

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Washington County School District
121 West Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770
June 19, 2018
4:00 PM

PRESENT

Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, Executive HR Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Technology Director Lawrence Esplin, Executive Communications Director Steven Dunham, Communications Specialist Cody Plumhof. Santa Clara City Mayor Rick Rosenberg, Santa Clara City Council Member Mary Jo Hafen, and Santa Clara City Assistant Manager Brock Jacobsen.

Excused: Board Member Terry Hutchinson

Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer

Reverence offered by Member Seegmiller.

WORK SESSION

Santa Clara City

Mayor Rick Rosenberg reported on growth and development in Santa Clara City, including some of the commercial growth coming to the area. He said that all the developable property in Santa Clara has some discussions going on related to development. Rex Wilkey said that Santa Clara Elementary is holding a steady enrollment. Mayor Rosenberg talked about concerns of affordable housing. He asked how the District is getting teachers to the area with the higher housing costs. The District, at this point, has not looked at doing a housing project to help provide housing for teachers. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that there was a development in Hurricane that had allowed teachers to get a discounted price. Lyle Cox also mentioned promoting the Color Country homes. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that CTE would be starting a home building program. Mayor Rosenberg said the city would be willing to reduce the impact fee to help provide housing for teachers and government employees, and would like to work with the District on a program. Santa Clara City is in the process of reducing the impact fees charged. Santa Clara does not have as much property to allow for the growth as other cities in the area are experiencing. Santa Clara City has changed their zoning to help allow for smaller homes, but the city hasn't seen any changes in more affordable homes. Mary Jo Hafen mentioned the need to increase wages to help make homes more affordable. Brent Bills said that wages have increased, but the cost of land and homes keeps increasing. Mayor Rosenberg said it is reaching a point that we may need to offer incentives. David Stirland mentioned that the District will be going out for a bond and asked the city officials to help support the bond. Included in the building plans is the new CT high school. Craig Hammer reported on updates to the Snow Canyon High track and field, and proposed new bleachers. He also reported on some of the safety features that will be put in the schools with the bond funding. He mentioned drilling a well at the new high school site, which will save the taxpayers a large amount of money. Mayor Rosenberg also mentioned concerns with Lava Ridge and the suicide rates. Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported that the District is opening a position for a mental health specialist to help. He said the District is trying to get ahead of the mental health concerns and will be working with Lava Ridge and the other schools. More training is needed and these concerns are a big issue nationwide. David Stirland mentioned that it is something the District talks about all the time and is concerned with as well. Richard Holmes mentioned that every secondary school has a Hope Squad. Teachers have been going out to make home visits prior to school for better understanding of students and to help create a better atmosphere for students at school. The group agreed that social media is a real big problem.

Board Member Blake presented a motion to go into a Closed Session at 1:13 p.m. Board Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, Executive HR Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Technology Director Lawrence Esplin, Executive Communications Director Steven Dunham, Special Education Director Suraj Syal, and Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer. Joining the meeting via phone: Board Member Terry Hutchinson and Attorney Carol Lear.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel Items

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go out of Closed Session at 3:37 p.m. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

WORK SESSION

CT High School Update/Progress – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes reported on meetings for the CT high schools. Everywhere the administration talks about the plans, they are well received. The District is still working on the pathways. Richard Holmes will share more information about the pathways in the July working meeting.

Strategic Plan Update – Larry Bergeson

Superintendent Larry Bergeson explained the strategic planning. The staff will be meeting on June 25th. He plans to have the rough draft plan available for the July working meeting. The July working meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2018.

Bond Review – Craig Hammer/Brent Bills

Craig Hammer reviewed the proposed bond projects. He mentioned that Enterprise Elementary would like six classrooms instead of four classrooms to eliminate the portables. To add six classrooms, they would need to build more to the north. Going to six classrooms would add another 1/2 million. Kelly Blake said families are moving to Enterprise with the higher costs in St. George. Becky Dunn said they grew 40 students in elementary last year. Brent Bills suggested getting numbers first for the Board to review before making a decision. Additional funds were added for the CT high school and a couple of additional elementary schools. Brent Bills said the resolution today would give the Board a number to talk about for the bond, and projects that will be included. Brent Bills reviewed the Enterprise Elementary numbers. Dave Stirland asked about the shade structure requests from previous months. It will be a little harder to put in the hard surface after putting up the shades, but it is doable. The schools will need to be off the playground while the playground structures are built. Placement of safety items needs to be a priority first.

The bond amount of \$106,000,000 does not include funds to purchase property. The Board discussed the bond and determined make a motion to increase the bond amount to \$120,000,000 in the open meeting.

