TENTATIVE MINUTES FOR MARCH 12, 2025 – NOT APPROVED BY THE BOARD

The March 12, 2025 meeting of the Board of Education, held at the Huntington Elementary, 70 East 100 N, Huntington, UT, was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Royd Hatt. Members Kenzi Guymon, Todd Huntington, James Winn, and Neal Peacock were also present. Superintendent James Shank and Business Administrator Jackie Allred were also in attendance.

WORK SESSION:

A1. UHSAA additional sanctioned activities: Principals Steven Gordon and Kayce Mae-Riches presented the changes of activities with UHSAA's recent sanctions regarding e-sports and girls wrestling. There has been interest in creating an e-sports program with it being added as a new sanctioned activity. With this season's low participants in girls' wrestling, it was discussed to hire a coach and run the program if 10-12 girls fully participate.

A2. Negotiation committee assignments: President Hatt facilitated the discussion to have all board members attend the kickoff meeting with follow-up meetings scheduled as needed.

A3. Board Procedures for meetings: President Hatt discussed with the board the updated information he received in board trainings regarding how to add items to a board agenda. A future procedure will be to hold an informal Webex on the Friday before the meeting to review the agenda.

A4. Future funding from 2025 legislative changes: Jackie Allred presented the estimated revenue and expense changes resulting from the legislative session. This information is not final as USBE will give firm dollars in April.

REGULAR SESSION:

B1/B2: President Hatt welcomed all in attendance and led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

C1: Westland Construction: Trent Huntsman, Westland Superintendent, reported the continued progress in Phase 3 which consists of the classrooms that connect the Spartan Center to the Auditorium. Roof decking and inside framing is actively being constructed as well as ductwork with insulation starting soon. Windows have been measured/ordered. The last masonry grout pour is scheduled for next week which allows the roofing and interior work to continue without hindrance. Roofers will be here next week. Soccer area land improvements will be starting soon.

PUBLIC HEARING

D1: School Fees for 2025-26: Jackie Allred reviewed the information that was presented at last month's public hearing. USBE has moved the deadline from April 1st to July 1st for this year to address the legislative changes recently passed, if needed. The revisions will be an increase in participation fees to offset the cost of official increases, student spirit pack fees (items that stay with the student), and acknowledge hotel cost increases. Secondary principals reported that the hotel costs for regional and state activities are much higher.

A motion was made by James Winn to move to an open meeting for Public Comment and was seconded by Kenzi Guymon. All approved. No Public comments were made.

A motion from James Winn to close the open meeting and reconvene to regular session was made and seconded by Neal Peacock. Voting was non-opposed.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

E1: A motion was made from James Winn for the Consent Agenda items: a) February warrants, b) Monthly financial reports, c) Minutes for the February 12th meeting and d) Names for New Hire approvals with a second by Neal Peacock. All members approved the consent agenda.

Bruce Clement	Asst Track Coach	Emery High
Kyle Larsen	Asst Baseball Coach	Emery High

E2: MOU with Emery Water Conservancy District for repeater at Elmo Property: Using the information presented by Monroe Magnuson last month, the board reviewed a proposed agreement with ECSD for use of a 20x20 area of the Elmo Property to install a repeater for the Water District to increase their water reading data. Elmo Mayor James Winn confirmed that Elmo Town did not see a conflict. The motion to approve the agreement was made by James Winn with a second by Royd Hatt. All voted in favor.

E3: School Fees for 2025-2026: With the presentations from Feb and March public hearings, the motion to approve the proposed fees was made by Royd Hatt followed with a second by James Winn. Motion was unanimous.

E4: TSSA Framework for 2025-2026: Supt Shank presented the proposed TSSA Framework which is similar to previous years and follows current code. With research into code and committee work, there is no movement around the measurements stated. Discussion was made toward ACT results being impractical for reliable data. Schools will create plans following the framework priorities and will be submitted in the April board meeting. Motion to approve the proposed framework was made by James Winn. The second motion was made by Kenzi Guymon with all approving.

