



**CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
September 20, 2016**

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a study session and business meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 beginning at 5:30 pm at the Canyons Administration Building - East, 9351 S. 300 East, Sandy, UT 84070

Those present were:

Sherril Taylor, Board President  
Steve Wrigley, Board Vice President  
Nancy Tingey, Board Second Vice President  
Robert Green, Board Member  
Amber Shill, Board Member  
Clareen Arnold, Board Member  
Chad Iverson, Board Member  
James Briscoe, Superintendent  
Leon Wilcox, Chief Financial Officer  
Dan Harper, General Counsel  
Charles Evans, Director External Relations

**1. Closed Session – 5:16 pm**

**MOTION: Robert Green moved that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. Amber Shill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Chad Iverson, yes; Clareen Arnold, yes; Steve Wrigley, yes; Sherril Taylor, yes; Nancy Tingey, yes; Amber Shill, yes; and Robert Green, yes. The motion passed unanimously.**

**2. Study Session – 5:39 pm**

**A. Update on High School Concurrent Enrollments – Dr. Robert Dowdle & Janet Goble**

- We offer Concurrent Enrollment to students for the following reasons:
  - Students gain confidence they can do college work in a familiar environment.
  - Students have opportunity to experience the rigor of college-level coursework.
  - Saves time and money towards earning a college degree. Both general education credits and specific degree courses.
  - Develops a skill set to navigate the processes of college admission, registration, etc.
- Concurrent Enrollment courses are offered in all of our high schools and CTEC with a total of 106 courses in the District. Many are CTE but a lot are not. CTE Coordinator at Corner Canyon High School, Wayne Dittmore, was representing the CTE Coordinators at the meeting. The CTE Coordinators service concurrent enrollment at their school campus.
- Credits earned vary by high school with Alta and CTEC showing the greatest number of credits earned. Looking at the first year, Alta's numbers are high because Corner Canyon had not yet opened. Teachers need to have a master's degree in the content area to teach concurrent classes. This has an impact on what classes can be taught at the individual high schools. There was an error on the chart and Jordan High's numbers should have been much higher. *(The chart has been updated and the corrected information is on BoardDocs.)* CTEC enrollment has increased dramatically over the last two years. We have had a shift in emphasis at CTEC and we are now encouraging students to take more concurrent enrollment courses.
- Credits earned districtwide dropped in 2015 but are on the rise and projected to rise higher in 2017. Courses offered and teacher qualifications fluctuate from year to year. It is really difficult to get teachers qualified to teach concurrent enrollment courses. SLCC has procedures in place that are extremely strict. The dip in the chart is when common core came into effect with secondary one, two and three math. Prior to that time Math 1010 was the starting point. They tried to have everyone move to Math 1050 but that did not work out

and it has moved back to Math 1010. ACT and Accuplacer requirements have increased for concurrent enrollment. New courses are offered from year to year.

- FY17 projected savings in tuition cost is \$1,775,072. The cost is \$5.00 a credit hour and most courses are 3-credit hours. Students are only paying \$15.00 for a college level course. This is a substantial saving to students and parents.
- Robert Green discussed the math class options based on Accuplacer and wondered if we should re-think math classes for concurrent enrollment. Are students just taking a class for college credit that may not be the best for the student? Wayne Dittmore addressed this concern. AP students typically will go to a higher math. Most students do not test into college algebra; ACT scores are not high enough. Secondary math one, two, three is not enough of a base to prepare students for college math. Students still need to take Math 1010, preparing to take Math 1050. In the future, every major may not need a college algebra class. They may be able to take Math 1030 or Math 1040 Stats or another type of math. Common core is less in-depth and it is not preparing the students to go deep into a subject.
- Clareen said that the high school math touches on each area but does not go in-depth. High School used to mirror college but Common Core is giving a little bit each year and college courses are subject specific. Nancy Tingey stated that starting this year there is a requirement that a student has to show some level of proficiency in math to graduate. There is a course for 12<sup>th</sup> grades called college prep math. It is not a college credit course. This is not a CSD decision on the math it is a State Board decision. Chad Iverson asked about the honors students. How do they make the jump to pre-calc and calc? For the cream of crop students, they would be in AP Calculus class. How are our students doing, those that are in the 95%? Our top students do very well and excel in college level courses. We have above average and average students that cannot do the work.
- Nancy Tingey questioned how do we grow the program and offer more courses? Janet stated that we use SLCC. If SLCC does not have a course, then they offer a right of refusal to get that program from another school.
- Bob Dowdle also mentioned that if we don't have enough students taking a course then we do not carry it. Sometimes it is successful and sometimes not. Steve Wrigley commented that if you can get a good grade in a concurrent class it carries forward to college transcripts. He also wanted to know if we offer help for families financially and help in enrolling in college courses? Wayne said that we do offer help on an individual basis and every school offers this service. Outreach is an important element to help those students. Bob Dowdle said that duringUCAW week we go through seminars to help students with the application process.
- President Taylor remarked that he doesn't want to gloss over Robert's concerns. We should not be sending students out unprepared. I appreciate his concern.
- Janet Goble touched on a new initiative being introduced, the Medical Innovations Pathway. This is a program manufacturing medical devices that will be housed at Jordan High School.

