

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Business Meeting and
Closed Executive Session

April 7, 2015

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Business Meeting and Closed Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Heather Bennett, Vice President Tiffany Sandberg, J. Michael Clára (arriving at 6:30 p.m.), Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, and Kristi Swett.

Members Excused: Josh Whisenant, Student Member.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Patrick Garcia, Associate Superintendent School Support; Kristina Kindl, Director of Policy and Legal Services; Kenneth Grover, Director Career & Technology Education and High School Support; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Susan Brady, Principal, Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts; Chris Jenson, Interim Principal, Highland High, and President Salt Lake Association of School Administrators; Jennifer Mayer-Glen, Assistant Principal, Mountain View Elementary; Ron Litteral, Assistant Principal, Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts; Robin Huff, Board Chair, Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts; Mike Harman, representing the Salt Lake Teachers Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Van Cott, Bagley, Cornwall & McCarthy; Lorena Riffo-Jenson and Bob Fuehr, VOX Creative; Lisa Alleman, Superintendent's Office; and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Business Meeting of April 7, 2015, four motions were made. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

The meeting was called to order by President Bennett, who presided.

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION
- A. Litigation, Negotiations, and/or Property

At 6:10 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

Board Business Meeting

April 7, 2015

^A(1) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, and/or property. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0, with Mr. Clára being absent at the time of the vote.
**(Kennedy and Sandberg)

Present for Closed Session for litigation, negotiations, and/or property were Heather Bennett, Tiffany Sandberg, Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, Kristi Swett, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, Patrick Garcia, and Kristina Kindl. Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Van Cott, Bagley, Cornwall & McCarthy, excused herself from the litigation, negotiations, and/or property portion of the meeting due to a potential conflict of interest.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	X		
CLÁRA	3,4		1,2
EMERY	X		
FORD	X		
KENNEDY	X		
SANDBERG	X		
SWETT	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session for litigation, negotiations, and/or property at 6:25 p.m.

B. Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual

At 6:26 p.m. a motion was made:

^A(2) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0, with Mr. Clára being absent at the time of the vote.
**(Swett and Sandberg)

Present for Closed Session for character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual were Heather Bennett, Tiffany Sandberg, Rosemary Emery, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, Kristi Swett, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, Patrick Garcia, Kristina Kindl, and Florence Vincent, board legal counsel from Van Cott, Bagley, Cornwall & McCarthy.

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session for character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual at 6:30 p.m. and returned to the Board Business Meeting at 6:34 p.m.

2. BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

- President Bennett welcomed everyone in the audience. She recognized the presence of Mike Harman, representing the Salt Lake Teachers Association; Janet Clark representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; and Chris Jenson President, Salt Lake Association of School Administrators.
- Chris Jenson led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

- President Bennett recognized Jennifer Mayer-Glenn, Assistant Principal, Mountain View Elementary, who recently received a fellowship from the National Institute for Latino School Leaders. She recently traveled to Washington, D.C., as a Master Fellow to help train first year Fellows. Ms. Mayer-Glenn expressed appreciation to the board for this honor and explained the purpose of her trip and the Fellowship program. Ms. Bennett presented her with a Certificate of Recognition from the Board of Education and thanked her for her good work.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

*(3) A motion was made to approve the six items, including three policies, included in the Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.

** (Swett and Kennedy)

1. The Purchasing/Accounting Report, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000, increases to existing purchase orders, a payment voucher report that includes travel and professional expenditures, a Budget Report for February 2015, and an addition for a Purchase Order over \$50,000.
2. The Human Resources Department Report, included new contract employment for four employees, changes for five, and releases for two.
3. Minutes of the Board Business Meeting held March 3, 2015.
4. Minutes of the Board Study Session held March 17, 2015.
6. Board Policies
 - a. Policy I-23, Webpage Publishing
 - b. Policy I-24, Adult Education Program
 - c. Policy S-11, Student Electronic Devices in Schools

Prior to voting on the motion, board members questioned how items handed out during board meetings were made available to the public. Ms. Kindl explained she felt it was inappropriate to attach the items to the agenda after it had been approved, so a change was made to attach these items to the minutes of the meeting.

Board members also requested the Administrative Procedure for Policy S-11, Student Electronic Devices in Schools, be circulated among the board before finalizing it.

B. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

There were no requests to speak.

