

DECEMBER 13, 2011 – NOTES OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE SEVIER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AT A MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2011, AT 2:00 PM IN THE SEVIER SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE.

In attendance were President Clint Johnson, Vice President Jack Hansen, members Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr, as were Superintendent Myron Mickelsen, Assistant Superintendent Gail Albrecht, Business Administrator Patrick D. Wilson, and Executive Secretary Patricia Sanchez.

Also in attendance were Secretary Mavanee Loftus, Student Learning Director Cade Douglas, Transportation Director DeLoss Christensen, Transportation Supervisor Lynn Julander, Mechanic Mike Moore, and Bus Supervisor Jason Mitchell.

President Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Don Naser offered the reverence, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #2. – TRANSPORTATION REPORT. Transportation Director DeLoss Christensen began by introducing the following transportation staff: Secretary Mavanee Loftus, Transportation Supervisor Lynn Julander, Mechanic Mike Moore, and Bus Supervisor Jason Mitchell. He commented that these individuals are truly professionals and very valuable to the District, and thanked them for all they do. He also thanked Pat Wilson, who is his direct supervisor, for his wealth of knowledge and leadership skills.

Mr. Christensen provided a PowerPoint presentation that included the following information. He reported that there are 84 to-and-from bus trips each school day. If the transportation department encounters a child riding the bus for more than one hour a day, they attempt in every way to make changes to that child's bus schedule. The mileage, number of students, and the number and kinds of trips for the years 2006 through 2011 of both elementary and secondary students was provided. Total bus miles for those same years were shared. There are 1,758 students transported in the morning and 1,822 students transported in the afternoon. The numbers fluctuate based on the season, weather, and day of the week.

The District has 24 route drivers and 29 sub drivers. Each driver must have a CDL and 40 hours of additional school bus hands-on training, eight hours of recertification once a year, and 30 hours of retraining over a five-year period in addition to the annual eight-hour training requirement. All drivers are required to pass a background check and submit to random drug testing. Bus cameras have been successful in helping with the discipline of students as well as protecting drivers from unfounded accusations. Mr. Christensen provided a short video of how the cameras work. Due to privacy issues only the transportation personnel and school principals view the videos.

Mr. Christensen reported that the District currently has 43 school buses with the oldest being a 1990. The bus fleet is kept updated with two new buses purchased annually as the budget allows. Also provided, was a bus maintenance log and safety records. The District's safety committee recommended that an accident review panel be established to review bus accidents. The committee reviews the accident circumstances and then recommends a course of action. He also reviewed the following with the group: challenges for drivers and transportation department administrators, bus inventory ages and mileage, purchasing criteria, UDOT/UHP inspections, discipline procedures, transportation eligibility requirements, in-lieu-of transportation, and bus stop locations.

Mr. Christensen expressed appreciation to the Board and Administration for their support of the transportation department.

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ITEM #3. – CONSENT AGENDA. President Johnson called for objections on the consent agenda. Since there were no objections, the consent agenda received Board approval.

ITEM #3.A. – APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Minutes from the November 16, 2011, Board Meeting and Closed Meeting were approved.

ITEM #3.B. – NEW POLICY #3240, SERVICES FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS – SECOND READING. The proposed policy received second reading approval.

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ITEM #3.C. – APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEES. The following individuals were approved for employment: **Taylor Jones** as an instructional assistant at Pahvant Elementary (*remainder of the 2011-12 year only*); **Shaylene Hartle** as a non-location instructional assistant for the Special Needs Program (*remainder of the 2011-12 year only*), and **Sabrina Olcott** as a bus assistant for the South Sevier attendance area.

ITEM #3.D. – RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE. **Richard Barton**, Richfield High School Vice Principal and Athletic Director, was one of ten people being recognized for contributions to interscholastic athletics. The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association will present a 2011 Distinguished Service Award to him and nine others on December 13 in Indianapolis.

ITEM #3.E. – RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS. The Board recognized and congratulated the students on their achievements. A letter of congratulations will be sent to each student.

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ITEM #3.F. – APPROVAL OF FY2011 AUDIT, USOE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT, AND USOE ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT. The FY2011 Audit, USOE Annual Financial Report, and USOE Annual Program Report were presented in a work session prior to the regular Board meeting. The FY2011 Audit and USOE Annual Financial and Program reports received Board approval as presented.

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ITEM #3.G. – SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR FOR 2012-13 – FIRST READING. The proposed calendar received first reading approval.

ITEM #3.H. – REQUEST FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL. South Sevier High School coaches Weston Zabriskie, Shawn Lindsay, Rex Barney, Brent Hafen, Richard Chisholm, Brandon Street, Nate Mecham, and Tevita Vakautakakala received approval to attend the Nike Coach of the Year Football Clinic in Las Vegas, Nevada on February 17-19, 2012. They requested lodging and conference fees only, to be paid from the school funds. They also indicated that

they would provide their own transportation and meals and not require a District vehicle for transportation to and from the clinic. As a note, one hundred percent of the expenses, including mileage, if necessary, will be paid by school funds.

ITEM #3.I. – FINANCIAL SUMMARY. The financial summary for the period ending November 30, 2011, was approved as well as the list of checks issued in November 2011.

ITEM #4. – PATRON DIALOGUE. There was no patron dialogue.

ITEM #5.A. – DISCUSSION – ITEMS FROM THE BOARD. The following items were discussed:

- CUES Legislative meeting in Juab: President Johnson reported that Representative Kay McIff would be sponsoring a bill for Necessarily Existent Small Schools (NESS) to help fund rural districts. Senator Okerlund was also in attendance. Mr. Wilson commented that he felt the group had become better informed and are very supportive of the NESS.
- Mr. Orr stated that he'd had several individuals contact him with concerns in regards to YPP being introduced into the secondary level. He investigated the situation and found out that elementary schools were very much in favor of YPP; they feel it is a great tool. They have 30-35 students in each class every day five days a week. They felt the test is helping them to identify areas of instruction where more attention is needed. On the other hand, secondary educators have students five days a week for 50 minutes per period and when one of those periods is taken for the YPP testing, that eliminates one of those days of actual face time with their students. Overall, they felt they didn't have enough time to cover the curriculum with the students with YPP being introduced every week.

Superintendent Mickelsen commented that the elementary schools are pretty well saturated with YPP and the results are indicative of the value of the program. He felt that secondary schools were definitely more challenging because of the number of students. The secondary schools view YPP as an assessment as opposed to an instructional tool. The YPP program takes approximately 15 minutes of class time. The program is tied to the state core and the common core. Some students already know some of the concepts and could move beyond that with exercises that are provided by YPP. That group of students could be working on something different than what they've already mastered. The District is trying to work out the conflicts with the program.

ITEM #5.B. – DISCUSSION – ITEMS FROM ADMINISTRATION. The following items were discussed:

Items from Superintendent Mickelsen

- Estimation of Federal Fund Impacts for FY2013: Superintendent provided information and explained that it appears that Utah is going to receive fewer federal funds and will have to compensate in ways to make up for the decrease in funding. The projected decrease for the State would be approximately \$29,977,000.

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- Legislation funding line item sheet: Superintendent explained that UASBO, USSA, and USBA are consistent in their thoughts about the deficits facing education. They are saying that some of the line items that were on last year's legislative agenda would probably be on this year's

agenda as well. It appears that proposed line item changes have a much adverse affect on rural districts than urban districts.

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- Superintendent reported on the many comments from employees in all areas of the District expressing their appreciation of the one-time compensation adjustment.

Items from *Gail Albrecht*

- Mrs. Albrecht reported on the YPP state meeting on December 1 with Dr.'s Doug & Lynn Fuchs. In 2007, Superintendent Thorne and Mrs. Albrecht become aware of the YPP program and were very impressed with this powerful tool. Along with NCLB came the idea that educators need to know where every student is and what concepts they are learning or have not yet learned. They need to know if students are responding to what is being taught. Also attending the meeting from the District were three elementary principals, three secondary math teachers, one math coach, one elementary teacher, who represented all attendance areas. The YPP program shows the gain a student is making. Mrs. Albrecht explained that research shows that learning is not as sequential as was thought. In order to have response to intervention, which was what NCLB was based on; educators need to know the areas where students need the intervention and if the intervention is having the desired effect. She further explained that Utah has gone with the integrated model for mathematics. Most of the nation went with the Common Core; however, they didn't follow the integrated or international model. The math teachers were impressed with the Fuch's presentation. Superintendent Mickelsen commented that the District would be waiting for a couple of years to adopt math textbooks to make sure that it will be an integrated model.
- iObservation update: Mrs. Albrecht reported that 852 observations have been completed to date. The observation numbers are down slightly from last year because some principals are scaling down the number of observations but are staying longer in the classroom. Teachers and principals are becoming more comfortable with the program.
- Graduation/dropout rate: Mrs. Albrecht provided a draft report of graduation/dropout rates and explained that the state has been asked to calculate information for graduation rates in a different format. In the past, the District has had about a 95 percent graduation rate, which was calculated on a one-year cohort. Now the federal definition gives a choice of either a three-year or four-year cohort, meaning students start counting as freshmen and count all throughout those four years of high school. The State will want to know if students graduated or transferred to another district school within or outside of the state. In applying the new rules to last year's 2011 graduation data, Sevier District was able to work through transfer discrepancies and identify duplicate student records from across the state to be merged.

