

## **Wasatch County School District Board of Education Meeting, Thursday, September 16, 2021**

Generated by Stacey Moore on Friday, September 17, 2021

Study Session - September 16, 2021 - 5:00 pm

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Tom Hansen

Tyler Bluth

Kimberly Dickerson

Marianne B Allen

Superintendent Paul Sweat

Business Administrator Keith Johansen

Absent Board Member Cory Holmes

Guests

Heber City Manager, Matt Brower

Heber City Mayor, Kelleen Potter

Heber City Council, Rachel Kahlor

Heber City Council, Mike Johnston

Presentation on Proposed CRA (Community Reinvestment Agency).

Mr. Brower explains to the group that a CRA is not a new tax to citizens, nor an increased tax. It is not a form-based code, zoning or land-use code. The CRA agreement would not tell property owners what to do with their property. The CRA would promote a vibrant downtown. Reinvesting in downtown to promote jobs and economic development. The reinvestment would include challenges like parking and aging buildings. Heber City Envision, a local committee built of local citizens, identified goals including a vibrant downtown.

Heber City has created the Heber City Community Reinvestment Agency for the project, the CRA area is 958 acres (.12% of the county). If an interlocal agreement is made the agreement would be between the agency and the school district, not the city. The study included that many businesses in the downtown areas in Heber and Heber are 80+ years old.

The city has adopted a project area plan and budget as well as entered into an interlocal agreement with Heber City. Interlocal agreements would include Wasatch County and Wasatch County School District. Wasatch County and Wasatch School District are both taxing entities in the county, 2 of 6 tax entities).

The properties in the 80-acre project area of the CRA would generate \$2.4 million of the \$50 million the school district receives in total property taxes each year. The City is asking the School District to agree to use the \$2.4 million as a base figure to give the city 80% of the property taxes that would come from the CRA for 20 years. The district could generate, additional increments for project areas improvements, an additional \$26 million to reinvest in the CRA. On the 21st year, the district would get 100% of the new increment (Currently generate \$2.4 annually. Generate \$6 million annually after 21st year of CRA agreement). The revenue without the CRA would be \$3.4 million annually, the projected revenue benefits with the CRA would be \$9,981,952.

There is not a master plan at this time.

The city and school district will continue to discuss the agreement.

### **Board of Education Meeting September 16, 2021-6:30PM**

#### ***A. Meeting called to order at 6:33PM***

##### ***B. Roll Call-***

Board Members Present:

Tom Hansen

Tyler Bluth

Kimberly Dickerson

Marianne B Allen

Superintendent Paul Sweat

Business Administrator Keith Johansen

Absent Board Member Cory Holmes

#### ***C. Pledge of Allegiance -Maryanne B Allen***

## ***D. No Requests for Public Comment***

## ***E. Celebrations/Information***

### **1. Wasatch Wellness/Family Ed Center- Ben Springer**

Dr. Springer shared that the kickoff was in 2019, COVID pushed us back a little and we weren't able to do much, but we are back at it now. We have a great speaker coming to talk to our community. His name is Dr. Boden. We are excited to have another event for our community that will focus on relationships with our loved ones after facing hard and challenging times. We plan to have our courses start in October. We are going to have online and face-to-face courses this year. I am so grateful to be in my new role and grateful for the board's support.

Board Members- Please ask us for any additional support you might need. We are so grateful for the time and effort you have put in to this. We are excited.

### **2. HEPA Filters- Francis Harrsion**

Wasatch high school's air filter system works differently than a home system. Classroom wings are fed from one handler. Fan motors 40-50 Horsepower. The recommendation is for 6 air changes per hour. Our handlers move 50-60 cubic feet per minute through 300ft of air. The filters that are used are 24x24". These filters are average in price and a rating of 8. Three microns at 84% proficiency. The filters are about \$9 each and we have about 400 in the high school. Fourteen air handlers in the building. They get changed one time a year. We have people that check the air every day to make sure we are safe.

HEPA fabric is much denser. You have to go to a 12" filter for a HEPA air system. HEPA filters are about \$160 24x24x12. For some of our units, it isn't possible to go to a HEPA system. The lowest level measured for the HEPA filter is .3 microns at 97%. Our system is more than sufficient for our indoor air quality. Auditoriums and the Nest are almost always pushing fresh air.

