balance.
- Food Services Fund: A $(1.075M) shortfall was covered by a General Fund transfer to break even.

- Foundation Fund: Revenues of $1.009M, expenses of $1.045M, and a $350K General Fund transfer resulted in a $314K fund balance increase.
- Overall: Total revenues were $263.87M, with $313.16M in expenditures. A $(49.29M) deficit was offset by $87.9M in other financing, leading to a $38.6M increase in the fund balance.

Mr. Reynolds stated that As of June 30, 2024, the district issued $28.73 million in General Obligation (GO) Bonds, drawing from the remaining authorization granted in the 2020 election. In total, the district has issued $161.045 million in the face value of GO Bonds, along with $12.65 million in bond premium, resulting in total bond proceeds of $173.69 million (exceeding the election authorization of $170 million by 2%).

Of these funds, $138 million has been expended on projects at TWES, DPHS, and SJHS through the end of FY 2024, leaving $34.6 million in unspent bond proceeds. This includes $4.1 million from the 2023 bond issue and $30.668 million from the 2024 bond issue. In FY 2025, the district has already spent $11.38 million on DPHS alone.

Mr. Reynolds then presented the pros and cons of implementing a Universal Time Card System and stated due to federal program requirements and other possible advantages of a universal time card system they will revisit this topic at the February Work Session.

7.2 Construction Update

Michael Garcia, the Construction Coordinator, gave a brief update to the board on current construction projects in the District.

7.3 Grantsville Area Director Report

Area Directors Angie Gillette, Dr. Sarah Jarnagin, and Brad Hranicky outlined key goals for the upcoming year, focusing on implementing District-Identified Annual High Leverage Practices (AHLPs), promoting data-driven decision-making, and enhancing leadership capacity. Their priorities include improving teaching through the Guaranteed Viable Curriculum (GVC) and Common Formative Assessments (CFA), strengthening special education practices with MTSS and RTI, and developing schoolwide behavior management plans.

Support strategies include regular leadership breakouts, school visits, and close collaboration with administrators and teachers. Highlights from each area include Grantsville's focus on professional learning, Stansbury's successful school openings and leadership coaching, and Tooele’s efforts to implement Utah Principal Standards and manage larger class sizes.

Challenges discussed include behavioral issues linked to trauma and mental health, a need for expanded ESL support, and managing growth. Solutions involve targeted strategies to improve schools with TSI/ATSI status, increasing graduation and attendance rates, and implementing high-level instructional practices. The presentation highlighted the district's commitment to continuous improvement and addressing challenges through collaboration and innovative strategies.

7.4 Tooele Area Director Report

Please refer to the summary under the Grantsville Area Director’s report, as all three area directors presented their reports collectively.

7.5 Stansbury Area Director Report

Please refer to the summary under the Grantsville Area Director’s report, as all three area directors presented their reports collectively.

7.6 Board of Education Committee Reports

Board Members provide updates on various committees they serve on.

- **Audit Committee** Member Bryan noted that two separate audits are scheduled to be completed by the end of the month, with the findings to be presented to the board at the November meeting.
- **Delegate Assembly** – Vice President Gowans remarked that the process went smoothly this year, with the primary purpose being to establish the legislative priorities that the USBA will advocate for. Member Syphus added that she also attended the delegate assembly and emphasized the importance of the legislature addressing inflation and growth in its considerations..

MOTION:
Adjourn the public session and continue the executive session in the executive conference room at the district office at 7:45 pm.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Vote by Name:
Yea Elizabeth Smith
Yea Scott Bryan
Yea Emily Syphus
Yea Julia Holt
Yea Robert Gowans
Yea Melissa Rich
Yea ValaRee Shields

MOTION:
Motion at 8:35 pm to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Open Session and adjourn.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Vote by Name:

Yea Robert Gowans
Yea Melissa Rich
Yea Elizabeth Smith
Yea Scott Bryan
Yea Emily Syphus
Yea Julia Holt

7. Adjourn (10 pm Curfew)

7.1 Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made at 8:35 pm.

MOTION:
Adjourn

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Julia Holt