C. REPORTS

1. Highlights from School Improvement Plans:

Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts (SPA). Robin Huff, Board Chair of SPA, introduced Susan Brady, Principal, and Ron Litteral, Assistant Principal.

Ms. Huff shared improvements that have happened at SPA between the 2013 and 2014 school years, including a grade increase from C to B on the State report card, an increase from two to five Sterling Scholar Nominees, a 50% increase in National Honor Society members, and an increase in GPA, with 70% of students having a 3.0 or above. She also said SPA was named Best of State in charter schools for 2015.

Ms. Huff said students take core classes at Highland High School, and return to SPA for theater, music and dance. Students can earn college credit through concurrent enrollment, Advanced Placement, and CTE courses at Highland, but they are not part of the IB program. She said they are working to expand course offerings at SPA to provide greater variety to students.

Ms. Huff said SPA has an elaborate bus system to transport students back and forth between SPA and Highland during the day, which has been great, but does result in increased absenteeism. She said they are addressing this issue by working closely with the Peer Courts, and by sending letters to parents when students have missed 20, 40 and 60 class periods.

Ms. Huff handed out an information sheet highlighting accomplishments of the students, including awards received at the Shakespeare Festival, Utah High School Musical Theatre Awards, and performances that will be going to State. A copy of the handout will be added to the official minutes. She also noted SPA's theatre director is nationally certified. She said the school's focus is not to get awards; but to be disciplined and focused on what makes the students passionate. She showed a video about the school that was made by a student as an example of the quality of their work. She said even if students do not make a career out of performing, many continue to stay involved with it. She invited board members to attend any of their upcoming performances.

Ms. Huff discussed some of the collaborations they have with various community partners. She also acknowledged the growth of their board, which now has 13 active members. She said the school is thriving, recruitment is in full swing, and their goal is to have 350 students next year. SPA currently has 262 students who come from six counties, as well as several families who have moved from out of state to attend the school.

She expressed appreciation to the board for sponsoring and supporting the school, and to Chris Jensen, and the support of Highland High School.

Superintendent Withers and President Bennett congratulated them on their success and thanked them for the report.

2. High School Schedule Flexibility: President Bennett passed out a draft letter titled 'High School Schedule Discussions' and asked board members for feedback. A copy of the letter has been added to the official minutes.

Board members asked questions and discussed their concerns. They made wording changes to the letter and emphasized the importance of sending this letter to principals as soon as possible in order to discuss possible schedule changes. The letter will be changed to give schools the option of forming committees in either the spring or the fall, and to list all the stakeholder groups by name so parents, students, teachers, and administrators feel they can participate in the discussion.

Board members also expressed a desire to look at data regarding the impact of later start times, noting the benefits and encouraged discussion on creative solutions to the conflict with sports and other activities. In the past the board has asked all the high schools to have the same schedule, this discussion doesn't necessarily mean that will change, but it might open up the possibility after hearing what schools want.

President Bennett said she would share revisions to the letter with board members via e-mail and plan to send it to principals by the end of the week.

3. Budget Development: Janet Roberts reviewed information regarding the financial impacts to the district following the 2015 Legislative session. She said some programs that did not receive an increase include K-3 Reading Improvement Programs, the Enhanced Kindergarten Program, and USTAR.

She explained the impact of Senate Bill 97 and House Bill 119, will both result in increased taxes without increased funding to the district.

Ms. Roberts provided a handout titled 'Impact of Budget on Taxpayers' which explains the tax impact of SB97, as well as other potential tax increases. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes. She said whatever is approved at the Truth in Taxation Hearing will be the district's ceiling, and will determine the budget.

Ms. Roberts explained the 'Deficiency of revenues under expenditures' section of the Capital Funds Budget page. She said the district will spend \$12 million from Capital Reserve on previously planned projects.

Ms. Roberts explained the Capital Outlay Funds by school list. She said each fall the Auxiliary Services Department meets with each school principal to determine their needs. The priority items are life safety, ADA, and building integrity. Additional changes can be considered with any remaining resources.

Ms. Roberts answered questions from board members.

D. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. Student Overnight and Extended Trips or Activities. Kenneth Grover, Director Career & Technology Education and High School Support, presented the 2015-2016 Overnight/Extended Trips or Activities requests. He answered questions from board members regarding the cost of the trips, and explained trips are not fees so the amounts are not subject to the maximum amounts approved on the fee schedule. Student fundraising contributes to the cost of the trips and remaining expenses are waivable.

