

DUCHESNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION

Thursday, September 10, 2015, 6 pm

Duchesne School District Office, 50 East 100 South, Duchesne, Utah

OFFICERS: President Mark Thacker presided with Board Members Bruce Timothy, Newell Richens, and Gordon Moon present, as well as Superintendent David Brotherson, and Business Administrator Dee E. Miles. Board Member Bart Morrill was excused.

VISITORS:

Mary Ellen Kettle	LeeNichole Marrett	Mary Leach	Michiel Bostick	Janalee Goodrich
Jason Young	Brandon Johnson	Kate Thomas	Glen Simkins	Tiffany Allred
Scott Forsyth	Alex Buxton	Keith Duncan	Jesse Fieldsted	Micah Jensen
David Evans	Marcus Keller	Debbie Duncan	Mike Ross	Mindy Larsen
Alicia Evans	Tony Grant	Joni Fitzgerald	Kevin Madsen	

WORK SESSION: The Board discussed a visit by the Taxpayers Association, and progress on building plans and oil pricing projections.

REGULAR SESSION: President Thacker called the regular session to order at 7:02 p.m. and Mr. Timothy offered prayer. Mr. Moon led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

AGENDA, MINUTES: Mr. Richens moved and Mr. Timothy seconded to approve the agenda, and the minutes of the regular meeting held Thursday, August 13, 2015; voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

RECOGNITION: Debbie Duncan, and Anissa Maxfield were recognized with E3 Awards, Kevin Madsen as a community partner, and Mary Ellen Kettle for her many contributions as she retires.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: The Board reviewed reports from the administration. A report from Dean Wilson was presented by video.

PUBLIC HEARING: At 7:34 p.m., President Thacker opened the meeting for public comment on the proposal to issue \$39 million of general obligation bonds.

Mike Ross commented on the phenomenal growth that has happened in the District with not only buildings but the improvements in educational opportunities for students.

Mary Ellen Kettle noted the long term benefits of a new building.

Kate Thomas, teacher, reported on the excitement and improvements she is experiencing with the new building and technology in the recently completed Duchesne Elementary.

Alex Buxton, Zions Public Finance, reported on an invitation for the Taxpayers Association to visit the District and see the proposed projects.

Jesse Fieldsted noted the students who will experience the new buildings will have more opportunities.

Glen Simkins noted that of the four Districts he has worked in, Duchesne has been the most proactive.

Mr. Richens noted interest rates were favorable and would save taxpayer money.

David Evans noted saving money was good, and that better opportunities were also important. He expressed concern that an excess of funds not be spent on athletics but on facilities and technology.

Michiel Bostick noted the remodel at Kings Peak was money well spent that enhanced the education for students.

There being no further comments, President Thacker closed the public hearing at 7:49 p.m. and opened the meeting for any other public comments.

Kate Thomas noted the new Duchesne Elementary was beautiful and thanked the Board on behalf of the staff for the help of the contractor and everyone involved.

There being no further comments, President Thacker closed open time at 7:51 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. High School Student Handbooks – The high schools were working on standardizing their handbooks across the District. Mr. Timothy moved to approve the handbooks for Union and the Jr. High, Mr. Moon seconded; motion passed unanimously.
2. ASHA Convention – Speech and Hearing teachers presented the benefits of attending the conference in Denver. Mr. Richens moved to approve, Mr. Moon seconded; passed unanimously.
3. RTI Team Travel – Jason Young reported on the need for a team to investigate a new model of education that would provide online education, credit recovery and enhanced Adult Education programs and proposed travel to Albuquerque. Mr. Moon moved to approve, Mr. Timothy seconded; motion passed unanimously.
4. Buildings – Three tree removal bids were received. Mr. Timothy moved to accept the low bid, Mr. Moon seconded; passed unanimously. Superintendent Brotherson reviewed progress on an agreement with Uintah School District for the construction cost of Union High. Mr. Moon moved to approve the agreement, Mr. Richens seconded; passed unanimously.
5. Personnel – No items.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Concurrent Enrollment – Superintendent Brotherson noted participation in classes had doubled last year.
2. UBATC Enrollment – Superintendent Brotherson noted the 5 by 5 schedule had provided more opportunities for students to attend vocational courses and enrollments had increased as well. Mr. Thacker noted the decision to go to 5 by 5 was proving to be beneficial for students.
3. School Grading – Superintendent Brotherson reported the grades were improved and would be released publicly in the 15th. Mary Ellen Kettle noted the growth points were much improved and that consistency in programs was starting to pay off.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Richens moved and Mr. Moon seconded that the Board go into executive session to discuss personnel; aye votes: Mr. Thacker, Mr. Moon, Mr. Timothy, Mr. Richens, nay votes: none. Motion passed. President Thacker closed the regular session at 8:15 p.m. Mr. Richens moved and Mr. Timothy seconded that the Board go out of executive session at 8:30 p.m.; passed unanimously. President Thacker reopened the regular session at this time.

ADJOURNMENT / FUTURE PLANNING: President Thacker adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m. The next meeting will be at Roosevelt Junior High School, Roosevelt, Utah, on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 6 p.m.