



MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Washington County School District
121 W Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770
January 28, 2019
5:15 PM

Present: Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, 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, and Executive Director Steven Dunham.

Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer

SECONDARY BOUNDARY HEARING - Villa Bonita Cul-De-Sac in Santa Clara

The Washington County School District Board of Education will hold a Boundary Hearing on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. The hearing will address proposed secondary boundary changes for the students who live in the Villa Bonita Cul-De-Sac and two houses on Country Lane in Santa Clara City, who currently reside in the Dixie High cone-site boundary. Proposed changes would move students in those homes to the Snow Canyon High cone-site boundary beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.

No named individuals made public comments, but support was expressed from community members present.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go into a closed session at 5:25 p.m. Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel – Interviews for Executive Director Position – Larry Bergeson

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go out of closed session at 6:50 p.m. Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

WORK SESSION

Professional Development School – Dixie Sun/Coral Cliffs Boundary – Rex Wilkey

Rex Wilkey reported on the new proposal to re-purpose Coral Cliffs Elementary into a professional development school. Boundaries have been redone. Parents in the proposed Coral Cliffs boundary will have first priority to attend the professional development school. Dixie Sun boundaries will also be

redone. The Dual Language will continue at Dixie Sun and will include a Kindergarten program. He reported on meeting with Coral Cliffs parents today. Good information and conversations are helping to plan. He asked the Board to consider placing the current Coral Cliffs teachers at other schools. There are teachers who would like to stay at the proposed professional development school. Southern Utah University would also like to be involved as well as Dixie State University. Rex Wilkey said the District is ready to make a decision in February so staffing and program planning can continue. A boundary hearing will need to be held to hear comments from the public before a decision can be made. Rex Wilkey shared some of the feelings that have been expressed with the boundary changes. There are some who would like the schools to remain the same. Some mothers have concerns about where their child would go and if programs would continue. Other parents feel they have been listened to. President Stirland invited parents present to make comments or ask questions.

Michelle Joines asked if considerations were discussed to make Dixie Sun the lab school. She would like to move the Dual Immersion program to Coral Cliffs and continue the Leader in Me program. Rex Wilkey said feedback received was to keep the cultural program at Dixie Sun where they feel comfortable and can easily walk to. Coral Cliffs also has better parking. There is not as many neighboring homes around Coral Cliffs. There will still need to be discussions on where the Leader in Me program will be.

Michelle Joines feels forcing the Dual Immersion into a strand program will leave some out and would like to keep the strong Dual Immersion program.

Richard Faulkner prefers to have a neighborhood elementary school. He asked if the re-purposing has been considered in other areas.

Brent Bills explained that capacity of schools has gone down in that area. The District is trying to find a way to recoup some of the money by repurposing the school.

Jacklyn Shakespaere, Coral Cliffs parent, said she is pleased with the second plan and feels parents have been heard. She is concerned about students walking to Dixie Sun and appreciates the busing plan. She likes the professional development lab school idea. She would like to be on the planning committee for the program.

Laura Hesson asked about help with busing students for the program. Rex Wilkey said the state would not reimburse the District and the District would have to fund the cost and would have to see what the interest is. Rex Wilkey said we do need a Spanish program in the Pine View area. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned the discussions to keep one language in each cone-site.

Rex Wilkey explained that boundary adjustments have been made to the proposed boundaries to address some of the safety concerns.

Dave Stirland said the decision has not been taken lightly. He appreciates thoughts and ideas shared by parents. The Board will try to make the best-informed decision for the students and for the tax payers. He invited parents to continue to contact the District with comments or concerns.

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go into a closed session at 7:40 p.m. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Board President David Stirland, Board Member Craig Seegmiller, Board Member Terry Hutchinson, Board Member Laura Hesson, Board Member Becky Dunn, Board Vice President Kelly Blake, Board Member LaRene Cox, Superintendent Larry Bergeson, and Business Administrator Brent Bills.

CLOSED SESSION

Personnel

Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go out of closed session at 7:59 p.m. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Executive Director Salary Schedule – Larry Bergeson

No discussion at this time.

Board Compensation – David Stirland

This discussion was tabled.

Early Exit Discussion – Brent Bills

Brent Bills reported on the funding use. One million dollars was put into insurance. Other funds were used for hiring. It really does not incent people to retire. There would only be enough to give about \$7,500 if offered. The Board is not planning to offer an early exit incentive this year.

ACTION ITEMS

Red Mountain Elementary School LAND Trust Plan Change

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Red Mountain Elementary School LAND Trust Plan Change. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Secondary Boundary Change – Larry Bergeson

Superintendent Larry Bergeson said the boundary change has the support of parents. The homes in the selected cul-de-sac will move from the Dixie High School boundary to the Snow Canyon High School Boundary.

Member Dunn presented a motion to approve the Secondary Boundary change of Villa Bonita Cul-De-Sac in Santa Clara. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Elim Valley Zone Change – Brent Bills

Brent Bills said Elim Valley has a Planned Unit Development. The city needs approval of property owners nearby. He asked if the Board would like to sign an affidavit that they agree with the PUD.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Elim Valley Zone Change. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Sandberg Property Purchase – Brent Bills

Brent Bills said the property appraised at \$300,000. An inspection has been done and it is ready to purchase. The property is ideally located for what the District needs. The house on the property could be rented.

Member Hesson presented a motion to approve the Sandberg Property Purchase. Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Stanworth Property Purchase – Brent Bills

Brent Bills reported on the Hurricane frontage property on main street. The property previously appraised at \$369,000 but it was proposed to get it for \$350,000 with \$50,000 down and balance over 10 years with 2% interest. The property is zoned commercial. The Board suggested getting a current appraisal.

Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Stanworth Property Purchase subject to the provision of the appraisal. Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Selection of Executive Director – Larry Bergeson

Larry Bergeson reviewed selection and recommended selecting Nate Esplin effective March 1st. Laura Hesson expressed appreciation for all the candidates and stated the ranking of candidates was close. Superintendent Larry Bergeson will contact all of the candidates who interviewed.

Member Blake presented a motion to approve the selection of Nate Esplin for the Executive Director position. Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

The Board discussed changes in committee assignments of the Board. Terry Hutchinson will participate with Dixie Technical College, Laura Hesson will continue with MBA, Kelly Blake will participate on the Audit Committee, LaRene Cox will participate with USBA, David Stirland will continue with the Foundation. Becky Dunn will continue with the Audit Committee and with consider serving with the Five County Association of Government.

Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m., as there was no further business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT