

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING held Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the boardroom in the district office building.

This meeting will be available for public remote participation at the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSydTBpJWn38IQFBvPq8TOw>

At 1:00 p.m. Mrs. Lambert began the study session.

The following Board Members were present to begin the meeting: Michelle Lambert, Michelle Jorgenson-Jones, Mary Ann Kemp, and Dale Brinkerhoff. Shannon Dulaney, Superintendent; Todd Hess, Business Administrator; Kevin Garrett, Steve Burton, Roy Mathews, and Monica Torres were also present. President Allen joined the meeting via phone.

Others in attendance when the meeting began include Dave Staheli, Jeff Corry, Tiffiney Christiansen, Richard Stowell, Linda Hanks, and McKay Jensen.

Steve Burton offered the prayer.

Tessa Douglas joined the meeting.

Board Training with Utah School Board Association

Mrs. Lambert introduced and welcomed to the meeting USBA Executive Director, Richard Stowell; USBA Vice-President, Linda Hanks; and USBA President, McKay Jensen to train the Board. She explained the USBA training is not only for the Board, but to also give the school board candidates in attendance an introduction to what school board members do. Mrs. Lambert asked the school board candidates to introduce themselves. Richard Stowell thanked the Board for the invitation. He explained the importance of local school boards working together to navigate the issues brought on by COVID. He said working together to figure things out for the benefit of the kids is one of the most important tasks a local school board has. He expressed his appreciation for those who have chosen to run and for those who currently serve on the board. Dave Staheli asked for a better understanding of USBA and what their relationship is with local school boards. McKay Jensen explained USBA is an association, they have no authority over local boards and they are not elected officials. Their purpose is to find and share best practices with local school boards and to come together to convey to state leaders and legislators what is needed in education. Linda Hanks gave an overview of the open meeting law. She explained that school boards convene meetings that are open to the public, however, there are a few reasons to go into closed meetings. Boards may conduct electronic meetings as long as there is a policy that dictates how a board conducts the meeting. Linda reviewed the new language legislators added regarding electronic meetings. Boards must have an anchor location when holding an electronic meeting. An electronic meeting may be held without an anchor location if the board president makes a written determination that conducting the meeting with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location. This written determination expires after 30 days. She reported that boards do not have to include public input in every meeting. Public input should be recorded and minutes taken. She suggested the Board have their own process for public input so that when hot topics come up the Board has a plan in place. Mrs. Lambert said the Board has been reviewing different public comment policies and processes, but haven't

found one that fits yet. It is an ongoing conversation. She reported the Board has had public comment in every meeting until the pandemic happened and things shut down. In an effort to keep numbers as small as possible, the Board has live streamed their meetings and asked that the public send their comments to the Board directly through email. President Allen agreed that it is time to develop a process for public comment. McKay Jensen explained that school boards are body corporate, meaning they are elected in a certain district but have an influence district wide. The school board has only two employees: the superintendent and the business administrator. He distributed the book *Coming to Order* to the board members and candidates. He reported that school boards only exist when in a legal meeting. Boards have to work together, one person cannot make decisions on their own. He said the decisions boards are faced with are life and death important. He used the example that if a student doesn't graduate on time their life expectancy is ten years less. Boards must always move forward and measure progress against everything else. He emphasized the importance of working together when making decisions. Even if a board member doesn't agree with a board decision, he or she must continue to work with the other board members in order to progress as a board. Linda encouraged new board members to take the time to understand the different roles that can help the Board function better. She emphasized the importance of the USBA trainings that are available to school board members. You don't get rid of your opinions, you make decisions as a board. Dr. Kemp asked if there is a need for a state school board as well as a local school board. McKay pointed out the State school board is written in the constitution. They distribute our funds from legislators. Dave Staheli asked where he can find resources regarding state statutes, functions and authorities within the constitution and state code. He was directed to the USBA website, USBE website and the state website. Tiffney Christiansen asked what the characteristics of a good school board member are? Richard Stowell indicated the most effective board members have collaborative relationships. They have to work together and then they have to include the superintendent and business administrator. The most highly effective board members don't necessarily get along, but they can work together. Mrs. Lambert thanked the members of USBA for their training.

Richard Stowell, Linda Hanks and McKay Jensen left the meeting.

School Reopening Update

Superintendent Dulaney reported she has had positive feedback regarding the school reopening plan. While things haven't been perfect, she said she feels really good about what the district is doing. Adjustments are being made along the way. She asked Todd Hess to share enrollment data, including online and in-person enrollments throughout the district. Mr. Hess reviewed the enrollment numbers in the elementary schools. He explained that the enrollment numbers for students in school are down a little due to students attending the Iron K-6 online program. There are two and a half teachers taking care of the online students on an elementary level. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones asked if there were dual immersion students taking Spanish online? Mr. Burton indicated there are students taking Spanish online. It has been a little slow going because we just received the online curriculum from the state. Mr. Hess reported that data shows there are 1,287 students enrolled in My Tech High or Harmony Education. Not all of the students attending My Tech High and Harmony Education are living in Iron County boundaries. Mr. Brinkerhoff asked how many students of the 1,287 are living in Iron County boundaries. Mr. Hess said there are 273 Iron County students, the rest are from out of the region. Out of the

1,287 students, 732 are elementary students, grades K-5, and 555 are secondary students, grades 6-12. He reported total enrollment through the district, including My Tech High and Harmony Education, increased from 9,537 students on October 1, 2019 to 10,620 students. Without counting My Tech High and Harmony Education students there is a decrease in enrollment- 9,333 students from 9,537. Preschool numbers are down from 383 last year to 335 this year. The assumption for the decrease is that it is COVID related, parents choose whether or not they send their kids to preschool. Superintendent Dulaney indicated parents of preschool and kindergarten students have chosen to keep their kids home throughout the state. The school lunch numbers were down a bit in August due to more students choosing to learn remotely. A week ago the district found out the state has approved free lunch and breakfast to students who are enrolled in our district. The lunch and breakfast numbers have gone up since that announcement. Mr. Hess expressed his appreciation for the lunch staff throughout the district. Superintendent Dulaney expressed her appreciation for the athletic departments in the district. Hours and hours are being put in by the athletic directors and school and district staff to allow for students to keep playing. Mr. Hess reported transportation ridership was down at first, but fairly normal now. The preschool numbers are down somewhat but that is due to the fact that preschool enrollment is down because of COVID. President Allen indicated he had spoken to a bus driver who said he wished to be more of an enforcer with masks on his bus. Mr. Hess explained disposable masks have been given to each bus for students who don't come prepared. It was found that many students were coming without a mask and expecting to get a new one everyday on the bus. Transportation director, John Webster, is starting a process to write students up and get their parents involved when they don't bring their mask. As a district we have decided to not refuse a student transportation who is not wearing a mask.

Enrollment Numbers Discussion

This agenda item was discussed in the school reopening update. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones asked what the process will be to re-align the school board's districts now that we are over 10,000 students. Superintendent Dulaney indicated she has spoken to Richard Stowell and he is putting together the process. He is also asking if, because our district is over 10,000 students now, but over 1,000 of them are living outside our district, we would need to re-align our school board boundaries and add two new board members. Without the students we are serving from outside our region we are under 10,000.

Data and Curriculum Fair Discussion

Superintendent Dulaney proposed holding a curriculum fair this year rather than the annual data fair. Due to COVID there is no testing data available because testing was canceled at the end of last school year. She explained that administrators would have curriculum available for the public to view and district content specialists will be available to talk about curriculum and show examples. She asked the Board to think about the idea and give her their input.

School Trust Lands Training

Roy Mathews emailed the Trust Lands training materials and information previously to the Board for review. He asked if there were any questions on the material. Mrs. Lambert asked Mr. Mathews to give the public a brief overview of what the Trust Lands program is. Mr. Mathews explained that money is set aside throughout the state that generates public funds. That money goes into a great big pot and has been growing exponentially. The funds are allocated through

the USB Trust Lands Advisory Committee based on the number of students in your district. The money comes to the district first and is then allocated to the schools. There's a high level of accountability on how that money is to be spent. Each school has a Community Council that meets and decides how to best spend the money within the guidelines of Trust Lands. Mr. Mathews reported that Iron County School District receives the Trustlands funds for the My Tech High and Harmony Education students who are not living in Iron County School District. Mrs. Lambert thanked Mr. Mathews for his explanation of the Trust Lands program.

