

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Washington County School District
121 West Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770
August 14, 2018
4:30 PM

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Member Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, HR Executive Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Bob Sonju, Executive Director Lawrence Esplin, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Communications Director Steven Dunham, Communications Specialist Cody Plumhof, St. George Mayor Jon Pike, St. George Council Member Joe Bowcutt, St. George Council Member Jimmy Hughes, St. George Council Member Ed Baca, and St. George City Manager Adam Lenhard.

Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer

Reverence offered by Member Cox

WORK SESSION

St. George City

Mayor Jon Pike mentioned some of the traffic concerns in the Little Valley area with school starting. The District administration reported on meeting with those involved earlier in the day to address the concerns. They are working on some good solutions for 3000 East. There are three traffic lights, possibly a fourth, in the planning stages for a long-term solution. It is hoped they will be in place in the next five months. Washington City should be putting in a 4-way stop in front of the school. Mayor Jon Pike also mentioned keeping the school zone lights on longer in the morning. He said the city would be ticketing those who are speeding in the school zones. Mayor Jon Pike mentioned the city has received some funding to help purchase property in the area for needed roads and they are working on right-of-ways. Mayor Jon Pike reported on plans for exit #2 by SunRiver. Papparazzi will be moving their warehouse to that area. He mentioned some of the plans they have to expand. He also mentioned some of the other commercial businesses locating near exit #2. There are also development plans for 11,500 homes in that area over the next 25 years. They should be ready to start the first phase in the next month. Adam Lenhard suggested that this would be the right time to discuss school lots with the developers. Mayor Jon Pike mentioned another development planned toward the airport. The developer has 300 lots already sold. They have raised funds to put in another interchange that will connect to the Southern Parkway. Mayor Jon Pike mentioned the townhome development in the Tonaquint area. There will be 90 units that could bring families. Most of the units have been sold. The city will be widening the street at Curley Hollow. He mentioned some of the medical buildings being developed by Lins. He also mentioned homes being built off River Road. Mayor Jon Pike reported on the downtown developments. The development will include 700-900 apartment units. Mayor Jon Pike said the Tech Ridge development is nearing approval and will be bringing in many industrial jobs to the area. The airport ridge will have a bike path available. There will be retail available to support the residential homes in the development. Additional roads will be completed to access Tech Ridge. Council Member Ed Baca mentioned it could be a great location for a Tech high school. Adam

Lenhard said the city is outpacing 2017 for growth. Desert Canyon is the more affordable area for homes. Home sale inventory is up, which may slow things down a little. Mayor Jon Pike mentioned that there would be more high density homes built. Brent Bills talked about the need for affordable houses for teachers. Mayor Pike said there has been a lot of commercial development that is nearing finish, but residential has not slowed down. Many are coming from other areas. The city is currently growing at about 4%. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said that we staffed at about 1.5% growth and we were pretty close to being right on. He estimates we will be at about 2-2.5%. Brent Bills said that last year we saw more growth in secondary schools for the first time. It is anticipated that we will see stabling in the market. Mayor Jon Pike said for growth to continue, we will need more water. He mentioned some possible ways to get more water. Council Member Ed Baca talked about the need for the CT high school. Kelly Blake said the CT high school is part of the planning with the upcoming bond. David Stirland asked for the city leaders to support the bond.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go into a working session at 3:28 p.m. Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Member Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, Business Administrator Brent Bills, Assistant Superintendent Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Rex Wilkey, HR Executive Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Bob Sonju, Executive Director Lawrence Esplin, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Communications Director Steven Dunham, and Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer.

CLOSED SESSION

Property and Personnel Items

Board Member Hesson presented a motion to go into a closed session at 2:08 p.m. Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

WORK SESSION

Resilience Training – Amber Rich, Mitch Cloward, Tami Curtis

Tami Curtis shared information about the new *Move This World* curriculum being implemented K-5 this year. Bob Sonju mentioned it would also give a common language throughout the District. The District will be holding parent meetings and plans to send information home in newsletters. The curriculum will also be a way for teachers to connect with students. It will have an impact and help with school safety through addressing student behavior.