President Johnson asked Superintendent about the reaction principals had to Board members visiting schools/classrooms. Superintendent commented that he felt there would not be a problem if a Board member wanted to visit a school and suggested contacting the principal to let them know the date of the visit.

Items from *Pat Wilson*

- Construction update

Change orders: Mr. Wilson reviewed a change order for the MES/PES restrooms remodel. When the District constructed the original addition of the seven classrooms at Monroe Elementary, there was an attempt to make a single power connection through a single transformer. At that time, Monroe City was unable to provide a transformer. During the last construction project at Monroe Elementary, the city was able to provide a new transformer. The largest majority of the change order was the costs to rerun the wire and conduit. The school is now on a single transformer.

NSHS Vo-Ag Shop: The majority of this change order was the remodeling of the two downstairs offices in the District Office for Leon Stewart and Darlene Wabel. The other part of the change order was for the exterior concrete work and fence for the shop at North Sevier High School.

- Mr. Wilson updated the Board on NESS presentations:

November 22: NUES & CUES

December 2: State Board of Education, which went very well.

December 14: SEDC – Representative Newbold is scheduled to be in attendance.

January 12: USSA

Mr. Wilson met with the USOE and worked through the regression formulas. He reviewed some of those graphs with the group.

Superintendent Mickelsen stated that Mr. Wilson is well respected throughout the state. Many have expressed their appreciation for his experience and his ability to present the information in a way that people understand. He's put this information together fairly so that the entire picture is presented. The USOE and the rural districts appreciate the fact that he will take the time and present it in a way to give the rural districts a running chance to accomplish this.

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- District 2011 Christmas card contest winners:

Grand Prize - \$100 Savings Bond: Janessa Gayler, MES

(This student's picture was selected for the District's Christmas card)

1st Place Winners – \$75 Savings Bond

Lyric Gentry, MES

Brinley Jolley, PES

Marnie Sorenson, SES

Runners-up – \$50 Savings Bond

Wyatt Johansen, MES

Vanessa Lee, PES

Hadyn McKell Black, PES

McKylee Malmgren, SES

Sarah Jane DeGraffenried, SES

- Mr. Wilson reminded the group of the upcoming USBA Convention on January 12-14 and to have all Board members attend the Open Meeting Law requirement and have President Johnson certify in the January Board meeting that all of the Board received the training.

- President Johnson made some further comments about NESS and felt that what gives Mr. Wilson a lot of credibility is that Sevier District stands to get hurt through the loss of this funding but not nearly as bad as some of the other rural districts. Mr. Wilson has worked hard to provide the information needed to help many rural districts keep this funding. The group felt

that there seems to be a whole new awareness around the state in regards to the variances in funding to educate an urban student vs. a rural student.

ITEM #6. – CLOSED MEETING. A motion was made at 4:25 p.m. by Jack Hansen and seconded by Don Naser to take a break and go into the Closed Meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual(s), negotiations, real property, and litigation. Voting went as follows: yes – Clint Johnson, Jack Hansen, Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr. Motion passed.

In attendance were President Clint Johnson, Vice President Jack Hansen, members Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr, as were Superintendent Myron Mickelsen, Assistant Superintendent Gail Albrecht, Business Administrator Patrick D. Wilson, and Executive Secretary Patricia Sanchez.

A motion was made at 4:55 p.m. by Jack Hansen and seconded by Richard Orr to go out of a Closed Meeting. Voting went as follows: yes – Clint Johnson, Jack Hansen, Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr. Motion passed.

ITEM #7. – ACTION ITEMS. A motion was made by Jack Hansen and seconded by Don Naser to approve change order #15 for the restroom remodel at Monroe & Pahvant Elementary Schools and change order #2 for the North Sevier High School Vo-Ag Shop project. Motion passed unanimously.

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A motion was made at 5:02 p.m. by Tom Hales and seconded by Richard Orr to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

I certify that upon motion duly made, seconded and passed, the Board of Education of the Sevier School District approved the foregoing minutes on the 18th day of January 2012. I further certify that a quorum of the Board was present on both the day covered by these minutes and the day of approval.

Patrick Wilson, Business Administrator