Water Coolers in Portable Classrooms Discussion

This agenda item was delayed - Mr. Brinkerhoff left the meeting and he was the one presenting this item.

SBSU Credit Application Discussion

Mr. Hess explained that with the new school fee laws and rules, the amount that students would pay for meals, clothing and/or personal equipment for a sport or activity have to be included in our student fee schedule and disclosures. The purpose of this is to show parents what the true cost of participating in that sport/activity would be. There are also rules that require administrators to not publicly identify which students are on fee waivers. He explained that as he met with others to try and find a solution, Cori Flanigan, District Accounts Payable Manager, reached out to State Bank of Southern Utah for ideas. The bank agreed to issue credit cards that could be loaded with very small amounts with limits to where they can be used. It was agreed that this was the best solution and would allow a student who is on a fee waiver to just go to the office and be given the credit card discretely, when needed. Mrs. Lambert asked how many cards will be issued? Mr. Hess said they will start with ten per high school. Once the application is approved we can provide as many cards as needed. Action will be taken in the regular meeting.

Policy Handbook Review

Dr. Kemp led a review of policies JE (Admissions & Attendance: Eligibility and Admissions Requirements) and JEA (Compulsory Attendance). Policy JE (Admissions & Attendance) states there is a one-time processing fee to be paid at the time of the application. The district does not charge for the processing fee, so the Board elected to take that sentence out and bring the policy back for a first reading.

Water Coolers

Mr. Brinkerhoff indicated he was given an invitation to attend a fundraiser to raise money for water coolers in portable classrooms. He asked the Board if they thought providing water coolers was something they should pursue? It was suggested by Dave Staheli to use Gott Coolers in each portable. He said he felt businesses around the county would be happy to donate the coolers. Mr. Hess addressed the concerns with the GOTT coolers. There is nothing under them to catch spills and after time the coolers begin to leak. He reported that Hunter Shaheen looked into the Culligan style coolers and the price to rent them. They are \$10 a month to rent the cooler plus \$7.50 per bottle to be refilled. Trash is also a concern as there will need to be a cup for every student. Mr. Burton suggested using a rubber mat to catch the water and protect the floors. Mrs. Lambert asked how many portables there are in elementary schools? Mr. Hess indicated there are eight portables throughout the district and four of them are at

elementary schools. Todd agreed to communicate with elementary principals to discuss the need.

Board Member News and Updates

Dr. Kemp reported a group of high school girls are suing UHSAA because tackle football is not being offered state-wide. President Allen reported the district had its first community outreach and online forum last week. The topic was in relation to athletics and COVID. District athletic directors, Superintendent Dulaney and Roy Mathews participated. Superintendent Dulaney indicated the forum will be held on the third Wednesday of every month. They will be recorded and posted on the website for those who can't watch it live. Anyone in the community can join and there's no limit. There will be a notice through the Remind system in the future to notify parents of the meeting.

Mr. Brinkerhoff requested the Board allow Mr. William Presgrove to address the Board regarding a letter he wrote to the Board. Mr. Presgrove expressed his concern with more time being given to teaching what Islam is and what Islam does than any other religion in the fourth grade. He also said all of our students are being told to search out what their gender is, which he said leads to homogenous ideologies. He asked the question, how will the district deal with this? Mrs. Lambert thanked him for his comments and agreed to follow up with President Allen for a response.

Mrs. Lambert concluded the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

At 4:00 p.m. the Board began the regular board meeting in the boardroom in the district office building. Vice-President Michelle Lambert conducted the meeting.

Ryker Strother offered the prayer.

Liam Gowan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting held on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 were approved on a motion made by Dr. Kemp. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones moved to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Kemp seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mrs. Lambert recognized Superintendent Dulaney for receiving the Utah Superintendent of the Year award by the Utah School Superintendents Association. She congratulated Dr. Dulaney for this achievement. A video of appreciation from district employees, students and community members in honor of Dr. Dulaney was presented. Superintendent Dulaney expressed her love for her job, her team, the students, the teachers, and the staff she works with every day. She thanked everyone for their support and said she will forever be grateful for this opportunity.