E5: GRHS Donation from Green River Horizons LLC: Principal Maes-Riches presented the donation which was made up of three smaller donations to total $20,000. Funds will be used for graduation and PE supplies, calculators, safety devices, and the school farm. Motion to approve the donation was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Neal Peacock. All approved.

E6: 2025-2026 Calendar Adjustment for Kindergarten Assessments: Supt Shank explained that the approved 2025-26 calendar doesn't reflect the Kindergarten beginning-of-year testing schedules. The proposal includes the first two days of school as half day student attendance with testing in the afternoons. This is an improved efficiency than what was originally approved. The motion to update the calendar was made by Kenzi Guymon and seconded by Neal Peacock. All approved.

E7: Economic Stabilization increase in Fund Balance: Jackie Allred presented the current percentage that is allocated to the stabilization commitment as 2.4%. The reserve limit currently in code is 5%. The proposed change would increase the stabilization commitment from $1M to $2M with 4.8% of the operating budget. This recommended procedure provides a foundation of funding for future unknown circumstances and requires a board action to release. The motion was made by Neal Peacock and seconded by James Winn. All approved.

E7: Policies for Second Reading: Kenzi Guymon and James Winn are members of the policy committee that have reviewed these policies initially as part of the USBE changes from the Legislative 2024 session. There were 14 policies presented as final reading:

- DFE – Highly Needed Educator Salary Supplement – New
- GCO – Certified Employee Evaluation – Revised
- JLDBA – Youth Suicide Prevention – Revised
- CEBA– Classroom Doors - New
- BEDB – Agenda Format – Revised
- EBBD – Water Safety Systems - Revised
- GBGA – Staff Health & Safety - Revised
- JICKA – Emergency Safety Interventions - Revised
- JLDBAA – Parental Notification Related to Student Safety - Revised
- DKAB – Hiring Preference of Veterans and Veterans' Spouses - New
- DFA – Educator Induction, Mentoring, and Professional Learning – New
- DFD – Teacher Leader – New
- GCE – Parents Rights to Academic Accommodations
- JQB – Fee Schedule

Neal Peacock motioned to approve these policies as a group excluding DFE. Motion was seconded by Todd Huntington. All members voted unanimously to approve. Discussion was held on DFE to explain that this program was previously governed by USBE that specified the eligible teacher categories. This program has been moved to LEAs for next year and categories were chosen by a district committee as shown in Exhibit A. Neal Peacock expressed concern about the limitation of teachers being recognized. Understanding this is a state funded program and policy, Royd Hatt moved to adopt policy DFE as written with Todd Huntington as a second. All voted in favor except Neal Peacock as a nay.

E8: Policies for First Reading: These policies are made public for a comment period and are scheduled to be reviewed as a second reading in the subsequent board meeting. The policies will be available on the district website as Draft Policies.

- BB – School Board Legal Status (Revised)
- IGA – Curriculum (Revised)
- IHAN – Curriculum: Elective Instruction – Driver Education (New)
- IHAAB – Curriculum: Early Learning Plan (New)
- IHAA – Curriculum: Reading Assessment for K-3 (Revised)
- IHAB – Curriculum: Mathematics Assessment for K-3 (New)
- IHCDA – Curriculum: College Course Work (New)
- IHAC – Curriculum: American Heritage (New)
- IHAMB – Curriculum: Sex Education (Revised)
- IHBE – Language Access (Revised)
- IKA – Grading: Testing Procedures and Standards (New)
- IHBG – Home Schools (Revised)
- IHACA – Curriculum: Ethnic Studies (New)
- JJIB – Interscholastic Athletics (Revised)

Supt Shank commented that the committee is unanimous with the recommendations. Neal Peacock made the motion to approve these policies as first reading with Kenzi Guymon motioning as a second. All approved.