Bob Sonju briefly reported on the implementation of the new *Reach for Reading* curriculum.

Early Literacy Plan – Nadine Walters

Nadine Walters presented information on a state mandated literacy plan. She explained the state committee process to develop the program that was formerly the Reading Achievement Grant. The plan makes the District more accountable. The program targets the basic early literacy skills including writing and oral language skills. The District will have three goals. The first is a state goal to have 60% of students' grades 1-3 making average or above average progress. She said although we are doing well, the Literacy team would be looking at ways to close the gap for students in kindergarten and do things to support the 2nd grade teachers. She said students need to be solid in kindergarten before they move to 1st grade. She shared a sheet with the goals and what the District will be doing to reach the goal. District goal #1 is to increase the percentage of kindergarten student proficient on DIBELS EOY composite by 3%, from 67% to 70%. District goal #2 is to increase the percentage of second grade students proficient on DIBELS EOY composite by 3%, from 72% to

75%. She shared visual data to show how students have done in previous years. She asked the Board to review it for approval consideration. It must be approved by the Board for receive funding for Early Literacy. A plan will need to be re-evaluated every year.

District Goals/Strategic Plan – Larry Bergeson

Superintendent Larry Bergeson reported on the District Goals/Strategic Plan. He said the District is in the process of getting the Strategic Plan in a more useable format and will have it to a graphic designer to develop a card and a booklet with the information. It should be ready by the October meeting. He did receive good feedback from staff. He has also given it to the PTA to share for feedback. It is important to remember that the District can course correct changes are needed. There will be measurable goals on a card. The brochure will include more detailed information.

Foundation Report – Steven Dunham/Rick Schofield

Rick Schofield, WCSO Foundation president, said he has a great passion for children and what the Foundation does. He looks forward to building a rapport with the Board. He expressed appreciation for Steven Dunham, Diane Tyler, and Cody Plumhof. He would like to raise the bar in the Foundation. He feels that there are three pillars that are most important to the Foundation: Classroom grants, the annual Kite Festival, and Sterling Scholar. Teachers are excited to receive the help for their classrooms through the classroom grants. He hopes to be able to fund all of the grants submitted if possible. \$66,000 was given last year to fund 166 grants. He hopes to be able to double that amount. The Kite Festival helps with literacy. He would like to see the festival continue each year and is hoping to keep the partnership with Dixie Power. He said that the Foundation received an endowment to recognize the Sterling Scholar students. Rick Schofield mentioned the Golf Tournament. He would like to establish some corporate sponsorships. We want enough money to fund the things that need to be funded, when they need to fund them. Each Foundation board member has two or three schools that they will be working with as a liaison. He mentioned that the Foundation is the 501(c)(3). The School Board needs to work with the Foundation to help them know what is needed in the District. The number one focus is to help the teachers and students achieve greatness. He would like to see the money brought in doubled to help with classroom grants and programs such as *Move This World*. The Foundation is also working to be involved with the Neighborhood Connection program. Neighborhood connection served 80 students at one school alone. Other programs, such as Tans Treats and the Utah Food Bank also help provide food for students. Bob Sonju thanked the Foundation for help funding the *Move This World* curriculum. There are currently 17 board members with four constant members from the District.

2018-2019 Calendar Review – Bob Sonju

Bob Sonju reviewed the 2018-2019 calendar. In planning PLC dates, he looks at making sure early-out days are not backed-up to holidays, A/B days, not taking days from classified, not scheduling near SEOP days. This year there will be five days; Aug. 27 Sept. 24, October 29, December 10, March 25. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that the Enterprise calendar is the exactly the same with the exception of Fall Break.

School Bond Progress – Steven Dunham, Brent Bills

Brent Bills said the resolution would be approved to go out to bond today. Beginning August 23, eligible voters can send arguments for posting on the website. The Board President will write the Pro argument. Brent Bills will decide which con argument will be posted on the website by 3:00 p.m. on August 30th. Rebuttal arguments must be in by September 17 to put on the website. In the September 11 Board Meeting, the bond language is due. In October, the Board will hold a Bond Hearing for public comments. The bond will be on the ballot in November. Steven Dunham said radio ads have already been recorded and information about the bond has been included in news articles. Community meetings will start on September 6 and at least two board members should

plan to attend. He will email schedules out for the Board. A voter pamphlet is required and will need to be completed and mailed. Laura Hesson feels we should have a flier to get out as well. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said if employee and their spouses attended and voted for the bond, we should have enough votes to pass.

Secondary Schedule Discussion – Richard Holmes

Richard Holmes shared a survey of students, sophomores through seniors, with 10% response. The survey questions were to find out how students felt about their schedules. The survey first included general questions such as what schedule the student is on, how they are doing, do they feel they are on track, and what are their plans following high school. Students were then asked how they felt about the length of their classes. Students on 4x4 schedules felt it was just about right, but maybe a little long based on the average. Students on 5x5 schedules felt the length of class time was just about right based on the average. Those who experience both preferred 5x5 block time. The majority of students responding who are on the 4x4 block said they get assignments done in core classes everyday or most days. A slightly higher percent, about 68%, of those on the 5x5 block said they get assignment done or mostly get them done everyday. Some teachers feel they don't have enough time to teach and give assignments. When asked about homework, most of those on 4x4 block and the 5x5 block receive homework everyday or most days. Of students on 4x4, 42% would add Fine Arts, 40% CTE classes, 36% study classes, 17% wouldn't add any. Of students on 5x5, 30% would add CTE, 31% Fine Arts, 41% would add a study hall. Pine View High, Snow Canyon High, Enterprise High and Water Canyon are doing a 5x5 block. The 5x5 does provide more flexibility for students. Richard Holmes reported that the schools on 5x5 have seen improvements. His recommendation would be to bring principals in who have included intervention time in the day to present in September. Intervention time is more successful when it is not backup up to lunch or at the end of the day. He said that we also want to make sure there is collaboration time. It is difficult to have schools on different schedules for staffing. The other recommendation is to reduce the 4x4 graduation credit to 27 to leave a small cushion. He shared what some of the comparable districts are requiring. He has also received a recommendation to offer a WCSD diploma for students who have 24 credits as required by the state. Richard Holmes explained that schedules have to be tweaked when a student is going to program at other schools or concurrent enrollment programs. Bob Sonju said there are none proven to make a difference. It is what happens within the period. We need intervention time in the school to help student who need it.

NSBA Discussion – David Stirland

The School Board members reported on classes attended at the National School Boards Association Conference. David Stirland said he was interested in school safety. He looked for classes on the subject, but there was really not any. One that he thought might address it was really a sales presentation. He feels the District needs to continue talking about how to keep our schools safe. Becky Dunn attended classes on governance and community. She knew that community engagement was a big deal for the CT high school. One training she attended said not to have open-mic meetings, but rather to give participant questions and something to come talk about. One class talked about getting the community engaged. We need to be involved in organizations to get the word out on the good things happening in the schools. She shared an examples from other districts that raised funds by having students pull a bus, older students walk with younger kids at their graduation, and a senior breakfast and school tour to see what is going on in the schools. They also focused on realtors to give them information when selling homes. Becky Dunn also mentioned discussions of engaging interfaith council. She suggested allowing other religions to say opening prayer in Board Meeting or having others do the pledge. Craig Seegmiller likes that the Board does it, as it is the Board's meeting. LaRene feels it would bring others in and the diversity is good.

Laura Hesson went to a class on what boards can do to increase student achievement. A board that

is focused together on professional development, training, reading book together for leadership development increases student achievement.