Safety in Schools – David Stirland

David Stirland explained that he would like to look at safety each month. Becky Dunn asked about drug testing. Richard Holmes said parents do the testing, but schools do have test kits available for them.

Safe Schools Demo/Update – Lawrence Esplin

Lawrence Esplin briefly reported on the sales demo. The equipment included a panic button for teachers. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the District is looking at all options for safe schools.

Student Wellness Discussion – Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey shared that the District will be hiring for a mental health position. He shared a PowerPoint on mental health disorders. Students deal with things like anxiety, depression, ADHD, etc. It does affect performance. Nearly 80% of the students affected won't receive counseling. The position being hired will help find resources. Teachers do play a role but need more training. Counselors have a high number of students they serve. School nurses and psychologists also have a high number of students they serve. We need to help destigmatize mental health issues. Helping kids early will help them overcome issues before they become a problem.

Medicaid Reimbursement – Brent Bills/Hollee Cullen

The District applied for \$1.6 million in Medicaid and has \$400,000 more to collect.

Follow-up from Previous Meeting

Open Discussion of the Board

No Board items were discussed.

Items for Board Review

- 1. Enrollment**
- 2. Safe Schools**
- 3. GRAMA Requests**
- 4. Department Reports**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Washington County School District was held after due, legal, and timely notice being given to all members and interested parties. Board President David Stirland called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors. Board members present were Craig Seegmiller, Laura Hesson, Becky Dunn, Kelly Blake and LaRene Cox. Board Member Terry Hutchinson was excused. Staff members present were Superintendent Larry Bergeson and Business Administrator Brent Bills.

OPENING MEETING - 4:00 p.m.

Board President Welcome – David Stirland

Pledge of Allegiance – Member Seegmiller

Reverence – Member Stirland

Robert Schmidt, Fine Arts, introduced McGarren Flack who presented the District with a portrait of Superintendent Larry Bergeson. The portrait will hang in the lobby.

Healthy Dixie Award Recognitions – Craig Seegmiller

Jordan Merrill shared information about Healthy Dixie. They have been part of the community for over 15 years. Healthy Dixie is all about making a measurable difference in the community for health. He shared some of the projects they have worked on including no smoking city parks, smart snacks in schools, and Go Wash Co promoting healthy biking. Community members from city organizations and private businesses serve on the Healthy Dixie Council. Healthy Dixie came to recognize a couple of individuals from the School District.

Kathleen Berglund teaches at Heritage Elementary. She bikes to school every day. She has participated and championed efforts of Go Wash Co, volunteered time to help with afterschool bike training events, she is mindful of resources and has created a paperless classroom, and she has a goal to be healthy and her lifestyle demonstrates that. She continues to champion efforts that allow kids in the community to have greater access to active transportation through connections with community leaders. Kathleen Berglund was presented the Healthy Dixie Award.

Anthony Horrocks, principal of Sunset Elementary, is a person with a great vision and a positive "can do" attitude. He sees partnerships with local community organizations and businesses as opportunities for students rather than more work for himself, and is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and work with partners on services for his school. His mantra is keeping kids at the focus of every decision. His positivity has created a great climate at the school and learning successes that help student achievement, and make it easy see why business and other community partners are excited to partner with his school. Sunset Elementary has partnered with AAA for the Safety Patrol Program, which has brought national and regional recognition to students at his school and hundreds of dollar for school safety. He also has a partnership with the Southern Utah Bike Alliance, Southwest Public Health Department and the City of St. George, which provided the school with several needed bike racks at the school. Every day, 80-100 students now ride their bikes to school safely. He has also helped facilitate safety assemblies and organized volunteers to help make sure students follow bike safety rules. The efforts have been a success and have helped to inspire other efforts such as Go Wash Co. Anthony Horrocks was presented the Healthy Dixie Award.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson also mentioned that Anthony Horrocks recently received the Community Leader Award from the Utah Association of Elementary School Principals (UAESP).

Dixie Power Presentation – Steven Dunham

Steve Dunham recognized Stella Iverson and LaDell Laub of Dixie Power for 19 years of hosting the Dixie Power Kite Festival.

Stella Iverson reported that the Kite Festival was the largest attended festival yet, with 500 more reading charts turned in then previous years. This year, Dixie Power is donating \$50,000 to the District from the Kite Festival.

David Stirland expressed appreciation to Stella Iverson and LaDell Laub for hosting this event and the support for the District. He recognized that \$50,000 is a significant donation.

