

WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT
5320 Adams Avenue Parkway
Ogden, UT

General Board Meeting
February 5, 2025

The Board of Education of Weber School District held a Board Meeting in the Board Room at 5320 Adams Avenue, Ogden, Utah. The meeting convened at 6:04 p.m.

The following Board Members and Superintendency were present:

Paul Widdison	Board President
Doug Hurst	Board Vice President
Bruce Jardine	Board Member
Jan Burrell	Board Member
Kelly Larson	Board Member
Wyle Williams	Board Member
Gina Butters	Superintendent
Clyde Moore	Assistant Superintendent
Dave Hales	Assistant Superintendent
Brock Mitchell	Business Administrator

Board Member Janis Christensen was excused.

Musical Performance: Roy High School Chamber Choir Performing *Take Me Out to the Ballgame & Good Night Dear Heart* – Directed by Shannon Sowby

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Macie Larsen, Roy High School Student

Secondary Education Director Matt Williams introduced Matt Patterson who was recently award the UASSP (Utah Association of Secondary School Principals) Middle School Principal of the Year. Mr. Patterson is the principal of the new Mt. View Jr. High. A video was shared of him receiving the award at his school. It was noted he is not afraid to be disruptive in changing things. He has created a wonderful community and culture where everyone feels important and included. He makes even hard times enjoyable.

Matt introduced family in attendance and thanked all his staff, students, district and how it is an honor to represent Weber School District.

Superintendent Gina Butters and CTE Director Dr. Rod Belnap shared Weber School District recently received a \$5 million grant from Intermountain Community Care Foundation. Intermountain Health Care Chief Operating Officer Barry Beus was in attendance. Barry also serves on the Weber School Foundation Board. Rod Belnap explained how the grant will help students with opportunities available in medical assisting, internships, medical terminology,

CNA, EMT & Fire Sciences, dental assisting, phlebotomy and many more. Barry shared they are excited about the partnership with Weber School District and the strong job outlook.

2. Consent Calendar
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Warrant Register
 - C. Budget Update
 - D. New Hires
 - E. Bid/Purchase Approvals
 - F. Leave of Absence Requests
 - G. Approval of Updates of Policies on Consent Calendar – 5230 *Gang Policy*, 1151 *District Annual Report*, 1170 *Weber School District Strategic Plan*, 4150 *School Attendance Areas*
 - H. Approval of LEA License and Endorsements Lists – February 2025
3. Recognitions
 - A. Kelly Hepner, Silver Ridge Elementary – *I Love Teaching Award*
 - B. Mandy Mortensen, District Office – *Extra Mile Award*
4. Administrator Spotlight
 - A. Principal Matt Patterson, Mountain View Jr. High
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion/Action Items
 - A. Approval of Financial Operations Department Director of Accounting
 - B. Approval of New Boys' Junior High Sport to Replace Football for 2025-2026 School Year
 - C. Approval of Utah Teacher Merit Award Pilot Program Participation Recommendation
 - D. Approval of New Policy 6550 *Volunteer* – 2nd Reading
 - E. Approval of Updated Policy 7140 *Internship and Field Placement* – 2nd Reading
 - F. Approval of Updated Policy 6400 *Visitors* – 1st Reading
7. Closed Session

Closed meeting according to provisions of Utah Code 52-4-204,205

 - A. This is a strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or sale of real property.
 - B. This is a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

AGENDUM ITEM #2 – Consent Calendar

- A. Minutes

That the minutes for the Study Session dated January 8, 2025 and General Board Meeting dated January 8, 2025 be approved.

B. Warrant Register

That check numbers 00030562 through 00030891; and 00573114 through 00575934 totaling \$13,529,989.91 dated January 26, 2025, be approved.

C. Budget Update

That the budget update dated January 26, 2025, be approved.

D. New Hires

That the list of personnel changes and additions dated January 3, 2025 through January 30, 2025, be approved.

E. Bid/Purchase Approvals

That the Palo Alto Cortex License Renewal be approved.

F. Leave of Absence Requests

There was no leave of absence requests.

G. Approval of LEA License and Endorsement Lists – February 2025

Board President Paul Widdison, called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Jan Burrell

That the above Consent Calendar be approved. Voting was unanimous in support of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #3 – Recognitions

A. Kelly Hepner, Silver Ridge Elementary – *I Love Teaching Award*

Elementary Education Assistant Director Kirt Swalberg introduced Kelly Hepner, second grade teacher at Silver Ridge Elementary. Kirt shared when he was her principal at Valley View Elementary, her classroom was the place to be! A video was shared highlighting her as passionate, always having a smile on her face, enthusiastic and students know that she cares. They love to be in her classroom and her heart is so big! She offers advice to new teachers to find what makes you passionate about what you are doing. She helps students be successful, grow and feel loved. Kelly shared she loves it when the “light” goes on for a student and loves teaching!

Kelly introduced family in attendance and thanked her principal Mrs. Georgi, and also her former principals Kirt Swalberg and Brian Anderson.

B. Mandy Mortensen, District Office – *Extra Mile Award*

Human Resources Director Lauri Adams introduced Mandy Mortensen and noted she started her career with Weber School District about five years ago. She is a buyer in the district office. She was nominated by Elementary Education Director Mary Jo Williams and Assistant Director Kirt Swalberg for her commitment and everything she has contributed to the building of the new schools. A video was shared highlighting what a top-notch job she has done. She has worked so well with all the principals of the new buildings, is motivated to get things done and get the schools what they need. She has a positive attitude and it's a delight working with her. She has a good eye for making spaces work, is always in a good mood and delightful to be around. Vendors also agree she is great to work with.