B. Status Report on Midvale Middle School MYP (Middle Years Program) – Wendy Dau and Mike Sirois

- Mike Sirois thanked the Board for the dedication and help provided to Midvale Middle School & the Hillcrest Feeder schools. MYP is an outstanding program due to the supervision of Wendy Dau and her team. It is also a challenge to run. Mike turned the time over to Wendy to give the update on the program.
- MMS student population is the most highly impacted middle school in CSD.
  - 67% free/reduced lunch
  - 23% ELL – plus others that do not report this.
  - 13% Special Education (Behavior Unit & ACC Classroom)
  - 29% mobility – there is a constant turnover
  - 25% are SALTA students
- Midvale Middle School is racially diverse with the largest segment being Hispanic/Latino followed by Multiracial. 62% minority at MMS.
- MMS is a 'C' school. SAGE results were in the 80th percentile for the students in SALTA and 12.6% to 13.9% for the boundary students. Growth comparisons from 2015-16 show growth in ELA but a drop in math and science. The achievement gap has grown between the SALTA and boundary students.
- Good news ELL Median Growth Percentile is increasing for **all** students in language arts. Math and science went down. The growth in ELL is due to the intensive literacy strategies in all areas. Every single teacher has to incorporate reading and writing in all of their subject areas.
- All students are MYP students which creates unity across programs and populations.

- There is a Statement of Inquiry that guides the learning by every single teacher in every single unit. Kids are seeing the same statements no matter what program they are in and they are all tied to State standards. Learner profile, PBIS model, ten characteristics that IB wants students to cultivate.
- Approaches to Learning emphasizes communication skills, thinking skills, research skills, self-management skills and organizational skills. This is the basis of our citizenship rubric.
- A study showed that our students and parents believed they could achieve at high levels but the teachers did not. Our teachers need to push the expectations for every student.
- Emphasize the global citizen. This is important because Midvale Middle has students from all over the world.
- Investment in MYP for the past three years from September to September: 2015-16 - \$93,000; 2016-17 - \$58,500 and 2017-18 the projection is \$48,300. Includes MYP coordinator, and training for teachers.
- Claren Arnold asked about Shelly and her contract. She is at a half contract this year and the format we are using is functioning well. The difference in the number is the amount of PD. Wendy said they have the funding they need.
- Steve Wrigley stated that it sounds like the students are getting a firm foundation. If we get the kids to believe in themselves then grades start to move up. Wendy agreed with Steve and also mentioned that she is working with Karen Sterling to get additional supports. The parents value what we are doing with their kids, our community is trusting us.
- Nancy Tingey attended the end of year celebration for MYP last year and it was fabulous. The energy and sense of accomplishment was impressive and speaks highly of what they are doing. You are creating a culture of belief and the students are willing to do what they need to do to achieve.
- Next step is to increase proficiency levels for all students in ELA, increase growth rates for all students in math and science, increase academic and behavior expectation for all students, ensure all students leave MMS with the skills necessary to be successful in HHS, make progress in closing the achievement gap between SALTA and neighborhood students.
- Claren Arnold asked if the SALTA and neighborhood students have interactions and work together? There is interaction in elective courses and they are exposed to each other at lunch. Counselors at the school are trying activities to mix it up at the school.
- The administration and faculty are doing an incredible job. We are seeing progress. Mike's number one priority would be to take something off of their plate to make the job easier.
- Claren Arnold asked if we could move the special education classes to another school. This is something that will be explored.

#### C. Middle School Schedule Committee Update – Mike Sirois

- We have had two meetings so far with a third meeting this Thursday. The task force is 32 members of a variety of staff from every school.
- Committee members have established the guiding principles to judge schedules by:
  - Schedule needs to promote teaming and collaboration.
  - Maximize quality instructional time.
  - Elective opportunities for all students.
  - Accelerations and interventions available within the school day.
- With those four principles in place we have reviewed several schedules. We looked at the Brighton trimester schedule. We have discovered that there is no one perfect schedule. It is a challenge to see where we want to go with that. The Thursday meeting of the task force will be two hours of dissecting this information. It will then go back to the schools and then we will bring it back to the Board. A recommendation or proposal is forth coming. The Board will have this in November or possibly October 18<sup>th</sup>. This will go into place next school year. It doesn't change start times but it will change how the day looks.