Craig Seegmiller went to a technology class. Learning to write code is like dual immersion for the brain. He feels we ought to look at what more we can do with coding. It is the language of the future. Lawrence Esplin said coding needs to be written in the curriculum. Kids see it as something fun, but it teaches algorithms.

LaRene went to technology and saw similar to Craig.

Kelly Blake attended community engagement training. Many have community businesses involved in the schools. It is a partnership with the business community. The more they are integrated, the better it is. CT high school will be a great way to partner with the community.

The Board will hold a working meeting on August 27th at 5:15 p.m. Becky will telephone into the meeting as she is out of town.

Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned meeting with Kelle Stephens, Dixie Technical College. He said we do have the support of Dixie Technical College for our CT High School.

Follow-up from Previous Meeting

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Healthy Dixie Update – Craig Seegmiller
USBA Update – Kelly Blake
MBA Update – Laura Hesson
Dixie Tech Update – LaRene Cox
Foundation Update – David Stirland
FCAOG Update – Terry Hutchinson
Audit Committee Update – Becky Dunn

There were no discussions of the Board.

ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW

Enrollment
Safe Schools
GRAMA Requests
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, Terry Hutchinson, Laura Hesson, Becky Dunn, Kelly Blake and LaRene Cox. Staff members present were Superintendent Larry Bergeson and Business Administrator Brent Bills.

OPENING MEETING - 4:30 p.m.

Board President Welcome – David Stirland
Pledge of Allegiance – Member Hesson
Reverence – Member Seegmiller

USBE CTE Recognition – Breckon Heywood

DRMC Recognition – Amber Rich, Mitch Cloward, Tami Curtis

Dave Gardner reported on the CTSO national competitions.

Brett Beatty, Hurricane High School, placed 6th in the national FBLA Organizational Leadership. Enterprise High had two students place in the Gold Division for FCCLA Entrepreneurship who were unable to attend tonight.

Heather Burr, Pine View High School, placed in the Gold Division for FCCLA Recycle and Design.

Erica Evans, Desert Hills High School, placed third in Skills USA Pin Design.

Breckon Heywood, USBE, recognized the great students and teachers in Washington County School District with the Industry Certification programs. The exam is given to students in 9th through 12th grade. The state pass average is 56%. Washington County schools are at 76% pass rate.

Ryan Lister, Desert Hills Middle School, placed 1st in state for Microsoft Excel and scored 100% on the exam.

Ethan Gilmore, Pine View Middle School, placed 1st in state and 2nd in nation for Microsoft Office PowerPoint.

Ryan Peterson, Desert Hills Middle School, placed 1st place in the state for Microsoft Word.

Tami Curtis welcomed Dixie Regional Medical Center partnership representatives Mitch Cloward and Amber Rich. She recognized them for their partnership and donations to help our teachers become more trauma informed.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

June 19, 2018 Meeting of the Board of Education

July 10, 2018 Working Meeting of the Board of Education

July 30, 2018 Special Meeting of the Board of Education

B. Financial Report

C. Personnel Items

Becky Dunn recognized Brent Bills and those who have helped with School TRUST Land Funds and estimating within 98%. Principals have appreciated help of Kristy Coleman and her help tracking expenses.

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items A through C.

Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BOARD ACTION ITEMS

No public comments were given on Board Action items.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Policy 2320 Medication Administration for Students – Karen Bess

Karen Blake said she only receive two comments. Utah Code was recodified, so new numbers were included, and the word "safety" added under 2.3.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the changes to Policy 2320 Medication

Administration for Students. Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

A Resolution providing for the holding of a local special bond election in Washington County School District, Utah for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors o the School District the question of the issuance and sale of \$125,000,000 General Obligation Bonds; providing for the holding of a public hearing and the publication of a Notice of Public Hearing; and providing for related matters.

Brent Bills has the affidavit giving evidence that we advertised at least 24 on the District website and on Utah Public website.