Mr. Grover explained some trips have not been scheduled yet, so the dates listed are approximate. Efforts are made, whenever possible, to schedule trips at times that keep the number of school days missed to a minimum. In some cases, students need to qualify in order to participate, and if there are no students who qualify, the trip will not take place.

The Student Overnight and Extended Trips or Activities will be on the Consent Agenda for the May 5, 2015 Board Business Meeting.

2. Contracts and Agreements. Kristina Kindl, Director of Policy and Legal Services, reviewed the contract approval process for the district. District employees submitting a contract are asked to sign a cover sheet verifying they understand the contract, and the details outlining what is to be provided are correct. She reviews the contracts to ensure the legal elements are in place and the district's liability is appropriate. She works with the end user, or sometimes the vendor, to solve problems. Once she approves the contract it goes to Ms. Roberts for final approval.

Ms. Kindl answered questions from the board about the difference between a contract for services, revenue generating contracts, and lease agreements. Concerns were raised by board members about the safety of cell phone towers and entering into agreements to place them on district property without board knowledge or the knowledge of the School Community Council (SCC). Ms. Kindl explained the State Planning Commission is required by law to notify the community before a tower is placed and through that process, schools and SCCs should be aware of what is happening. She said there is no state law, Board Policy, or Board Administrative Procedures that requires contracts be brought before the board for approval.

The board discussed cell phone towers, but determined there would not be a separate policy regarding their installation. They felt as long as the issue of notification to the SCCs regarding the towers could be improved, there were not any additional changes needed to the contract and agreement procedures. Board members asked Ms. Kindl to clarify in our procedures that principals are to inform the school community about any communication they receive from the State Planning Commission regarding cell phone towers.

E. ACTION AGENDA

There were no items on the Action Agenda.

F. SUPERINTENDENT 'S REPO RT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

2016-2021 Student Achievement Plan (SAP). Patrick Garcia, Associate Superintendent, provided updates on the Student Achievement Plan. He reported most committees have already met, and the ones that have not are scheduled to begin this week. He shared the focus of each group.

President Bennett asked permission of the board to form a subcommittee to review the mission and vision statements in order to incorporate some new ideas. The subcommittee would propose new wording and present suggestions back to the board. Ms. Swett agreed to join President Bennett and Ms. Kennedy on the subcommittee.

New Laws. Superintendent Withers provided a handout outlining education bills that were passed during the 2015 Legislative session. He explained how to read the chart and said any bill with text under the "LEA Action" column could impact policy or procedure of the district. The

board will be updated as those are reviewed and incorporated. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes

2. Other Superintendent Reports:

Superintendent Withers reported over 250 district students received free dental work at the Energy Solutions Area as part of a donation from Donated Dental.

Superintendent Withers will be meeting tomorrow with Mayor Becker and the Mayor from Sacramento who will be touring some of the district's schools.

Ms. Emery expressed concern about records storage in the schools. She asked what options are available to consolidate them since some schools have several rooms full of old paper records dating back to the early 1900's they are required to keep. Ms. Roberts said the records are not required to be kept onsite, and said old records can be sent to the State Archives. Any schools with questions about record storage, or how to move them, should be directed to her.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Ms. Swett, seconded by Ms. Ford, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

lba

Salt Lake City School District

OFFICIAL EXHIBITS OF BOARD MEETING

Official exhibits provided to the board and made available to the public as part of the meeting agenda can be found [here](#).

ADDITION TO THE MINUTES

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District acts by vote of a majority of the board members in an open and public meeting. Statements by individual board members, in or out of board meetings, written, oral or in social media, do not necessarily represent the views of the majority of the board or any other board member. Nevertheless, out of respect to the elected office that each board member holds and consistent with state law and board policy, the board allows its members to attach to board meeting minutes any other information that any member requests. When the board votes to approve minutes, that vote signifies that the minutes are a correct record of what occurred and what was asked to be included in the minutes. It does not signify any individual board member's agreement with the substance of the content.

The following information was distributed in the public meeting of the board, and has been included in the minutes at the request of the board member(s):

School for Performing Arts-Best of State
High School Schedule Discussion
Impact of Budget on Taxpayers
Education Bills Passed-2015

[Agenda Item C1](#)
[Agenda Item C2](#)
[Agenda Item C3](#)
[Agenda Item F1](#)