



**AGENDA**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Washington County School District**  
**121 W Tabernacle Street, St. George, Utah 84770**  
**January 27, 2020**  
**5:15 P.M.**

*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 Director Nate Esplin, Executive Director Craig Hammer, Executive Human Resource Director Lyle Cox, Executive Director Amy Mitchell, Communications Director Steven Dunham, and WCEA President Amy Barton*

*Minutes: Executive Secretary Kajsia Boyer*

Reverence offered by Member Blake.

**PUBLIC HEARING – BOND PROJECT ITEM CHANGE**

**The Washington County Board of Education will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. to receive public comment on a proposed change to the approved 2019-2023 Bond Projects that would change the priority of the Riverside Elementary playground surfacing from the 2021 school year to the 2020 school year for completion.**

No public comments were received.

**WORK SESSION**

**Board Training – Laura Hesson**

Laura Hesson shared a synopsis of the reading assignment with the Board.

**Sharp Survey – Richard Holmes/Jon Butler**

Richard Holmes said vaping is still a concern. The youth don't realize and associate it with tobacco. They don't realize the dangers of it. The District is working extensively with Southwest Prevention in the schools. Marijuana use is up but other areas are down. Vaping is the biggest concern right now. Becky Dunn said some principals have reported that younger kids in the intermediate schools did not understand some of the words in the survey and that may have tainted some of their responses. Richard Holmes did agree that 6<sup>th</sup> grade is part of elementary schools in other districts throughout the state.

**Pine View High JROTC – Richard Holmes/Lt. Col. Thomas Brown**

Major Richardson shared an update on the Marksmanship Program. A grant has been submitted to receive \$30,000 for equipment.

The mission of the JROTC is developing citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. They would like approval for the JROTC students to travel to Hawaii. This year they are studying the science of flight. In 2018 they were able to travel to Florida and visit the Armament Museum and the Hurlburt Field. In 2019 they went to Virginia, Washington DC. They visited the Smithsonian Institute Air and Space Museum. This opens up scholarship and educational opportunities as well as having some fun. It also provides cultural opportunities. They would like to go to Hawaii this year as it is the headquarters for the Pacific Air Force Command. Pearl Harbor is there with the U.S.S.

Arizona memorial. The cadets plan the trip and make all of the arrangements learning leadership and responsibility. The earlier they book the better the cost will be. It also allows the youth time to earn money to go. Major Richardson requested approval from the Board for the cadets to travel to Hawaii. The trip would be in October over the Fall Break. Richard Holmes said other schools have requested to travel to Hawaii for other purposes but have not been approved. Craig Hammer said the policy allows for participation in national competitions. We have not approved outside of the continental U.S. Major Richardson mentioned that they are a disciplined group of students.

### **School Fees – Brent Bills/Richard Holmes**

Richard Holmes said principals have been given the most recent information on the school fee law. Any teacher who charges a fee must provide a categorized spend plan of each fee. There will need to be two hearing in February and March to approve the District Fee Schedule. The Fee Schedule must be approved by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Written notice must be given to parents about the fee hearings. Individual fundraisers must be voluntary. Group fundraisers can be required and must be equally credited to all students. Parent and students must be notified prior to holding a group fundraiser. Admission, entrance and gate fees are also waivable. Revenue collected from fees cannot be used for fee waiver. Principals can look at extenuating circumstances when a student does not qualify for a fee waiver at their school. Documentation on the fee waivers must be kept. The spend plans are due by the middle of February. Coaches may have to put expenses on for state playoff games just in case a team qualifies to play. Coaches should include their spend plan at the parent meeting. The spend plan will also be made available on the District website. This information has been shared with principals and school secretaries. Brent Bills also shared requirements for the 2022-2023 school year to eliminate textbook fees, but the state is looking at rewriting what can be collected for textbook fees. Richard Holmes suggested having time available to work with schools on the spend plans. Brent Bills reviewed the steps if Districts are not in compliance. A letter will be sent to the Board President to respond. It can be appealed. If the District is still considered noncompliant, the state can disallow fees to be charged or withhold state funds from the district.