#### D. Report on Hiring for 2016-2017 – Steve Dimond

- 277 newly hired licensed educators, 78 of those are relocating from out of state and 41 are in an ARL/ATP program, which are different than the recently discussed APT program.
- Thank you for allowing us to recruit across the country. Jo and Sally were gone for about a month and a half. Our goal is to hire the very best teachers, no matter where that may be.
- Alternative Route to Licensure is up from 9% in 2014-15 and 10% in 2015-16 to 15% for this school year. Secondary educators are the largest group using ARL with twenty-four teachers, second is elementary with nine and special education with eight. The numbers vary by content and subject areas. Ten years ago we didn't have any ARLs. Dual Immersion is another area that we need to use ARL.

- HR's preference is to hire university prepared educators who have been mentored by master educators. However, the number of individuals entering university education programs is declining and cannot meet the District or the State's current staffing needs. We provide support with coaches and specialists to the ATP and ARL hires.
  - HR is committed to hiring the very best candidate for each position. We appreciate the Board's support.
  - Nancy Tingey asked about a licensed teacher that leaves teaching and returns. What is their route to licensure? Steve said there is a returning route to licensure that is a simplified process. Nancy also asked if we keep in touch with those teachers. Steve said that we try to reach out to teachers that have left.
  - Steve Wrigley: How do you evaluate an ARL teacher? Steve Dimond said they would be considered emerging for the most part. We have some ARL teachers that leave after the first or second year. They realize teaching is harder than they expected. Second question, does it cost extra to get these teachers up to proficiency? Steve Dimond pointed out that the teacher's pay for their courses but it is the time element of helping an ARL teacher. It is hard to quantify financially. The best option is to hire licensed teachers. This is a concern around the country.
  - Steve Dimond suggested an idea to entice students to go into teaching, such as those in the MYP program, to be able to get a scholarship from the CSD Foundation towards schooling to become a teacher.
  - Clareen Arnold asked if we still have mentors? We use achievement coaches in elementary schools. The teammates do the lion's share of helping a new teacher and they do not get a stipend. CTESS Academy is very helpful to new hires. Coaches are helping with the paperwork. Clareen asked if can we look at a stipend for mentors? We had a stipend of \$250.00 in previous years. Jim said that subject area and team wise our people are helping each other. Clareen agrees but she believes they should be compensated for doing that.
  - Robert Green asked about ATP and ARL. Steve Dimond reviewed the programs. ARL is through the State and they tell you what courses a candidate would need to take to be in the program. ATP is through a university and is usually for special education, a cohort goes through the program together. APT is the brand new program and is for someone with a bachelor's degree that passes a Praxis test. Each district decides who gets to move to a level two license. It makes it easier for rural areas to get teachers. If we do APT we need to look at supports. We currently do not hire APT. Robert asked what training we require for new ARL or APT teachers? We don't require any special training for these teachers. Steve would like to have a boot camp for this type of teacher that was about three weeks before school started. Robert asked what would HR need to make that happen? We would need to compensate the people who are coming in. We would have to identify them and find out what their needs are and hire them early. Robert would like to see us get something like this going.
  - Nancy asked if we started the school year fully staffed? Steve said as of today we have five openings. Some of those were filled when school started. We are using long term subs and we have leads for some of the positions. This year was about average and we were better off than most districts in the state.
  - Long term subs have content knowledge and have a bachelor's degree. It all depends on the person if a sub or ATP is better for a position.
- E. Board Mission & Vision – Board Sub-Committee (First Reading)
- Proposed draft was discussed. The committee took the feedback from Board Members and the proposal is posted on BoardDocs.
  - Nancy's personal thought on this is that the Board will approve a document that will be our framework and will instruct and direct the administration to incorporate the framework into what we are doing as a District. We would develop a proposed plan on how to get the message out and also come to the Board with historical data and recommended targets on the approved indicators. We would have a separate discussion on the indicators and goals. Everything that CSD does should tie to this framework.
  - Steve Wrigley said that the vision statement is a little more comprehensive than the tenets. We would like everyone to take one more look and get back to us and we will try to finalize this for our second reading. Amber noted that the sub-committee has talked a lot about this and we have taken everyone's thoughts into consideration
  - Chad Iverson thanked the committee for the revisions. The areas that he would continue to provide feedback on is community engagement and customer service. The RSS feeds doesn't feel like it is in the right place. Chad feels the satisfaction survey makes a lot of sense. Nancy said they talked about the RSS feeds and they believe it is providing a service for news items or Board summaries, etc. We don't want to get too labored down with the indicators. We want to be careful that we do not choose things that could be compromised. The committee is open to ideas that don't require a lot of extra work to measure. We do not

need to have indicators if they are not needed. We wanted to look at things that we could set a solid target for.

