

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
August 11, 2015

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in a special Board meeting and study and closed sessions on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, beginning at 4:02 p.m. in the District Auxiliary Services Building, 7905 South Redwood Road, West Jordan, Utah.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Susan K. Pulsipher, Board President
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Vice President
Kayleen Whitelock, Board Secretary
(Jen Atwood, Board Member, excused)
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member
Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
(John Larsen, Business Administrator, excused)
Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
Michael Anderson, Administrator of Schools
Jill Durrant, Administrator of Schools
Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development
June M. LeMaster, Administrator of Human Resources
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
Paul Bergera, Staff Assistant, Auxiliary Services
Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
Mark Sowa, Information Systems

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. She welcomed those present.

I. **Bid Recommendation**

A. <u>School or Department</u>	<u>Items for Bid</u>
Information Systems	Computer Lab Upgrades
<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Apple Computer, Inc.	\$188,024.70

Purpose: Computer lab upgrades for Daybreak, Jordan Ridge, Monte Vista, Riverside, and Welby Elementary Schools.

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the orders with the state contract vendor, Apple Computer, Inc.

MOTION: It was moved by J. Lynn Crane and seconded by Janice L. Voorhies to approve the bid for computer lab upgrades, as recommended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

At 4:11p.m., the meeting adjourned.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Susan K. Pulsipher, Board President
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Vice President

Kayleen Whitelock, Board Secretary
(Jen Atwood, Board Member, excused)
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member
Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
(John Larsen, Business Administrator, excused)
Michael Anderson, Administrator of Schools
Jill Durrant, Administrator of Schools
Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development
June M. LeMaster, Administrator of Human Resources
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
Paul Bergera, Staff Assistant, Auxiliary Services
Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
Carmen Freeman, Mayor, Herriman City

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

A. Ends Policies and Student Achievement

Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development, reviewed the parameters for determining how a student progresses through grade levels and courses in Jordan School District. She reviewed the history of a graded system vs. multi-age system and said research is fairly balanced between the pros and cons of both systems. Mrs. Finlinson stated that the goal is to have every child learn at optimum levels and professional development is a key factor in achieving that goal. Board members asked questions of the administrators of schools and discussed student mastery of standards, the block schedule, professional development time, and how these promote student achievement.

B. Finalizing Community Outreach Assignments

Board members finalized plans and assignments for the “*What Counts?*” community outreach activity to be held September 10, 2015. President Pulsipher asked that Board members provide her with names and contact information for the participants by August 24, 2015, so formal invitations can be sent.

At 4:58 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

MOTION: At 5:00 p.m., it was moved by Richard S. Osborn and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to go into closed session. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Susan K. Pulsipher, Board President
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Vice President
Kayleen Whitelock, Board Secretary
(Jen Atwood, Board Member, excused)
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member
Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
(John Larsen, Business Administrator, excused)
Paul Bergera, Staff Assistant, Auxiliary Services
Carmen Freeman, Mayor, Herriman City

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss property and potential litigation. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

At 6:00 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The Board returned to study session.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Susan K. Pulsipher, Board President
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Vice President
Kayleen Whitelock, Board Secretary
(Jen Atwood, Board Member, excused)
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member
Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
(John Larsen, Business Administrator, excused)
Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
Michael Anderson, Administrator of Schools
Jill Durrant, Administrator of Schools
Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development
June M. LeMaster, Administrator of Human Resources
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
Carmen Freeman, Mayor, Herriman City
Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued its study session to discuss the following:

C. Board Policy Governance Review

1. GP 118 *Midterm Vacancies on the Board*

Board members discussed policy GP 118. To add clarity to the policy, they asked the administration to include Utah Code references where applicable. They discussed the time frame for appointing a new board member in the event of a vacancy, noting that currently the law requires the Board to appoint a new Board member within 30 days of the vacancy. Within the 30 days the law requires advertising for the open position once a week for two weeks and providing a ten-day window for submission of candidate applications. Once applications are received, candidate interviews must take place prior to appointment of the new Board member. Board members asked the members of the Board Legislative Committee to discuss these time limits with legislators and the possibility of extending the 30-day appointment window.

A question was raised by the administration about whether the Board could review candidate applications in closed session. Mr. Van Komen, Board attorney, stated that Utah law does not allow for review and discussion of candidates in a closed session of the Board.

Board members asked to have the word "remaining" added to paragraph 4.b.ii.: "... a majority of all the remaining members of the Board ..."

2. EL 300 *Global Executive Constraint*

Board members reviewed policy EL 300. No recommendations for revisions were proposed.

D. Administrative Policy Review

Superintendent Johnson reviewed the following policies:

1. **A9 Named Gifts to Jordan School District**

Minor revisions were made to clarify meaning or intent.

2. **DP367 District Records Management**

Minor revisions were made to clarify meaning or intent and to provide consistency in capitalization. Language was added to state that management of District records complies with the Government Records Access and Management Act.

Dr. LeMaster, administrator of Human Resources, reviewed the following policies:

3. **DP300 Personnel Philosophy**

Language was added to paragraph I to comply with legislation passed in 2015 related to anti-discrimination laws. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy and other District policies affected by the 2015 legislation.

4. **DP303 Staff Selection - Licensed**

Language was added to expand the definition of nepotism to include grandfather, grandmother, grandson, and granddaughter, and to include protection for breast-feeding mothers. The changes were made in compliance with changes in Utah Code. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy.