### **Elementary Boundaries – Rex Wilkey**

Rex Wilkey said a parent meeting was held this past week. Principals have been met with again. There is also new growth in the boundary area. He shared a couple of options. The police department does not want students crossing 3000 East. There is a lot of growth southeast of Majestic Fields. Rex Wilkey said if we can hold off one more year, we can look at growth and adjust boundaries down the road. The Majestic Fields enrollment will be helped with the opening of South Mesa. One more year will give a different picture of what is needed. Rex Wilkey said information would be shared with Little Valley parents on open enrollment for students to go to South Mesa for Portuguese Dual Immersion.

### **Insurance Discussion – Lyle Cox**

Lyle Cox said the Insurance Committee will be meeting to talk about utilization. There were three high utilization weeks during Christmas Break. Ideally the District would like the trend line to be below \$480,000. Stop Loss Insurance will help with some of the higher expenses. Lyle Cox reported on Telemed costs \$2 per employee a month. We are required to have 40 employee visits a month. We are saving money in with using Telemed. There is no cost for employees to use Telemed. Employees are finding it very valuable. The District has sent an RFP for a clinic and will be talking about it more later. The administrative costs with EMI are locked in for next year so our cost increase will be with utilization. The District will set the trend. We are also getting large formulary rebates. It has been very rewarding for the District. Laura Hesson mentioned previous discussions to allow the Board to give more direction for the Insurance Committee. Lyle Cox mentioned that the Insurance Committee is looking at a five-tier option in the future. Insurance is based heavily on utilization. He mentioned that we will benefit from the release of costs from the hospitals. He said District administration will be meeting the Dixie Regional officials again. Superintendent Larry Bergeson said they can see the disparity of costs with the surgical

centers. Helping employees become better consumers will help. Lyle Cox said he would send the deadline dates out to the Board.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to go into a closed session at 6:55 p.m. Board Member Blake seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

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## **CLOSED SESSION**

### **Personnel Items**

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to go out of the closed session at 7:42 p.m. Board Member Cox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

## **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

**Bond Priority Change of the Riverside Playground Surfacing from the 2021 School Year to the 2020 School Year for Completion**

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Bond Priority change of the Riverside Playground surfacing from the 2021 School Year to the 2020 School Year for Completion. Board Member Dunn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**Washington Fields Intermediate School TSSA Plan Change**

**Board Member Cox presented a motion to approve the Washington Fields Intermediate School TSSA Plan Change. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**Water Canyon School TSSA Plan Change**

**Board Member Cox presented a motion to approve the Water Canyon School TSSA Plan Change. Board Member Hesson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**Paradise Canyon Elementary Office & Cafeteria Remodel**

Craig Hammer reported on the three bids received. Bud Mahas Construction was low bid and received the recommendation of the Committee. The remodel will start in April. None of the bids include dirt work, but dirt work is on a state contract.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to award the bid to Bud Mahas Construction for the Paradise Canyon Elementary Office and Cafeteria Remodel. Board Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**Contract for Placing Cell Towers**

Brent Bills said the company would like a resolution from the Board approving the placement of cell towers between Pine View Middle School and Panorama Elementary. We currently have towers at Coral Cliffs, Sunset, Hurricane Middle, Dixie High. They contact us with grid locations.

**Board Member Hutchinson presented a motion to approve the issuance of a resolution to approve placing Cell Towers. Board Member Seegmiller seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

## **Personnel Actions**

The following actions were presented:

Julie Smith as principal of Sunset Elementary

Paul Orchard as principal of Little Valley Elementary

**Board Member Seegmiller presented a motion to approve the Personnel Actions as presented.  
Board Member Hutchinson seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Craig Hammer reported on the request from SCHS Basketball to travel to Hawaii for a tournament. It was denied. The administration has not approved schools to leave the continental U.S. It was right after that the JROTC submitted their request. There is concern opening the door to travel outside the continental U.S. The Board discussed the request. It would be a positive experience for the students. Fee waivers have killed many of the out of state or country trips. State Risk Management has also made it clear that crossing the state line removes the cap. Superintendent Larry Bergeson mentioned that very few students get to participate in national competitions out-of-state. JROTC does get to participate in multiple competitions out-of-state. It was mentioned that the program helps with recruitment and leads to future opportunities. Richard Holmes said that there are several requirements students have to do before being allowed to go. The JROTC will help the students fundraise the earn the money needed. The JROTC students do get a diverse number of experiences. Becky Dunn suggested that the policy needs to be updated to address requests. The majority of the Board feel it should not be approved.

**Board President David Stirland adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. as there was no further business to discuss.**

**ADJOURNMENT**