- Satisfaction survey is something we would ask the administration to create and use the same questions every year. We would want a short, simple survey.
- Do we track complaint calls? Jeff Haney said that our front desk does have a matrix and communications.org also keeps a log. We track all of this and break it down.
- Send thoughts or input to the committee by next Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, at noon.

Adjourn 7:20

### 3. Business Meeting – 7:30 pm

#### 4. Opening Items

- A. Welcome
- B. Approve the Agenda for September 20, 2016.

**MOTION: Steve Wrigley moved to approve the agenda for September 20, 2016. Robert Green seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

C. Pledge of Allegiance – Silver Mesa Elementary School – Scout Troop 3715

D. Reverence – Julie Fielding, Principal, Silver Mesa Elementary School

- Comments were based on a commencement address by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Life is remembered through moments of insight and moments of mistakes. Aha moments and Ought-o moments. Both should be cherished. We can learn more from our not so good experiences than we can from our good ones.
- Silver Mesa has 630 students, this up 30 students from last year.
- Spanish Dual immersion school for the past seven years and three ACC classrooms.
- Building is 38 years old. Thanks to the Board, this past summer they received some updates. With the remodel they gained two new spaces; a brain booster classroom and a conference room. They have a strong PTA and Community Council and great parent volunteers. Silver Mesa is celebrating improved SAGE scores this year.

#### 5. Recognitions – Jeff Haney

- Tonight we honor hard work and dedication in academics. Our sole honorees tonight are a prestigious bunch of scholars. They are the newly announced semi-finalists in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship competition. Eleven students from four of Canyons District's traditional comprehensive high schools have been named semi-finalists in this year's program. They join about 16,000 others who this week advanced in the contest to vie for 7,500 scholarships worth \$33 million. Finalists are chosen from 1.6 million students at more than 22,000 high schools. The nationwide pool of semifinalists represents less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors. The number is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors. The students and their schools are:

**CORNER CANYON** Eric Jackson **BRIGHTON** Emily A. Hyde **JORDAN** Boyd H Christiansen  
Brian C. Johnson Peter C. Maughan **HILLCREST** Alexandra Carlile Soyoung Jeon Joshua  
Katzenbach Derek C. Miles Abigail A. Olson Chandler Wakefield.

- We also would like to introduce a new feature for our website, social media and eventually the halls and walls of the District Office. We're introducing our Photo of the Month. Every month, we will choose four photographs to display on our web and social media channels, and ask for input on which photograph our community thinks is the best – or best captures Canyons District history. We will pick a photo to display on the website and then frame for display in the District Office for the coming year. At the end of the year we'll have 12 large framed photographs that, hopefully, will serve as a history book of sorts for all the Canyons community has achieved and experienced. While all of these photos have been taken by Canyons District employees, we'll be soliciting photos from the community, too. We can't wait to see what the future brings, and we'll be there to capture photos of it.

#### 6. Patron Comments

- Tracy Bennett – School Board Candidate in the Draper area - Precinct 7. I have been very involved in Canyons School District in a variety of ways including PTA, School Community Councils, State PTA Board of Directors and I have served on a number of CSD committees. I just wanted to introduce myself to the Board.
  - Representative LaVar Christensen: Representative Christensen thanked the Board and Dr. Briscoe. I want to share two things - Civic and Character Education & HB 360. The Education Code (*Education Bible*) is 528 pages, never recodified in over sixty years. I formed an education committee in Legislative District 32 made up of parents, teachers and principals. We have met over a years' time and that is where this bill came from. A recent 50 State NCSL report showed that the piecemeal approach has merit but leads to disconnected reforms and innovations and an ever shifting foundation causing frustration and difficulties. In the Education Code nothing is in there about the core values or principles. We did everything we could to give more local control. We work through our local school boards, State school boards, State legislators and the Governor. We called for an eighteen-month time out. We are reviewing every innovation from the past 15 years and will come up with a new 10-year plan. In November we will be presenting this to the Legislature. I would like Canyons to be at the center of this reform and I am happy to meet with any of you. Please bring forward anything that you are worried about and want to accomplish in the future. We have an open moment to come together to make a new plan. Before November 30, 2016 the State Board of Education shall prepare a report that summarizes the past fifteen or more years, policies and programs established by the performance history and prepare a formal ten-year plan for the State's public education system including recommendations to repeal outdated policies and programs. This report and plan will be submitted to the Education Interim Committee for review and recommendations. This will allow us to have a clear vision.
- I was also able to form the Utah Commission on Civic and Character Education. We have funding and grants for field trips for fifth graders to go to the Capital. History is an important part of our curriculum. Hope of America Program is free and has been donated and we would like Canyons to be part of this. Legislation says that within a curriculum students will be taught Civic and Character education. The Canyons School District shines at the State level.
- Kathleen Reibe: Running for State School Board in District 10. There will be a debate at 6:30 pm on September 28 at Channing Hall. (13515 S. 150 E. in Draper) Everyone is invited.