Principal Whittier presented the custodial team at North Elementary with the Team of the Year award. The team consists of Dave Bettridge, Shane Wilson and Kyle Hillyard. Dave Bettridge was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Whittier expressed his gratitude for the team for keeping the school as clean and safe as possible.

Principal Whittier presented the Volunteer of the Year award to Sandi Wood. Sandi has been the PTA President at North Elementary for the past two years. He expressed his gratitude for her service. Sandi was unable to attend the meeting.

Principal Whittier reported on North Elementary's Positive Behavior Interventions and Systems (PBIS). The school's PBIS program was completely restructured last year. They now encourage the students to become North S.T.A.R.s. The acronym S.T.A.R. stands for safe, trustworthy, aware, and respectful. S.T.A.R. posters are displayed throughout the school to remind the students of the attributes they should be working toward. He said the new program is proving to be successful in their school. He thanked the Board and district administrators for all they do.

Superintendent Dulaney reviewed the school reopening update. She praised the teachers and administrators in the district and credited them for the low COVID cases throughout the district. So far the district has only had 8 cases. With 1,200 employees and 10,000 kids that's pretty phenomenal. She indicated the district nurses are putting together a report to show which schools have had students or employees quarantine and will report that information in her Friday Update. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones asked how many cases were elementary versus high school. Superintendent Dulaney reported there are two secondary level teachers who have tested positive and one elementary level teacher. All cases were contracted outside of school.

Mr. Hess reported the district is on track budget wise. He also reported the district has received all personal protection equipment ordered. All students in the district have been given two reusable masks. He reported the custodial staff has done an amazing job with extra cleaning. The district applied for and was approved a state grant that will help provide wireless internet access to potentially 500 students. He said the grant is part of the CARES Act funding. He thanked Troy Lunt for putting the application together. He indicated the State has said they hope other districts will model what Iron County School District is doing. Now working with school to decide which students need it. Will reevaluate in the future. We were approved for \$300,000. The plan is to buy 250 Chromebooks with cellular access as well as activate 250 of the hotspots we used in the spring. He reported the district has also received an allocation from the governor's office. The GEARS grant will help provide special education and at risk student services. The plan is to use the funds to hire a couple more people to help with special education and provide software and social emotional curriculum. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones asked if it is still the plan to evaluate district revenues in November to determine where we are with additional funds. Mr. Hess indicated he will evaluate revenues and then determine where we are with salaries this year and report to the Board.

Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones moved to approve the resolution approving the credit card applications with State Bank of Southern Utah. Dr. Kemp seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mr. Mathews explained that Cedar High School is changing their Trust Lands goals and eliminating one of them. The money allocated to the eliminated goal needs to be redistributed to pay for salaries for class size reduction aides and efforts in science and math areas. Parowan High School is also changing a goal and redistributing money to salaries and personnel. They

are eliminating their goal of purchasing a chromebook for every student since the district is going to pay for them. Dr. Kemp moved to approve the amendments to the Trustlands plans for Cedar High School and Parowan High School. Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mr. Burton proposed the Board approve an LEA Specific Endorsement for the following teachers: SueEllen Esplin, Lauren Segler and Patricia Kotarsky. Mrs. Jorgenson Jones moved to approve the LEA Specific Endorsement for SueEllen Esplin, Lauren Segler and Patricia Kotarsky. Dr. Kemp seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Dr. Kemp moved to approve the following individual for employment in the District for the 2020-2021 school year:

Beverly Gurr F/T SpEd Teacher District Office

Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mr. Brinkerhoff moved to approve the following individuals for employment in the District for the 2020-2021 school year:

Megan Gower F/T Secretary/Registrar **Southwest Education Academy**

Dr. Kemp seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Dr. Kemp moved to approve policy ACA (Sexual Harassment) and have it added to the policy handbook. Mr. Brinkerhoff seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mrs. Jorgenson-Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Kemp seconded the motion.

Stephen Ahern

Board President

John Ross

Business Administrator

