

Minutes of Study and Regular Session

Board of Education Ogden City School District

Thursday, February 15, 2018 · 5:00 PM · 1950 Monroe Boulevard, Ogden Utah

1. Study Session, Room 200

President Heiner called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. The following were present when the meeting convened:

Members Present:

Jeff N. Heiner, President
Jennifer Zundel, Vice President
Douglas B. Barker
Don E. Belnap
Nancy Blair
Susan Richards

Members Absent:

Joyce Wilson

Staff Present:

Dr. Rich K. Nye, Superintendent
Zane K. Woolstenhulme, Business Administrator
Paula Bosgieter, Executive Assistant
Jessica Bennington, Human Resources Director
Timothy Peters, Executive Director
Ken Crawford, Support Services Director

a. Review of Board Meeting Agenda

Board Member Joyce Wilson joined the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Consent Calendar

Negotiation teams: Board members asked questions regarding employees included on the negotiation teams and Human Resource Director Jessica Bennington responded. She will provide the list of committee members and schedule of meetings to board members.

Celebrating Student Achievement

Ben Lomond Principal Dale Wilkinson will present the UHSAA awards. Superintendent Nye will announce the Art Show awards. Superintendent Nye reviewed the celebrations he will share during Celebrating Student Achievement.

Public Participation

It was noted that seven individuals have registered to participate at board meeting during Public Participation. Business Administrator Zane Woolstenhulme will be running a timer app for those speaking.

Increasing Student Achievement

- Course Approval for Diesel Mechanic I and II: Executive Director Timothy Peters explained the need for these courses. Superintendent Nye also shared his comments. Board members asked questions and Mr. Peters responded. The board agreed this item be moved to the Consent Calendar.
- 1st Reading for Board Policy: Support Services Director Ken Crawford deferred questions to cheer coaches in attendance: Kristi Williamson, Ogden High; Natalie Day, Mount Ogden Junior High, and Shara Gooda at Ben Lomond High School. They shared information on the district's cheer programs and recommend our junior high programs be allowed to perform stunts. Safety clinics would be required for all coaches and cheerleaders. Safety clinics begin in March and include basic level skills to be safe during stunting. Board members asked questions and the cheer coaches responded. The board agreed this item be moved to the Consent Calendar to approve the revised policy without need for a second reading.
- Capital Facilities Discussion: Superintendent Nye will speak to the reasons why we are having these discussions and present additional scenarios for consideration. Dale Okerlund and Teresa Pinkal from Lewis & Young will present financial information. Mr. Woolstenhulme stated the notice for intent to issue debt was posted today in the newspaper. Mr. Okerlund explained the parameters and the legal requirements to issue the bonds. The parameters that need to be addressed are the amount of the bond, the interest rate, the maximum

term, and description of how the money will be used. He explained how each of these parameters are calculated and will share this information in regular session as he speaks to the bond graphs.

President Heiner called for a brief recess at 5:45 p.m. to reconvene in regular session.

2. **Regular Meeting, Board Room**

President Heiner called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The following were present when the meeting convened:

Members Present:

Jeff N. Heiner, President
Jennifer Zundel, Vice President
Douglas B. Barker
Don E. Belnap
Nancy Blair
Susan Richards
Joyce Wilson

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Dr. Rich K. Nye, Superintendent
Zane K. Woolstenhulme, Business Administrator
Paula Bosgieter, Executive Assistant
Jer Bates, Public Information Officer

a. **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Visitors**

Presenter: Jeff Heiner, Board President

b. **Reverence**

Presenter: Ken Crawford, Support Services Director

c. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Presenter: Karen Harrop, Special Education Director

d. **Consent Calendar**

President Heiner indicated that board packets have been reviewed. The board has agreed that items 2.g.1. and 2.g.2. be moved to the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Jennifer Zundel moved to approve the consent calendar with noted changes, adding items 2.g.1 and 2.g.2. Seconded by Nancy Blair. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Recommended Personnel Actions provided by the human resource director and recommended by the superintendent were approved.
2. Financial Reports for January 2018 were provided by the business administrator and approved.
3. Minutes for the board meetings held January 18, 2018 and February 1, 2018 were approved as written.
4. District Negotiation Teams, 2018-2019 were approved as written.