BUDGET HEARING

Budget Hearing for 2017-2018 Final Budget and the proposed 2018-2019 Budget

Brent Bills reported on the District revenue and expenditures. He shared the updated basic tax rates of .006166. He explained capital project amounts. He mentioned that the property tax values came in higher with a 7.5% increase. The tax rates are lower than reported in May. The District also received more in growth, but will receive a slightly smaller amount than was projected in May. The Debt Service is projected to be at .002347, below projected. He also reported that the Food Service fund has built back up to 1.3 million dollars. Brent Bills said food service runs as an independent program with the funds from the state and federal programs. There will be expenditures opening a new school, but the fund balance helps until the school grows. Brent Bills also reported that the fund balance in Maintenance & Operations (M&O) helped keep the District from letting employees go. Bonding agencies look at the M&O budgets and can make a difference for better bond rates. The budget book is available on the District website.

No public comments were given.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes
- B. Financial Report
- C. Personnel Items
- D. Coral Canyon Elementary School LAND Trust Plan Change

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A through D. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BOARD ACTION ITEMS

No public comments were given.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Special Education Out-of-District Services – Suraj Syal

The Board tabled the approval of Special Education Out-of-District Services.

Approval of Negotiated Agreements – Brent Bills/Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox reviewed the negotiated agreements. Certified negotiations resulted in an additional day on the contract, funding of a teacher prep day in September, approval of step increases, and insurance recommendations with additional cost for employees. An additional \$300 will be paid to employee HRA accounts.

Classified negotiations did not add additional days, but a higher percentage is paid for insurance. WCEA will take until July 11th for ratification.

Board Member Blake presented a motion to approve the negotiated agreements. Board Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Policy 0005 Board of Education – Lyle Cox

Lyle Cox reported that no additional changes were received to Policy 0005 Board of Education.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve Policy 0005 Board of Education. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Policy 3110 Emergency Preparedness – Michael Lee

Michael Lee reported on additional changes added to the proposed Policy 3110 changes. The additions include schools also performing emergency drills during non-instructional time, and that schools only use fire alarms during fire drills and fire emergencies, not non-fire emergencies.

Board Member Blake presented a motion to approve Policy 3110 Emergency Preparedness. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Policy 3120 Fire Drills and Dismissal (Emergencies) – Michael Lee

Michael Lee said it is proposed to rescind the policy. Drill information is now included in Policy 3110.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to rescind Policy 3120 Fire Drills and Dismissal (Emergencies). Board Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Three Falls Elementary/Coral Canyon Elementary Boundary Changes – Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey reviewed the changes to the Three Falls/Coral Canyon Elementary Boundary changes. Four parent meetings were held. It is proposed to include Sand Hollow students and students south of West Dixie Springs Drive. The change should help balance the growth. Rex Wilkey said parents are comfortable with the boundary changes and busing has been addressed. **Board Member Hesson presented a motion to approve the Three Falls Elementary/Coral Canyon Elementary boundary changes as proposed. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Approval of 2017-2018 Final Budget and the proposed 2018-2019 Budget – Rex Wilkey

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Final Budget and the proposed 2018-2019 Budget. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Resolution to hold a Bond election for the amount of \$106,000,000 – Rex Wilkey

Brent Bills reviewed the bond issuance. The bond funding would be used to pay for two elementary schools, a new CT high school, the Enterprise Elementary expansion, priority projects throughout the District, school safety needs, shade structures, repair roofs, and purchase land for future school sites. A list of the projects has been compiled.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the Utah Tax Payers Association has recognized the District for tax saving efforts. Board Member Laura Hesson noted that the bond would still remain tax neutral. Kelly Blake said there is a need for a CT high school to help train and educate students in skilled areas. It will be a big part of bond issuance.

Craig Hammer said \$106,000,000 did not include land acquisition. It was proposed that the District bond for an amount of \$120,000,000, which would allow for land purchase and wiggle room for inflation costs. It is important to look to and plan for the future.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Bond Resolution to hold a Bond election in the amount of \$120,000,000. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously. It was noted that Board Member Hutchinson also sent a text to approve the increase amount of the bond.

Adoption of PTIF Resolution – Brent Bills

Brent Bills explained the PTIF Resolution to adopt, which allows two individuals to transfer money in and out of the account. He asked that He and Aaron Bricked be approved to make transactions to the PTIF account. The account is coming back and is about a 2% again.