#### 7. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2016 Board Meeting
- Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- Approval of Purchasing Bids
- Approval of Student Overnight Travel
- Approval of August Financial Reports

**MOTION:** Chad Iverson moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item 6A Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2016; Item 6B Approval of Hire and Termination Reports; Item 6C Approval of Purchasing Bids; Item 6D Approval of Student Overnight Travel and Item 6E Approval of August Financial Reports. Clareen Arnold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 1. New Business

- Annual Volunteer Report – Brittani Bailey, Partnerships & Volunteer Coordinator & Betty Shaw, PTA President
  - 2015-2016 Highlights include 11,672 volunteers served in CSD schools with 266, 276 hour of service. The State deemed that a volunteer's worth was \$23.92 per hour. This saved us over six million dollars last year. This comes out to 23 hours of service per volunteer and 1 volunteer for every 3 students.
  - PTA is the biggest supporter of our volunteers and we are grateful for them.
  - Betty Shaw and Tonya Rhodes presented a check to the District to show there is value in parents helping out and it goes beyond money. The numbers are down from last year but that may be due to reporting. We have been working hard to improve the reporting system. We want principals and teachers to know and understand how to use volunteers. We encourage them to ask for help. PTA benefits all students in the school. The check amount was \$2,984,153.52 and represents how much money was saved based on hours worked.
  - Dr. Briscoe has joined all 43 PTA's this year. I encourage each Board Member to join at least three PTA's in the District and Jordan Valley is a wonderful school and could use the membership. Thank you for your support.
- Salta Testing Fee Recommendation – Dr. Amber Roderick-Landward (Second Reading, Possible Action) Leon Wilcox and Dr. Kathryn McCarrie presented for Amber.

- Currently we are charging students out of district \$35 to test. Students that are enrolled in Canyons are not charged for the test. The cost of the test is around \$90 per student.
- We are proposing to continue not charging currently enrolled CSD students for the first test but will charge \$25 for repeat testing and increasing the fee to non-enrolled CSD students to \$50.00.
- Amber Shill asked how many students were tested that were non-Canyons students and how many total students. Last year 65 non-Canyons students tested for SALTA, 46 qualified and 33 of those lived in the boundaries but were not attending Canyons schools. The other 13 did not live in CSD boundaries. This is similar to the previous years. 20% of those that qualify for SALTA do not enroll in the program. Last year there were 45 that qualified but did not enroll. That was a loss of around \$4000.
- The question was raised, why are we charging students that live in our boundaries a fee? We get some money from property taxes. Dr. McCarrie said that the amount of dollars that we get for the program are declining. We get property taxes but we do not get any WPU funding. Chad pointed out that if they test, pass and enroll then we would get the WPU of \$3100. By charging non-CSD students we could be deterring them from taking the test and enrolling in the program. Chad wants more non-CSD students taking the test.
- Kathryn's main point was are we going to spend the money on testing or put some of the money towards programming.? We could use the funds for PD.
- Clareen Arnold asked if Canyons could reimburse the fees for the students that actually enroll. We would be getting WPU for those students and it would be fair to refund the testing fee.
- President Taylor suggested we bring it back for a third reading with two options. The original option and the option presented by Clareen. The Board will make a decision at that time.
- Kathryn said they are looking at reducing the costs of the testing.
- Robert Green asked for clarification on the options? (1) Original Proposal (2) A refund of the testing fee if they test and enroll or (3) Status quo no changes.
- Also discussed was exempting everyone that lives in our boundary even if they don't attend canyons schools but it was determined those students would be treated as out of district unless they are enrolled in a Canyons School.

C. Policies to Be Deemed Obsolete – Jeff Christensen (Second Reading): GA; GBKE; GBGA; GCBE; GDQC. Last meeting, we brought a collection of policies, reviewed by the policy committee, that are deemed obsolete. President Taylor thanked the policy committee for getting these off the books.

**MOTION: Robert Green moved to suspend the third reading rule for new business action items, and moved to remove the policies that are deemed obsolete GA; GBKE; GBGA; GCBE; GDQC. Steve Wrigley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

D. Policy Updates – Jeff Christensen (Second Reading): GBEC; GDM; GDCK.

- These policies were presented at the September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Updated language and minor modifications were made to make these policies clearer. These policy updates will be brought back for a third reading.