Member Hutchinson presented a motion to accept the affidavit. Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Matt Dugdale and Preston Kirk of George K. Baum shared what this bond election means for Washington County School District and the taxpayers.

Preston Kirk discussed the question on the ballot that allows patrons to vote to allow the District to bond for \$125,000,000 and shared what would happen. The resolution needs to be submitted to the Lt. Governor's office and the Washington County election office 75 days prior to the election. The projects have been identified for construction, remodel. The language is by statute. All bonds are not issued at once. One thing is to be fair and reasonable with all patrons who live in the District and who would bear the cost. We are required to put in estimates of what the bond will cost. The district has other bonds, that as paid off, new bonds would be laid on and keep the bond tax neutral. We have had low interest rates and have been able to refund bonds. The rate will be tax neutral. Bonds have generally been over 15 years. With growth the tax levy is a little bit less. With passage of resolution, we will get to the election officials, the resolution. The arguments can be no longer than 500 words. There will be a public hearing on September 11th. On October 9th there would be a reading of the arguments submitted with any rebuttal. An election information brochure will be on the website and mailed out to patrons. The election is November 6th. Based on outcome of election, the Board will need to declare by November 20th, 14 days following the election, the outcome of the election and accept what the voters have decided. The Board may need to hold a special meeting. Brent Bills also mentioned talking with Senator Howard Stephenson regarding a statement that we would comply the new law that will take effect at the end of the year on taking the premium. The Tax Payers Association said they would support our bond with that statement.

**Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the resolution for the bond election.
Member Cox seconded the motion.**

Member Hesson voted yes.

Member Seegmiller voted yes.

Member Blake voted yes.

Member Dunn voted yes.

Member Hutchinson voted yes.

Member Cox voted yes.

Member Stirland voted yes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Policy 1200 Pay and Compensation – Lyle Cox

Michael Lee said the vast majority are housekeeping, are redundant, or are no longer needed. Some changes include: Section 3.2.7.1. changes the amount to \$1500 for qualifying accounts of a family plan or single plus one. Under 3.3.1.5. it would change hard to fill positions to classified. Section 3.3.1.9. addresses assignments of custodial personnel and has been reviewed with the classified association. High schools are authorized to have a lead custodian and must be assigned to swing and paid from lane three, which is equal to head elementary custodial position. Section 3.3.6.1. says that employees are not allowed to accrue 240 compensatory hours. Section 3.3.9.3. pays transportation employees by minute rather than 15 minutes increments. Section 3.3.11. requires custodians to clock out for 30-minute lunch break when working 8-hour day.

Policy 2350 Handling Students with Lice Infestation – Karen Bess

Karen Bess addressed the proposed changes to Policy 2350. She said the biggest change is how students are treated with lice. Changes would help control the problem through educational information and trying to remove the stigma. Many times lice are not contracted at school. There is no need to send the child home from school. The child should remain there until end of day and parents are given education information and treatment options. The school can discretely check close friends of the child. She suggested that there is no need to not send a letter saying a student has lice. A letter can go home generally. Karen Bess said this is based on Department of Health and CDC recommendations.

Board members expressed concern about how parents will feel, and continuing the stigma by leaving them there. The stigma comes in feeling lice is a hygiene issue. Education will help the stigma. Laura Hesson suggested we should treat them as if they are sick.

Karen Bess said we would have to work with teachers on making it discreet and educating parents. There things that would need to happen at home and in the classrooms where students are sharing. LaRene Cox feels there could be problems with other parents. Becky Dunn said not all elementary schools have a school nurse and can't make the nurse an integral part. Karen Bess said it could be a phone conversation. Nurses are in the same geographical area. Becky Dunn mentioned under 2.2.2. is say parents "may be," but feels it should state "should be."

Karen Bess said we don't want to cause chaos if it is only an isolated incident. If there were more it could be a nurse and principal joint decision. The proposed policy changes will have a 30-day review.

