

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 8, 2024

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study and closed sessions on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, beginning at 4:04 p.m. at JATC South (Board Conference Room), 12723 S. Park Avenue (2080 West), Riverton, Utah. The sessions were also provided electronically via YouTube.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Tracy J. Miller, Board President
Niki George, Board First Vice President
Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Bryce Dunford, Board Member
Marilyn Richards, Board Member, via electronic connection
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Melissa Flores, General Counsel
Travis Hamblin, Director, Student Services
Scott Festin, Consultant, Planning and Enrollment
Caleb Olsen, Consultant, Planning and Enrollment
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Janet Sanders, President, Jordan Education Association

President Miller presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. Enrollment Forecast and Housing Continuum Discussion

Dr. Michael Anderson acknowledged the Planning and Enrollment department for their work on this five-year enrollment forecast, which includes demographic trends and schools to watch (with increasing or declining enrollment).

Planning and Enrollment Consultant Scott Festin shared a presentation about growth trends in Jordan including demographic and enrollment shifts. He said the District is experiencing declining enrollment and pointed to declining fertility rates, housing market volatility, and shifts in enrollment due to other educational options.

Mr. Festin highlighted schools to watch with increasing enrollment, which include the following: Antelope Canyon Elementary School, Aspen Elementary School, Sunset Ridge Middle School, and Herriman High School. Schools to watch with declining enrollment include: Blackridge Elementary School, Butterfield Canyon Elementary School, Foothills Elementary School, Joel P. Jensen Middle School, and Oquirrh Hills Middle School.

Mr. Festin introduced information on the Housing Continuum and Building Plan Considerations, which include ten year trends and an aggregate of feeder systems. Possible frameworks for future building or closing of schools, remodeling, and/or boundary changes were presented including cost and disruption considerations.

Dr. Anderson recommended a boundary change for Aspen Elementary School for the 2025-26 school year as an immediate consideration. This would necessitate a 30-day notification for the following elementary schools: Aspen, Bastian, Oak Leaf, Butterfield Canyon, and Herriman.

Board boundary priorities were also discussed and Darrell Robinson requested a school capacity percentage chart without portables. President Miller requested showing the capacity with six portables for those schools that are currently using portables.

Mr. Dunford suggested using existing funds to begin construction of an elementary school in the Wood Ranch area. He also suggested two more schools be considered and notified of a potential boundary change: Bingham High School and Herriman High School.

All agreed with notifying the five elementary schools in Herriman and with notifying the two high schools mentioned. It was suggested to have the Finance Committee bring back recommendations for building and remodeling schools. In addition, the following items were assigned to staff to bring back to a future Board meeting:

- 1) Boundary options for Aspen Elementary School
- 2) Boundary options for Bingham and Herriman High Schools
- 3) Recommendations for renovation of West Jordan High School
- 4) An analysis of enrollment capacity based on no portables/six portables as mentioned earlier
- 5) An updated Enrollment and Capacity Workbook
- 6) A proposal for addressing the seismic needs of Westvale Elementary School

B. Discussion on Potential Revisions to Administrative Policy AS94 Student Discrimination and Harassment

Dr. Michael Anderson explained that since the Board recently passed Policy AA452 *Title IX Sexual Harassment*, two other Board policies (one for students and one for employees) need to be updated to align with Policy AA452. A revised version of Policy AS94 was shared which complies with Title IX and offers new definitions including supportive measures for students involved in Title IX claims.

Melissa Flores, General Counsel, said this is a tiered approach to conduct. She clarified that Title IX contains an umbrella definition of "Hostile Environment" and Policy AS94 language will allow for addressing some situations using Code of Conduct, instead of Title IX, measures. President Miller requested small wording changes to this item and Ms. Flores said she will make the suggested revisions.

Ms. Miller noted the revised policy will be brought back to the October 29, 2024 meeting for more discussion and possible vote.

C. Discussion on Potential Revisions to Administrative Policy DP358 Employee Discrimination and Harassment

Dr. Michael Anderson said administration worked with Human Resources to align this policy with Policy AA452.

Brian Barnett asked about Freedom of Speech rights in regards to this policy. Melissa Flores clarified that although every individual has this Constitutional right, it does not protect a person from consequences for their words or actions.

President Miller said Policy DP358 will be added to the October 29, 2024 agenda for a possible vote.

Dr. Anderson thanked Ms. Flores for her hard work on Title IX policy and matters.

D. Discussion on Potential Revisions to Administrative Policy AA419 Student Conduct, Dress, and Appearance

Dr. Michael Anderson said Ms. George recommended reviewing and updating Policy AA419 to align with Policy AA453 *Use of personal Electronic and Communication Devices* (Cellphone Policy). He asked for suggestions on updating item II.B.d regarding Digital Citizenship.

The following changes were suggested:

- Under section D.1., insert the following wording “school issued electronic devices” (to include Chromebooks).
- Under item B.2., remove the word “any” from the sentence “any use of an electronic device...”
- Adding the word “taking” to item B.3. regarding “sharing, using, or communicating pornographic images.”

Niki George suggested adding information about appropriate use of artificial intelligence (AI) to this policy and it was decided to have the Teaching & Learning department review the policy and recommend further changes.

Board members discussed plagiarism and the need for a Districtwide policy. Most expressed the desire for teachers to continue to address this in disclosures. Dr. Godfrey said he will discuss plagiarism and the Code of Conduct with administrators and bring their feedback to the Board.