E. New Policy: Policy -- Employee Health and Immunizations (Second Reading)

- This policy is in response to a Salt Lake County Department of Health regulation that was passed earlier this year. The regulation requires that employees maintain a personal health and immunization record. This regulation also allows the local health department to close a school in the event of an outbreak. Individuals that do not have immunizations or immunity would be excluded from the work place for the period of the outbreak.
- Clarifications from the first reading. Required vs recommended vaccinations. We would modify the language that the required immunizations are from the health department. The word recommended has been deleted.
- Another question raised at the last meeting was regarding insurance. These immunizations would fall under the plan of CSD benefited employees. The cost for all of the required immunizations would be \$437.00 per employee. This would cover DTAP (\$37.00 one dose), MMR (\$78.00 per dose with two doses needed for a total of \$156.00), if only those two were needed then the total would be \$193.00. The Varicella or Chicken Pox vaccine is \$232.00 total for two doses. If employees have proof of immunization or have personal recall they had Chicken Pox, then they would not need the vaccination. Leon believes about half of our employees would already have these vaccinations or have had Chicken Pox. This would lower the expense

to our plan to around \$400,000 from \$1,000,000. This would be covered as preventative under our insurance plan. There would be no co-pay.

- We looked at options for the hourly employees because many of their wages would not compensate them enough to cover the immunizations. Their time off would be protected but they would lose income from not being able to work. A licensed employee could use their available leave. This is in line with what other school districts are doing.
- This is an unfunded mandate from Salt Lake County. If we had to pay an immunized sub at around \$100 a day, plus the expense of insurance, it could be quite expensive. Steve Wrigley suggested we talk to legislators to get one time monies for the school district if this occurs. Jeff pointed out that this is from the Salt Lake County Health Department and not the State. We have discussed the worst case scenario and the costs would be much less because many employees are immunized.
- The Health Department would be the ones requesting to see the documentation not CSD.
- Robert Green asked if we have a legal liability if one of our employee carries a disease? Legal services will look into this.
- Medical exemptions, personal exemptions and religious exemptions are statutory exemptions. Medical exemptions are signed by the employees licensed physician.

#### F. State Accountability & Achievement Results – Dr. Hal Sanderson

- There are two additional resources posted on BoardDocs for further review.
- Our academic goal is for all students to graduate ready for college and careers. We must give a strong academic foundation that gives students multiple options to further their education and career training.
- We have had a steady increase of the percentage of Opt-Outs for SAGE. The impact of opt-out and student motivation on SAGE and accountability reports for 2016 show that the opt-out rate is not equal across our schools or across the State. Data from Utah State Board of Education shows 23% of Utah schools had 5% or more students opt-out. These opt-out rates affect SAGE results and accountability reports. There is a differential impact based on the different levels. At the elementary level we have about 1.5% opt-out, the middle schools are around 3.5% and our high schools are closer to 6%. MJMS had a lot of opt-outs last year (over 10%).
- Student motivation was difficult after the Governor started having discussions about getting rid of SAGE. Several educators have expressed concern that secondary students do not take the SAGE test seriously. Teachers can no longer use SAGE as a portion of class grades. Student motivation is difficult to calculate. These numbers reflect the conversations about 11<sup>th</sup> grade students waiving the SAGE test for next year. We need to exercise caution when looking at the high school data. It is impossible to calculate the full impact of having students opt-out.
- School accountability results for 2016 are based on PACE which is used to fulfill federal requirements and School Grading. There are frequent legislative changes that affect the School Grading calculations.
- State School Grading chart was presented showing grades and percentages for CSD for 2014, 2015, initial 2016 and final 2016 higher cut score. The State Board changed the benchmarks based on the trigger that there were too many schools that had A & B grades. It is important to know that we have strong SAGE results, especially at our elementary and middle school level. Our initial numbers were impressive and we asked schools to present both numbers to their staff and community councils. We made good academic progress. This is a difficult and frustrating concept for people to understand.
- Nancy Tingey commented that the lowering of cut scores with SAGE was to avoid the majority of schools getting D's and F's. The timing of the release and re-release of the scores was unfortunate. We should focus on the raw numbers rather than the letter grade. Hal agreed that when we shifted from CRT's to a more rigorous test in SAGE, there were placeholders put in effect. The practicality of it is that schools were operating under one set of rules and then they changed the rules and this did not feel like a fair approach. The PACE report has richer information on where the school is at and there is other data that tells the academic story.
- Robert Green noted that we had an F school and we no longer have an F school. That is an achievement and needs to be celebrated. We should applaud those that participated in that. Hal shared that there are reports that show school by school history of this report.
- Labeling what is quality and what is improvement and what is a letter grade for schools is a challenging process. The requirements do not jump up every year. Nancy Tingey said if 2/3 of the schools get an A or B then they bump up the requirements by about 5%. Steve Wrigley said that it needs to mean something and it feels like it doesn't mean anything. Schools should focus on what is in their control.