REPORTS:

F1: **Principal Report:** Huntington Elementary principal, Jody Carter stated that the school's biggest concern is declining enrollment. There are 31 Kindergarten students with this week's registration for next year. The school's main focus this year has been reading fluency and comprehension. Canyon View students have visited to peer read with students at the elementary. The school instructional coaches, Emily Mills and Shellet Rowley, work with intervention groups throughout all grade levels. Destri Gray, counselor, organizes weekly lessons for students regarding emotional regulation and communication skills. Sawyer Truman, a 5th grade student, spoke about the school's counseling services and how it has helped her with anxious worries. The robotics program was continued this year. Reno Truman, 4th grader, expressed his love of the robotics program helping him to learn how to build things and work with other students. The Archery extra-curricular program has 40 students with 24 of them having their own bows. Oaklee Truman, another 4th grader, presented on the successful archery program that starts 'early' in the morning. The team has been participating in competitions. Local donations have been very helpful to enhance the program along with a recent grant from the NRA Foundation of $4,000 to help with targets. Brooklynn Mayne, 4th grade student, shared her experience with the program and the accommodations that have been made to help her participate. Ms. Carter expressed her gratitude to the Huntington staff and all their amazing talents.

F2: **Superintendent Report:** Dr. James Shank gave a report on the following items:

1) Katelynn Cosby is the Apples for Teachers teacher of the month. Katelynn works at Castle Dale elementary.
2) 55 bills passed this session that were considered in JLC this year. Future policies will be reviewed. Much of the bills addressed taxation which is concerning to LEAs.
3) A software program called BoardDocs could help facilitate the policy changes and updates. Possible presentation to follow next month.
4) Stay Interview results were shared to help understand why our employees stay. This survey used four 5th-year educators and was conducted using grant funding.
5) The safety committee submitted the annual required school safety grant to USBE and our district will receive $997,000 funding to address electronic locks on doors, external cameras, and firearm storage safes. These changes will be implemented throughout the following three years.
6) A YIC grant was also awarded again for next year estimated at $70,000 that helps to fund school counselors.
7) Portrait of a Graduate meeting has been rescheduled for March 18th at Emery High Little Theater. This next step is to develop the six chosen categories.

F3: **Business report:** Jackie Allred reported that summer district building improvement contracts are being finalized with many thanks to the maintenance team. Update on the EHS auditorium seating and carpeting was given to complete this project before graduation.

F4: **Board Committee reports**: James Winn attended the Cleveland and CV council meetings. USBA legislative meeting is next week to help communicate the session bills. The Board President training was also beneficial. Neal Peacock was able to attend EHS and CWE councils. He also gave a presentation on Anasazi and Fremont Indians at CWE 4th grade. Todd Huntington hosted about 80 students at his office for career day. CRA meeting will be in April. Royd Hatt met with BCE and was a mediator at the constitution bowl. He also attended the Board President training. Congratulations to the board for completing the Master Board certifications. Kenzi Guymon attended SR and FE councils, policy committee and etiquette dinner at Ferron.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (G): None received.

CLOSED MEETING (H): At 8:16 pm., a motion was made by James Winn and seconded by Todd Huntington to move to a closed meeting for the purpose to discuss the character, professional, competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Royd Hatt Aye
- James Winn Aye
- McKenzi Guymon Aye
- Todd Huntington Aye
- Neal Peacock Aye

Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)

I, Royd Hatt, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this portion of the closed executive session was not recorded.

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Royd Hatt

The closed meeting was held in Room #22 at the Huntington Elementary on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, beginning at 8:20 pm. All Board members were present for the closed meeting. The closed meeting finished at 8:50 pm. James Winn motioned to convene closed session and return to open session with a second by Royd Hatt and all approving.

ADJOURNMENT (I): Royd Hatt indicated there were no more items on the agenda and the meeting is adjourned.