### **3. Redevelopment Tax Policy- Garrick Peterson**

The redevelopment Tax Policy may address future items that may come to the school board in the next several years. These are guidelines for the board allowing the board to make decisions as needed. This policy asks that any person asking the board to consider these policies pay a \$5000 fee for the board to do some more in-depth research with a non-bias review committee. The entity should try and make all necessary preparations before they come to the board with taxing possibilities. Having a separate review committee is a good idea.

Board Members- Appreciate the suggestions for the policies. Maryanne B. Allen would like to take this policy proposal to a study session to talk it over and see about making a few changes. Board will ask Garrick to be on the agenda for the next study session.

## **F. Consent Items**

Action(Consent items) 1. Consideration and Approval of Consent Items

Resolution: Consideration and Approval of Consent Items F2-F9

Action(Consent), Minutes 2. Minutes for August 19, 2021

Action(Consent) 3. Separations

Action(Consent) 4. New Hires

Action(Consent) 5. Employee Status Changes

Action(Consent) 6. Financials

Action(Consent) 7. Home School Affidavits

Action(Consent) 8. School Choice

Action(Consent) 9. Approval of Staff or Student Travel

Motion to approve consent items by Kim Dickerson, Tyler Bluth

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

## **G. Action Items**

### **Action 1. WHS Baseball/Softball Turf Change Orders- Francis Harrison**

Seeking approval for the turf change orders for \$95,255.34

Sump installation, removal of baseball fence, and excavation of soft spots filled with structural fill.  
Recommendation of approval for this change order.

Motion to approve by Tyler Bluth, Kimberly Dickerson  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

### **Action 2. Approval of School Security Cameras- Eric Campbell**

Asking for a total of 8 cameras for two schools. Heber Valley Elementary and Old Mill Elementary each need additional cameras for areas that need better coverage (3 outdoor, 5 indoor). This recommendation is from the school Admin and resource officers for \$13,774.85. It's a state contract price.

Motion to approve by Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

### **Action 3. Approval of ESSER Plan- Garrick Peterson**

This item was reviewed in the Study Session last month discussing how to utilize the emergency federal funds - we will use these funds for Elementary and Secondary Education. The board asked for a bigger portion of these funds to go to the operations portion and because COVID is still very prevalent we made those changes. One of the stipulations for this money is that 20% of the funds have to go to students who fell behind during the pandemic. The three big items are the Reading program, the money going directly to students who fell behind, and the third goal was to target the secondary students that need additional support. We plan on bringing in some consultants to work with our high school teams to achieve our goals in Math and Language Arts.

We were asked to take this plan to our school community members and the Wasatch Parent Network (WPN) members - to meet with them and talk through this same agenda. They appreciated how we have planned to use the funding and are highly supportive of both parts, but especially the literacy side.

Recommendation for approval of the ESSER budget plan as presented.  
The \$30,000 for the PD support is giving us a little flexibility since we don't know what will come up within the next few years. The \$300,000 for the school nurses is ending, the school district is picking them up. There are still unknowns about COVID but we will find ways with our flexibility in the budget to keep these nurses on. We are trying to invest in the current people that we have on staff with these grants with exception to the nurses. We have long-term benefits that are critical to our success.

Motion to approve by Kim Dickerson, Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

### **Action 4. Wasatch Learning Academy(WLA) Special Education services and Procedures- Claire Mair**

The state has suggested that we come to the school board with formal procedures to provide SPED students services for the Wasatch Learning Academy. Principal Riddle and her team have worked so hard to have everything set up to get SPED student services. They are identified by their parents, and then provided access to the grade-level curriculum and SPED services as identified.  
Recommendation for approval of the procedures to be put in place for WLA special services and 504's as presented in the board packet and at this board meeting.

Motion to approve by Tyler Bluth, Kimberly Dickerson  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

### **Action 5. Non Discrimination and Grievance Policy- Jason Watt**

This policy is ran through the CTE program because we are a recipient of Perkins dollars. We are bound by civil rights laws and these are also best practices on ensuring that our most vulnerable students aren't discriminated against in any of our programs. We have had the procedures in place for quite some time but they have never made their way into policy. We have these documents that we would like to put out for a 30-day review and then to policy in the next board meeting. These documents will be easier to access on our website and especially as we transition to our new website. We have put a contact from the District Office on each of the grievances so it will be easier to know who to contact if any of our students are in need.

My recommendation is that we put these policies out for review until our next board meeting.

These policies have been housed in different places before now such as Special Ed grievances were housed under SpEd but now we would like them to be housed all in one spot.