2.g.1. Course Approval: Diesel Mechanic 1 and Diesel Mechanic 2 at Ogden High School was approved.

2.g.2. Approval: 1st Reading Board Policy 9.205 Junior High Activities and Athletics [revision] was approved as final reading.

e. **Celebrating Student Achievement**

1. *"Great Things Happening Report"*

- a. UHSAA Academic All-State Teams- Winter Sports
Principal Dale Wilkinson announced two Ben Lomond High School students who were recognized as Academic All-State team for girls' swimming and girls' basketball.
- b. 46th Annual Utah All-State High School Art Show
Assistant Principal Heather Gerrard introduced Ogden High School art teacher Bruce Burningham. He announced four Ogden High students who were recognized as being accepted into the Utah All-State High School Art Show. Principal Benjamin Carrier introduced one George Washington High School student and Principal Dale Wilkinson introduced three students from Ben Lomond who were also accepted into the Art Show.

2. Superintendent's Celebration

Superintendent Nye shared the following celebrations:

- We recognize the great work our teachers and staff are doing in Career and

Technical Education (CTE); and our partnerships with Ogden-Weber Tech College and industry partners. Our district had 3, 215 students enrolled in CTE courses last year with a 91.3% graduation rate for CTE concentrators and 1,111 students received skills certificates.

- RAMP Selection Committee is recommending Ogden School District be awarded \$272,475 for improvements at the Sports and Soccer Complex.
- Arts and Museum Committee for Weber County RAMP is suggesting the Ogden School Foundation grant request for Explore Arts 2018 be awarded \$7,750.

3. Students of the Month

Five outstanding high school students were recognized as students of the month from their respective schools. They were each given framed certificates of achievement and were congratulated individually by board members.

President Heiner also recognized Principal Dale Wilkinson for being selected as Utah Association of Secondary School Principals Principal of the Year.

f. Public Participation

The following individuals addressed the Board of Education during Public Participation with concerns and questions on school facility options:

- Darlan Gorton, 1935 Mohawk Lane, Ogden: Shared questions from Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) parents regarding the school closure of Taylor Canyon. If there are closures, when and how will parents be informed? Will it be through the school board or the newspaper? How will bond money be used? Will ALA program remain intact and will it remain in the same building? What will be the process for realigning boundaries? Will there be bussing available? Will there be an outline directive stating how many students will be in each classroom and how many portables will be used in the interim? When will parents know and will they have access to that information before decisions are made?
- Rex Gardner, 559 12th Street, Ogden: Shared concerns with closing Gramercy Elementary and breaking up the faculty. He suggested to redraw the boundaries and let students on north side of 12th street come back to Gramercy. He stated parents and teachers are in favor of Gramercy remaining.
- Teresa St John, 218 17th Street: Spoke in favor of Gramercy, asked to rebuild or add on to the school. Doesn't want to see school split and see teachers go somewhere else. Parents rely on students attending Mound Fort to help get siblings to and from school.
- Amanda Walker, 619 W 2300 S #6, Perry: Spoke as a mother and educator; closing any school at the end of this year is absurd. She spoke to population size of schools and benefits of smaller schools. Transportation, behavior problems, and drop-out rates create hidden costs in larger schools. Attendance rates decrease as school size and travel rates increase. She also mentioned the benefit of afterschool programs at each location.
- Rachel Trotter, 1416 28th Street, Ogden: Cannot accept proposal to close Polk Elementary. Chose neighborhood so her students could walk to school; likes the small community school model. Does not want to combine three schools to one. Polk is centrally located and is best option for consolidation. Polk is thriving as an A school; wants Polk Elementary fixed now and keep it open. Ogden is unique, fix our problems the way we know how. If we move forward with any of the five scenarios, a general obligation bond will likely fail.
- Shannon Gliattli and Savannah Osborn were not present

g. Increasing Student Achievement

3. Discussion: Capital Facilities Planning

Business Administrator Zane Woolstenhulme explained the board approved a Capital Facilities Finance Plan (CFFP) two years ago to determine needs at each location. The team from Lewis, Young, Robertson & Burningham (LYRB) addressed updates we are making to the CFFP. Dale Okerlund and Nathan Robertson discussed financial plans we are considering. Teresa Pinkal, analyst from LYRB presented enrollment and GIS information prepared by LYRB. Board members asked questions regarding students residing in our boundaries but attending charter schools or out of district; Superintendent Nye and Mr. Woolstenhulme responded.

Mr. Woolstenhulme invited Mr. Okerlund and Mr. Robertson to explain models for financing a general obligation (GO) bond. Mr. Okerlund also explained the notice to intent to issue debt in the amount of \$26,000,000 that was published on February 15, 2018.

Superintendent Nye addressed the board and shared a presentation summarizing our current facilities. He spoke to the state of facilities and the repairs needed; and decreasing enrollment in our elementary schools. Decreasing enrollment in a small school creates academic challenges. He explained how we fund teachers in our schools and our staffing ratios. We have been recognized as having some of the smallest class sizes in the state. He shared an example of staffing at a small elementary school; and invited Anne Tollefson, who teaches 4/5 split at Polk Elementary, to speak on teaching a split class. She explained how a split class affects class size, teaching strategies, behavior issues, tier 2 interventions, lack of time to teach each subject area, lack of physical space, difference in maturity levels of students, and how the entire school revolves around the split class schedule which prohibits flexibility in the schedule; a first year teacher could not do this – she is grateful for a strong team and support from her administrator and instructional coach. Teachers can get overwhelmed and stressed out in just one year.

Superintendent Nye continued with his presentation and stated we want to prioritize making sure that we are: 1) meeting the needs of our students, 2) utilizing the buildings as they are currently constructed, and 3) addressing enrollment issues. We want to retain our students and create a school system where students will come back. Research shows that teacher collaboration can overcome the effects of poverty on academic achievement. Given the additional funds we would realize through consolidation, we could invest in greater resources for students in curriculum and technology.

As we look at consolidation, we consider the following:

- Maximize number of students attending safer schools
- Increase program opportunities
- Student-centric focused on learning
- Resource allocation
- Equity and access for all students
- At least three teachers per grade level
- Minimize student displacement
- Fiduciary responsibility
- Optimize facility capacity

Additional scenarios were explained and board members were asked to identify which scenarios they would like to gain additional feedback from the community. Superintendent Nye spoke to the commitment of our district to each student, each educator, every day. In the event of school closure, our staff will be given employment within the school district. If we are to close a school, Superintendent Nye recommends a scenario where an entire student body could be consolidated with another school. It was requested for the scenarios to be available in Spanish.

Superintendent Nye asked the community to change the narrative of how we talk about our schools. We have great things happening in our schools; student growth is phenomenal and our schools have been recognized nationally. We are committed to academic excellence; we need to keep minds open to engage meaningfully for the betterment of students.

A patron asked how communication can be increased with board members and President Heiner responded. He stated the board will make an effort to reach out to each community to get feedback. Board members expressed concerns with timelines and school consolidation. President Heiner asked the scenarios be narrowed down to four or five to help guide the board's decision.

Public Information Officer Jer Bates addressed the audience and asked those in attendance to share feedback as soon as possible. There will be a direct link on the district website to give constructive feedback.

MOTION: Board member Joyce Wilson moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Susan Richards. The motion carried unanimously.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.ogdensd.org

President Heiner adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

President

Business Administrator