Dr. Godfrey welcomed any Board member to contact him if they have information about a possible policy enforcement issue.

E. Procedure for Filling Vacancy on Board

As President Miller is a current candidate for the State House of Representatives, she declared her intent to submit her resignation as a Board of Education member November 6, 2024 if she is elected. She noted there will be a new Board member to replace Marilyn Richards who is not seeking another term and possibly other new Board members elected. She requested moving forward with the process to appoint another Board member in her stead by November 26, 2024 and all agreed.

The interview process was briefly discussed and Board Attorney Paul Van Komen said President Miller may choose to vote on her replacement. It was noted the new Board member would start in January of 2025.

A potential timeline was proposed, including the following:

Public notice – November 12, 2024

Candidate applications due – November 17, 2024

Candidate interviews and selection – November 26, 2024

New Board member training – December, 2024

Oath of Office – January 7 or 14, 2025

It was suggested to add wording to the application noting the candidate may attach a resume and that after the application is submitted, the candidate shall have no contact with current Board members.

The Board decided to notify households in Ms. Miller's precinct of the vacancy by email and ParentSquare, if possible.

F. Discussion on Parent University Regarding New Cellphone Policy

President Miller announced a Parent University meeting about the new cellphone policy on October 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at JATC South. She asked for input regarding the agenda.

Dr. Godfrey said staff has prepared a short video presentation with an overview of the new policy. He said there will be time to answer questions and provide information about resources regarding safe cellphone use.

Darrell Robinson requested more research about appropriate cellphone use, however Board members agreed not to pursue this idea at the present time.

G. Discussion on Conflicts of Interest, State Auditor Risk Assessment Suggestions, and USBE Finance Training

Bryce Dunford said there were two items on Jordan's State Auditor Risk Assessment that were not checked and the Finance Committee wanted to inform the Board of what it would take to complete these items.

Business Administrator John Larsen presented information about the following items to the Board:

- 1) A new state law (Utah Code section 67-16-16) requiring board member disclosure of conflicts of interest every year
- 2) USBE board rule requiring board member training every two years
- 3) State Auditor Fraud Risk Assessment suggestions:
 - a. Ethical behavior commitment by board members and employees
 - b. State Auditor training for school board members
- 4) USBA recommended training for board members

Mr. Larsen shared a possible ethical behavior statement for Board members and employees to sign, noting it could be revised. He said the Finance Committee suggests reviewing the trainings along with Policy GP103 *Board Members' Principles of Operation: Conduct & Ethics* and New Board Member Orientation.

President Miller recommended adding the Conflict of Interest Statement, Ethical Statement, and USBE Training to Policy GP103. Niki George recommended updating the Appendix - Guidelines for New Board Member Orientation to include information on Master Board Certification and State Auditor Training.

Mr. Van Komen added that there are new provisions regarding Conflicts of Interest, but Board members would only need to make a declaration if they apply. It was decided to add these to the New Board Member Checklist.

H. Board Member, Committee, and Superintendent Reports and Comments

Niki George, Government Relations Committee Chair, reported on Legislator Day in the Classroom, noting that the following legislators visited local schools: Cheryl Acton, Candice Pierucci, and Jordan Teuscher. Mr. Dunford and Mr. Barnett said they appreciated the opportunity provided for legislators to visit with students in a smaller setting. Ms. George said the committee will continue to work on facilitating these experiences. She asked if Board members wanted to provide a Legislative Breakfast again this year, and all agreed. The Committee will decide on possible dates.

Lisa Dean, Jordan Ethnic Advisory Committee (JEAC) liaison, announced a Community Night on March 12, 2025 for families and employees.

Darrell Robinson said the Jordan Parent Advisory Committee (JPAC) intends to hold two meetings this year: one in January or February and the other in late spring. He gave a reminder of the Juniper Elementary School Dedication on November 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Bryce Dunford said the Licensed Employee Advisory Committee (LEAC) will meet after the Strategic Plan is finished. Ms. Miller requested information on the terms for current committee members and Mr. Dunford said he will provide this at the October 29, 2024 study session along with information on LEAC elections.

The Board Bulletin was mentioned and “An Introduction to New Board Members” was suggested as a topic for the next issue.

President Miller said the Jordan Education Foundation is getting ready for Christmas for Kids. She announced the JEF will not be hosting an Economic Summit this year.

In regards to USBA news, President Miller noted New Board Member Institute will be held December 7, 2024 in Provo. She gave a reminder that Master Board Certification is due December 1, 2024. She explained the USBA website, including how to find policy webinars and information on current legislation.

Dr. Godfrey said he enjoyed the middle school Unified Soccer event. He expressed gratitude for the efforts of those that hosted the event and for the great participation.

MOTION: At 9:25 p.m., it was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Brian Barnett to go into closed session. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Tracy J. Miller, Board President

Niki George, Board First Vice President

Darrell Robinson, Board Second Vice President

Brian W. Barnett, Board Member

Lisa Dean, Board Member

Bryce Dunford, Board Member

Marilyn Richards, Board Member, via electronic connection

Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent

John Larsen, Business Administrator

Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent

Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law

President Miller presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; property, potential litigation, negotiations, and security measures. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

MOTION: At 9:35 p.m., it was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Brian Barnett to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

JL/II