5. **DP307 Staff Selection, Promotion and Salary Placement - Classified**

Language was added to expand the definition of nepotism to include grandfather, grandmother, grandson, and granddaughter, and to include protection for breast-feeding mothers. The changes were made in compliance with changes in Utah Code. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy.

6. **DP352 Affirmative Action**

The definition of individuals/groups provided equal opportunity employment was expanded in accordance with state law. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy.

7. **DP356 Substance Abuse-Free Work Environment**

Language was added to expand the definition of controlled substances, which now includes e-cigarettes.

8. **DP358 Employee Discrimination and Harassment**

The definition of individuals/groups protected against harassment or discrimination was expanded in accordance with state law. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy.

9. **DP376 Nursing Mothers in the Workplace (New Policy)**

This policy was created in conformance with the provisions of legislation that protects nursing mothers in the work environment and requires the establishment of policy outlining these protections. Board members requested to have the Utah Code reference and a link included in the text for this policy.

Board members requested that the administration adopt a practice of citing Utah Code where applicable in all District policies.

E. PLC Visits to Schools – Tentative Schedule

Superintendent Johnson provided the Board with a tentative schedule for PLC visits to District schools and invited Board members to attend as many of these Friday morning visits as possible. Dr. Johnson said principals were asked to identify at least one outstanding PLC that she and Board members can visit and that during the visits, teachers will probably take about 20 minutes to explain their activities and accomplishments during the past year. She said these visits are intended to recognize teachers for doing the work that has been asked of them and to express appreciation on behalf of the superintendent and Board of Education.

F. Update on Interlocal Agreement

Paul Van Komen, board attorney, provided Board members with copies of the draft Interlocal Agreement that delineated the cities' proposed changes. He reviewed and discussed these changes with Board members and asked them to contact him if they had any further comments prior to finalizing the Agreement.

G. Discussion on Moving Schools to Traditional Schedule

Mrs. Voorhies said she spoke recently with Jennifer Boehme, president of JEA, about a meeting Mrs. Boehme attended where the subject of schools changing from year-round to traditional schedule was discussed. Mrs. Boehme suggested that to provide clarification to employees about this matter, it might be helpful for Board members to develop a statement about the Board's desire to move elementary schools from year-round to traditional schedule whenever possible or when circumstances permit. Following Board discussion and recommendations for content in such a statement, Mrs. Voorhies was asked to prepare a draft statement for Board review and potential adoption.

H. Continued Discussion on Five-Year Building Construction Plan

Superintendent Johnson provided Board members with three draft versions of the Board's Five-Year Building Construction Plan which included revisions made by Board members during the July 28, 2015 study session. Following a review of the differences between each of the Plans, Board members determined that Plan B was their preferred choice. Board members asked that President Pulsipher email the proposed Plan to city officials and inform them that one or more Board members would attend a City Council meeting during the next several weeks to formally present the Plan and to answer questions.

I. Board Committee Reports

1. District/Community Council Board Advisory Committee

In Mrs. Atwood's absence, Mr. Young reported that the next meeting of the Committee would be held the following Monday.

2. Facilities Board Advisory Committee

Mrs. Whitelock said some of the activities of the Facilities Committee were discussed during closed session. She reported that the Committee received the seismic report for the West Jordan

Middle School auditorium and the report implied that it would not be financially wise to invest in the existing structure. Mr. Young asked what the District's liability is now that it has received this report. Board attorney, Paul Van Komen, reported that at this stage the District has governmental immunity on seismic events. Board members discussed the need to include this information in future facility discussions.

3. **District Finance and Audit Board Advisory Committee**

Mr. Young noted that the Committee will be meeting on Thursday of next week and they hope to meet with the District financial advisors at that time. He said he is optimistic that an agreement can be worked out between the parties by that date because it is important to move towards bringing bond proposals to the Board in preparation for a bond election next year.

Mr. Young informed the Board that Riverton City held an open house regarding a proposed TRAX line. While construction of this line would not take place for five to ten years, it will significantly impact Riverton High School and traffic to Southland and Rose Creek. He said Mr. Anderson, administrator of schools, and Mr. Thomas, administrator of Auxiliary Services, will be meeting with Riverton City to discuss the impact to the District and safety concerns.

4. **Legislative/Community Relations Advisory Committee**

Mrs. Pulsipher reminded Board members about the USBA Pre-Delegate Assembly to be held Friday, August 14, 2015, which is open to all Board members, and reviewed the agenda topics for this meeting. She also indicated that the USBA Delegate Assembly would be held Saturday, August 15, 2015, for the Board's delegates.

Mrs. Whitelock asked Board members for feedback regarding how they would like the delegates to vote at the Assembly. She said the title of the USBA resolution is: "A Resolution Urging the Utah Legislature to Limit the Number of Public Education Bills in the Legislative Sessions," and read the following paragraph:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN that the Utah School Boards Association, the Utah School Superintendents Association, and the Utah Association for School Business Officials are calling upon legislators to reduce the number of bill files affecting public education that may be available to legislators in any given year; to insure a careful hearing of public education bills in a public education subcommittee of each House each legislative session, and; to consider the district and school impact in terms of cost and training, for implementation and any bills prior to final passage, and;

BE IT AFFIRMED, that the Utah School Boards Association, the Utah School Superintendents Association, and the Utah Association for School Business Officials respect the role of the Utah Legislature and wish to work closely with legislators in advancing quality teaching and learning in Utah's public schools while preserving the vital role of local governance by local school boards and instructional time and focus by school administrators and teachers."

MOTION: At 7:28 p.m., it was moved by Janice L. Voorhies to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

/jc