- 2016 Accountability PACE/SFAR chart was presented showing performance points, growth points and achievement points as well as top accountability schools. The chart shows the top five accountability schools in Total School Performance Points, Growth Points & Achievement Points. The following schools were in the top five in at least one category: Willow Canyon, Granite, Quail Hollow, Sunrise, Silver Mesa, Canyon View, Peruvian Park, Brookwood and Draper Park. This report is submitted for Federal Accountability requirements.
- A summary of SAGE results for elementary, middle and high school students was given. We have strong numbers above the State percent/proficient. Dr. Sanderson feels these are solid numbers. The opt-out didn't seem overly helpful or harmful on the results overall. He is not worried about motivation of elementary students. We need to watch the middle school level.
- High School SAGE Summary. We had some strong gains in science. Language arts remained steady and we are still above the State. We have made some gains in math. Next year we will be pulling out 11<sup>th</sup> grade SAGE results and the charts will need to be revised. Nancy Tingey noted that the 11<sup>th</sup> grade students that took this test are part of the first cohort that have been instructed in the new core standards on math. Hal agreed that it will be interesting to watch that cohort.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Grade ACT Scale Score – Canyons vs State
  - We are higher than the State in all areas. We need to monitor the dip last year in English. We are flat on math achievement.
  - Robert Green asked about the trend line and correlation with the State. Do we need to look at doing something differently? Dr. Sanderson said that academic team is discussing this. We are looking at the middle schools' stories and how is that impacting ACT scores.
  - ACT trends for the district, state and nation were down all around. Chad Iverson asked why are the scores going down? Is it a class issue? Is it an academic plan issue? Are the plans working?
- Claren Arnold questioned the changes in test questions from year to year. Hal stated that SAGE has 20% common items from year to year and ACT also has some common items. ACT was redesigned and questions changed in 2013 to 2014. Hal will need to look at the ACT scores changed across the country to see if they have gone up or down. A tricky factor is that the number of students taking the ACT is growing. This changes the numbers. It's complicated because of these changes. Hal will do another chart showing national and state data for each content area in the ACT. (*This information has been added to BoardDocs.*)
- Robert Green stated that if we want to stay flat lined then we continue doing things the way we have been doing them. Across the District, looking at these indicators, we need to look at the way we are doing things. We have approximately 93% of CSD students take the ACT. Dr. Briscoe asked for an additional chart showing State and national levels. Hal will prepare this and update the Board. (*This information has been added to BoardDocs.*)
- Advanced Placement 2016 pass rate was above the State, Nation and World. We administered 4,121 AP tests. We have a total of 2,625 AP students and 1,807 had a passing score. Individual high school stats were given and presented on a chart. Canyons has gone up 1,423 tests since 2010. We are growing the number of kids in these programs. There are 873 more students taking AP exams in 2016 than 2010. The 'not reported' stat on the slide is probably due to students not filling in the 'grade' bubble on the test.
- Robert Green noted that we have more students taking the test and the same percentage of passing. This shows me that every student in the district has the potential. This is a shining example for the district. I love the data on the 2016 AP Pass Rate slide.
- Dr. Sanderson also commented that we are building a pipeline of dual language students that will be taking the AP World Language exams in the future. That is an area that we have a systemic approach to build that number. If we can get the freshmen to take a test and build confidence, then we will build momentum in students taking AP additional exams. We have a total of 28% of CSD students grades 9-12 taking AP tests.
- Steve Wrigley asked how many students take AP classes but do not take the test? Some do not take the test because they do not feel prepared. We would not want the testing fee to be a barrier for students not taking the test. We have discussed this with our Foundations Department.
- Nancy Tingey requested information on how many students take AP courses. Dr. Sanderson will need to look at exact numbers. Canyons has been increasing enrollment, increasing test rates and higher scores.

## 9. Staff Comments

### A. Superintendent Report

- Thank you Hal for sharing the information and consolidating the report. Thank you Board for taking the time to review these resources and the data that are part of our key indicators. We will never be happy with

a flat line on the data. We will always be held accountable for student progress. When states get it and we have people like Wendy Dau and the interventions like we have at Hillcrest High then you will see results. We will continue to see results. The ACT flat line needs to be monitored and we need to look at variables at the State and National level when it comes to the ACT. I also want to commend Susan Edwards, Laura, Brittani and MariLee and all those that facilitated the Canyons Education Foundation Golf Tournament. Nancy represented the Board of Education at the event. I was able to talk to all of the vendors and the Foundation Board to let them know how much we appreciate them and what they do for our students. I want to commend our principals, teachers and students on the amazing job you are doing. Thank you for all of your hard work.