INFORMATION

Instructional Technology – Lawrence Esplin

Lawrence Esplin reported on counting students. He said we have 3000 new enrollments; we dropped 600 students that are not coming back. We now have over 32000 students. However, he started thinking that when seeing them as students, they are not just numbers. He recognized some of the learning coaches, and technology staff who worked to get the new school ready. His favorite thing this week was going to Back-to-School Night in Hurricane to help parents. They are good people who want their kids to do well.

What's Right in WCSD Schools

Arrowhead Elementary – Susan Harrah

Susan Harrah said it has been a great start at Arrowhead. This past spring the school has worked to integrate science, technology, engineering, mathematics and arts into what they are doing. In April they were recognized as a Utah STEM Designated School. She shared the SAGE scores in science, which showed fourth grade students increasing from 45% to 73% in fifth grade. She explained how they are "platooning" to allow more time with science. She reported on Chinese Dual Immersion. The program has been easy to implement and made so much sense. Students start knowing nothing, but by the time students are in 5th grade they do amazing. She thanked the Board for the support for Reach for Reading. She is excited to see what it has to offer and to see an increase in their scores. She also mentioned the Move This World program. She said one teacher reported that it was the greatest and they feel so relaxed at the end of the day. Students are already starting to use the strategies of the program. It will be good to have this program.

Snow Canyon Middle School – Brad Bench

Brad Bench focused on one area that Snow Canyon Middle is outstanding in. He reported on foreign language at the school. French is one language taught at the School. Six middle students attended the High School French Foreign Language Fair at BYU and helped the high school place second. There were some positive outcomes there. French I students at the school were able to correspond with a class in France. The school has also been teaching Chinese. Last year it was expanded to four Chinese I classes in the middle school. Students also went to BYU Language Fair in Chinese

and they were successful. They also have a Chinese 2 course this year. Next year they will have a full time Chinese teacher and welcome the first group of Chinese Dual Immersion students from Arrowhead into school. After traveling to China last year, he feels the need to make the program work to prepare our children to work with the children of the world. The students at Snow Canyon Middle School are lucky to have a Spanish program and a Spanish Dual Immersion program. Last year the Spanish students took 2nd in the language fair. Last year, 26 Dual Immersion students took AP Exam and 23 students passed. The majority passed with four and five scores. In three years 56 students have taken the exam and 47 passed exam. Students have chosen to take the exam even if they were not completely ready, then went to the high school and took the AP test in high school and passed. Students are being well prepared for the exam. He recognized the Spanish teacher, Mrs. Cartagena, for her work with the program and her work creating curriculum. He reported on visit from state leaders. Ofelia Wade, from the state, addressed the class in Spanish and praised the students and complemented the teacher. She told him that is how a Dual Immersion classroom should be. She said other teachers in the state should come to see the class and see how the program should run.

REPORTS

Superintendent

Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned the amount of maintenance and repairs that have been done over the summer. He expressed appreciation for the work they do. He reported on Snow Canyon High and Dixie High turf replacement. There is a lot of work and upkeep in the buildings. He reported on District administration visits to all 49 schools to welcome teachers and staff back. There are a lot of hard working people in the schools. It has been a good start to school this year with 49 schools, 32,000 students, 3500 employees with about 1700 teachers. They are all individuals and it is important to recognize them. We have a lot of quality people and programs, and are recognized throughout the state and nation in how we perform. We do a lot of very good things. He expressed appreciation for the support of the Board, the community and those who work for the District.

Board

No reports were given.

Association

Amy Barton, WCEA, reported on professional development attended by members. The first building rep meeting was held last week with 80% attendance. She said the reps had so much energy it was exciting. She mentioned that the focus now would be on November election. This is a golden opportunity to look for candidates who understand and support education. The mission of UEA is to advance the cause of public education and partnership with others.

PTA/PTO/Community Council

No reports were given.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - 3 minutes each

No public comments were given.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m., as there was no further business to discuss.