Board Member Blake presented a motion to adopt the PTIF Resolution allowing Brent Bills and Aaron Brickey to manage the account. Board Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Policy 2320 Medication Administration for Students – Karen Bess

Karen Bess reviewed the changes to Policy 2320 Medication Administration for Students. The changes are based on guidelines from Utah Department of Health. Medication administration should really be a rare occurrence in the schools. Policy changes cleared up numerous forms listed and made clear the responsibility for parents or guardians to complete the required forms for medication administration. The policy also addresses 504 accommodations needed, training components, and liability and medication storage and security. Self-administration of some medications is allowed and students may be allowed to carry medication on a case-by-case basis with completed paperwork. The policy also addresses opioid medication. Karen Bess said that

school nurses train staff at 5-6 schools on medication administration. The principal and staff determine who is willing to administer medication.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Student Achievement – Brad Ferguson

Brad Ferguson shared the preliminary SAGE results. Some of the averages could still change. He said the District is making small improvements and are generally above the state average. The District does have yearly goals at the school levels. Schools set grade level goals as part of their CSIP. Brad Ferguson reported that SAGE test would change to Questar RISE and Utah Aspire Plus. RISE will be given to students in grades 3-8, Utah Aspire Plus will be given to grades 9-10, and the ACT will be given to the 11th grade students. The writing component of RISE will only be for 5 & 8th grade. He mentioned that the District would be holding training for teachers on the new system.

Instructional Technology – Tony Campbell

Tony Campbell shared that over 60 teachers are coming on Thursday and Friday to develop common formative assessments items. It will provide more formative resources available for teachers. He said the District just completed training with 30 teams focused on blended and digital learning. There is a lot of professional learning happening right now. Over 180 teachers have chosen to be part work that is happening with digital teaching and learning. That number is continually increasing. He shared that Gabby Young and James Sparks have been hired as Digital Learning Coaches and will be working in classrooms with teachers to support and model best practices.

What's Right in WCSD Schools

Coral Cliffs Elementary School – Amy Wilcox

Amy Wilcox & Brooklyn McLaws shared their school Lesson Studies. The goal was to break attitudes and help teachers appreciate the CSIP. Teachers self-evaluated themselves, created professional growth plan as a team, identified highly effective teaching strategies, looked at data, identified areas students are struggling, and areas teachers are struggling to teach. Teachers have collaborative discussions and create a lesson together that will reach all students. Amazing lessons have come through the process. Teachers value the conversations. The cycle lasts 3-4 weeks. Teacher look to reach all levels of students. Teachers observe and then correct. Process has been super powerful. It is reaching the lower students and the teachers are seeing growth.

Tonaquint Intermediate School – Barbara Garrett

Mitchell Six said he believes student success depends on the teacher connecting and inspiring the student to taking responsibility for their learning, and the teacher then being able to convey the learning going on in the classroom to the parent. It creates a triangle of communication. He asked Brandi Ledbetter to share what she is doing with a flipped classroom. She shared that a flipped classroom switches what is done in the classroom and what is done at home. She creates and uploads short videos on her classroom website and is able to embed questions and monitor student usage. Students watch instructional video at home, students have problems to complete. She is preloading students with information they need to know, which allows students to come to class ready to practice what they have learned. She is able to structure classes to allow small groups or one-on-one interactions. She can talk with each student every day. Parents are also watching the video and parent trust is building and improving her relationship with the parents. Parents are more engaged in student learning. The flipped classroom is infused with technology. However, she said no amount of technology replaces the teacher in the classroom. She can teach the students how to be good users of technology and that it doesn't replace relationships she has with students.

Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Larry Bergeson recognized Desert Hills Middle School as the 5th National Model PLC School in Washington County School District. There are only seven schools throughout the state that have met those requirements and we have five within our District.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson recognized Ethan Gilmore, a 9th grade student, who placed 2nd nationally in the Microsoft Office Certification competition.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson recognized Desert Hills High School as the UHSAA Soccer Champions, Girls Golf Champions (for the 9th year in a row), and Boys Track Champions. Dixie High School was recognized Baseball Champions.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson recognized Kajsia Boyer as the 2018 Classified Employee of the Year.

Board

No reports were given from the Board.

Association

Amy Barton, WCEA, thanked members of the negotiating team from the School Board and District administration for time to negotiate, and for understanding and negotiating for the best interest of teachers. She mentioned to scholarships were awarded to children of WCEA members in May. She reported on the Summer Leadership Academy that was attended by six of the members. The focus was on developing young leaders. One big theme this year at the academy were sessions on trauma informed teaching and on restorative practices. She encouraged the board members to take the ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) test. First priority of school safety has to be what is happening to our kids. Strengthening the teacher/student relationships in the classroom is the most important. She appreciates the additional resources to help in our District. She said there will be three members attending National Education Association Representative Assembly next month and looks forward to sharing that experience with the Board.

PTA/PTO/Community Council

Mindi Barker reported that PTA met last week with all incoming officers. She appreciated the use of the room and technology help. She thanked the Board for the good they are doing.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - 3 minutes each

No public comments were given.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m., as there was no further business to discuss.