**B. Chief Financial Officer Report**

- I want to commend Leslie Allen, Science Specialist in ISD, and Amber Roderick-Landward for the work they did to obtain a \$265,000 grant award from The STEM Action Center for Science. The grant will be used for professional development for our teachers. Congratulations to them. Another initiative we are in the process of working on, with Dr. Darren Draper, is the Digital Teaching & Learning Grant for around \$600,000. We will receive an increase of approximately \$100,000 in Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts in Education funding. We currently have the BTS program in 23 of our elementary schools including Jordan Valley. A quick update for the Board on the ZAP funding tax for the pool in Draper. Draper pool project is on the ballot and the project is budgeted at \$19.5 million. Two other projects are on the initiative, the Cottonwood Rec Center pool improvements and a trail from 9400 South to Dimple Dell. There are some good initiatives within the Canyons School District boundaries. The Midvale pool did not make the final ZAP list but the Mayor of Midvale is working to still get this project completed.

**10. Board Comments**

**A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports**

- Robert Green: I am glad that we as a Board are very critical of what we do. I think we are moving in a positive direction and everyone is committed to move our CSD students and employees in a positive direction. Everyone should be commended for their efforts and hard work. It is good to look seriously at things but it's also important to be happy with the good work that is being put forward.
- Amber Shill: I do not like flat lines. I want to thank Dr. Sanderson for his presentation and it is always good to look at the numbers. I think there is progress and there is also room for improvement. Continue to come up with good ideas and continue to improve.
- Nancy Tingey: I also want to thank Dr. Sanderson for his presentation and for putting the additional resource information out there. Numbers don't tell the whole story but it does tell part of the story and we are moving in a good direction. It is an interesting time in the state of Utah. The State Board presented to the Education Interim Committee their recommendations for an accountability system that looks at what we are measuring in addition to the year-end test scores. They are looking at measuring outcomes with ACT, and Aspire, and reducing some of the required testing in the elementary years. School Community Council training starts this week. Board Members are welcome to attend the trainings for our SCCs. Trainings start tomorrow evening and then again on the September 28<sup>th</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup>. Golf tournament was a wonderful event. Thanks to the Foundation Board and the business partners. USBA started hosting their regional meetings. Last week the discussion was about legislative priorities. We keep hearing about workgroups to develop the State Plan for ESSA and we need to get that information out. Cottonwood Heights has a new city hall across the street from Brighton High. That area is becoming a gathering place for that community and it is beautiful.
- Steve Wrigley: Hal thank you for providing the information to the Board. We are really close to getting our mission and vision statement. Thanks to everyone for their feedback. I also want to thank Mrs. Tingey. Nancy is so involved at the State level and at the District and she is wonderful. Nancy does a lot and we don't thank her enough. This Board is making a difference in the State.
- Claren Arnold: We are here to help students be college and career ready. There are students that want a career and do not have a desire to go to college. Those students still need to be recognized and teachers are doing their best to make them career ready. They need to be applauded for what they are doing. Some people do not take tests well. There are many reasons why students struggle with tests. I work harder and harder every year to give the SAGE test as a teacher. There are years that my scores are high and sometimes they are lower. Testing can be frustrating. I get frustrated and upset with the way the State grades the schools. Changing the grades was a slap in the face. If I could find a way, I would fix it!

- Chad Iverson: I have attended sporting events and cheered on our teams at cross country meets and soccer games. I have also re-engaged with watch dog groups at neighborhood schools. I appreciate Tracy Bennett coming tonight and I am excited for a good campaign. I am so glad that we get to elect our State School Board. The transfer policy they were considering would have created havoc. I am glad that cooler heads prevailed and that they took that out. I am glad that we have Amber as part of the UHSAA committee. High School sports are very important and transferring student at will intra-year would change the community feel of high school sports. Recommendations from the Speaker of the House and the Leader of the Senate for the State School Board were given last week. Their tenet was whoever was endorsed by a certain political organization should not be voted for. I would strongly suggest that we vote for who we feel is best. I urge everyone to vote for who they want to vote for. Grateful to Hal for the data he presented.
- President Taylor: Thanks to Jeff Haney for the article he is working on regarding the Indian Hills remodel. They are excited to have their turn for a remodel. Thanks to the Board for your preparation for tonight's meeting and for all you do. Thanks to the police officers.

**11. Closing Items**

A. Adjourn

- Adjourned at 10:10

/dh

ATTEST

----- Board President  
 Sherril Taylor

----- Superintendent  
 James Briscoe