Mandy introduced family in attendance and thanked everyone.

AGENDUM ITEM #4 – Administrator Spotlight

Mountain View Junior High Principal Matt Patterson shared some things happening at his school. He explained their mission, vision and core values.

Mission: Committed to Growth
Determined to Succeed

Vision: As Mavericks, we are trailblazers-achieving what has never been achieved before. We refuse to settle and will be disruptive to reach success. We build our community through empathy and grit. Mavericks take risks and are relentless in their pursuit of greatness!

Core Values: Grit, Empathy, Community

Elements of Success:

High Level of Student Learning
Community Engagement
Distributed Leadership
Relationships-First Culture

Every member of the staff is on one of four teams:

- Mentoring
- Model of Instruction
- MTSS/PBIS
- Wellness

Maverick Culture: Every student needs an opportunity to be part of the school and its culture.

- 10 Clubs and Groups
- Spirit Club – “Thundering Teal”
- Not at Our School Project
- Kindness School Destination

- Purple Star Destination
- Roping Club

Matt concluded noting their story has just begun and they are going to do incredible things in their school!

AGENDUM ITEM #5 – Public Comment

There were no public comment participants.

AGENDUM ITEM #6 – Discussion/Action Item

A. Approval of Financial Operations Department Director of Accounting

Superintendent Butters explained as we are in the process of restructuring and streamlining the finance department to provide more intensive training for employees, we opened the position for Director of Accounting. Interviews were held and the position has been offered to current Assistant Business Administrator Seth Pilkington. It is recommended the Board approve Seth Pilkington as the Financial Operations Department Director of Accounting.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of the Financial Operations Department Director of Accounting be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A brief synopsis of the educational background and work experience for Seth was shared by Superintendent Butters.

B. Approval of New Boys' Junior High Sport to Replace Football for 2025-2026 School Year.

Secondary Education Assistant Director Rob Lake shared during his presentation in study session he noted a committee had been organized and they are recommending boys' volleyball as the new sport to replace football in the junior high schools, beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. He also explained games will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Motion: Wyle Williams

Seconded: Kelly Larson

That the Approval of New Boys' Junior High Sport to Replace Football for 2025-2026 School Year be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Approval of Utah Teacher Merit Award Pilot Program Participation Recommendation

Superintendent Gina Butters noted they would like to address the recommendation for the Utah Merit Award Program in Weber School District. SB173 was passed last year during the legislative session. Human Resources Director Nicole Meibos reviewed with the Board the key

survey findings: 734 total respondents with an overall district result of approximately 82% of respondents do not support participation in the program. It was shared there is concerns with the proposed model's design and implementation. Second, challenges in fair and reliable evaluation metrics. Assessment Director Bryan Becherini shared the assessment piece concerns are lack of preparedness, lack of transparency, and lack of accuracy. Third, negative impact on collaboration and school/district culture. Fourth, potential for increased teacher turnover. Fifth, division from our strategic plan Elevate 28 priorities and administrative work load. Sixth, the power of local control: investing in teacher salaries for lasting impact. Seventh, vast majority of teacher survey respondents voted "no" regarding participation in the Utah Teacher Merit Award Program. It is recommended to opt out of the Utah Teacher Merit Award Program.

Motion: Bruce Jardine

Seconded: Jan Burrell

That the Approval to opt out of the Utah Teacher Merit Award Pilot Program Participation Recommendation be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. Approval of New Policy 6550 *Volunteer* – 2nd Reading

Legal Counsel Heidi Alder noted Policy 6550 *Volunteer* has had no further updates or feedback from last month.

Motion: Kelly Larson

Seconded: Wyle Williams

That the Approval of New Policy 6550 *Volunteer* be approved on a second reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. Approval of Updated Policy 7140 *Internship and Field Placement* – 2nd Reading

Legal Counsel Heidi Alder noted Policy 7140 *Internship and Field Placement* had one minor change made to the title adding professional internship to distinguish between student internship. There have been no further changes since last meeting.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Kelly Larson

That the Approval of Updated Policy 7140 *Internship and Field Placement* be approved on a second reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

F. Approval of Updated Policy 6400 *Visitors* – 1st Reading

Legal Counsel Heidi Alder noted Policy 6400 *Visitors* is a new policy to ensure protocol whenever we have anyone entering our school and requirements by visitors.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of Updated Policy 6400 *Visitors* be approved on a first reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #7 – Closed Session

Closed meeting according to provisions of Utah Code 52-4-204,205

A. This is a strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or sale of real property.

B. This is a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Kelly Larson

President Widdison asked Business Administrator Brock Mitchell to conduct the roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Board Member Wyle Williams – yes
Board Member Kelly Larson – yes
Board Member Jan Burrell – yes
Board Member Bruce Jardine – yes
Vice President Douglas Hurst – yes
Board President Paul Widdison - yes

That the General Session of Board Meeting be adjourned and move into Closed Session. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Closed Session convened at 7:41 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene into General Session.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Kelly Larson

That the Closed Session be adjourned and reconvene into General Session of Board Meeting. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Closed Session adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

General Session reconvened at 8:47 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the General Session of Board Meeting

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the General Session of Board Meeting be adjourned. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

General Board Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.