Motion to approve by Maryanne B Allen, Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

**Action 6. Approval of Demographic Consulting Services Renewal- Jason Watt**

Proposal to move forward with our agreement with Davis Demographics for another year. We have worked with them for the last 3 years. They will still work with us in many different ways but they will keep track of hours worked with our District and then bill us up to \$18,700. It is proposed that we work with them at least up to our bond process.

Board Members- Have mentioned this company around community members and they love the idea that we are keeping track of the growth of this city and that we are always trying to improve the things we do according to the growth of the community.

Motion to approve by Kimberly Dickerson, Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

**Action 7. 2022-2023 Calendar- Kirsta Albert**

In the August study session, the board decided to make some changes after public review and comment. There was an overwhelming discussion over the Spring Break dates and it was decided that we change Spring Break from March to April. It doesn't happen at the end of the third quarter but there are two Professional Development Days that break up the month of March still. Those 2 days include 1 of the three additional days that the State approved and do not count against our total days of instruction. We have 2.5 weeks of instruction before Spring Break and then we have several weeks to end the 4th quarter. We would put this out for review and comment until the October board meeting. We switched Spring Break and decided to keep the start school date. Most school districts have this same starting time on their schedules. Most districts are doing the same thing - fall break ending the 1st quarter and Christmas Break ending the 2nd quarter.

Board Members- have the option to continue to make changes which then leads to another 30-day review. The Board can do this as many times as they want.

Superintendent Sweat- Would like to recommend changing the PD day that is during fall break to another day in the year so teachers can have time with their families that are off for that break also.

Recommendation to look at moving the PD day from Oct. 10 to another day in the year. That way all staff can have time off with their families. The comment forum went well and we will do that again with this revision and get that back to board members for the next study session.

Motion to put the calendar out for review till the next school board meeting by Maryanne B Allen, Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

**Action 8. Attorney Retainer Agreement- Superintendent Sweat**

Jared Anderson is our all-purpose attorney. A lot of school districts hire their own in-house attorneys. We spend on average about \$3,000 a month for questions, options, and discussions to guide the school district. Our office could manage this a lot better if we just had a retainer that we pay. They will still keep track of the hours they have worked but if we come in under the retainer fee the extra will be applied to a future month. Our Directors would have a little more flexibility when something comes up that they could just call the attorney and ask the questions they need to. It makes sense for the District to move in this direction. The retention fee would be approx. \$3,000 a month.

Board Members- Because of the Districts growth and some of the projects we are asked to participate in it would make sense to have an Attorney that we can call on for counsel. We want the Directors to feel comfortable and not worry about our budget when they feel the need to speak with an attorney. We also confer to have Superintendent meet with the firm of Mr. Anderson to work on an agreement for a retainer policy.

Motion to approve by Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

**Action 9. Legal Services Agreement on Vaping Litigation- Superintendent Sweat**

Mr. Andreason, guest speaker to discuss the vaping litigation. A lot of schools are looking at us as leaders to stop this vaping crisis because of the steps that the district took in installing the vaping detectors in the High School. This is intended to gather funds for districts to pay for the fight against vaping. This litigation case is against the main manufacturer of vaping products Juul Labs Inc and

parent company Altria. This company is doing its best to target teenagers in underage vaping by its product design, smells, and tastes and it is doing a lot of harm. 21.3% of kids in this County/School District have reported to vaping and 14.2% of those 12th graders vaping in the last 30 days. This is a very serious issue and Wasatch has done a great job to protect our kids. This litigation effort is to gain funds for the refund of the detectors we have already purchased and also for funds to pay for the fight against underage vaping. We also want to help educate kids on how dangerous this is. The effort is a series of lawsuits called mass tour action filed in federal court in California. A separate lawsuit is filed for each school district consolidated into the same court and has already been moving forward for some months. The trial is scheduled to start in March 2022. Over 450 school districts nationwide have joined so far. Five of them are Utah school districts. We are hopeful and optimistic for a win in this lawsuit but we don't know for sure what the outcome will be. The cost to join in on this is not money, it's in time. It's a questionnaire that takes about 2-4 hours. Similar to seeking a grant. The attorneys are not paid unless there is success and that would be a 20% contingency fee. The France Law Group is the California firm that is heading this and Mr. Andreason would be happy to put us in touch with them if needs be.

The recommendation is to sign the engagement letters of the France Law Group to represent us and file a complaint on our behalf in the litigation. Also, to fill out the questionnaire and discuss settlement at the end of it all.

Board Members -the community engagement around the vaping concern was so insightful and powerful. We are grateful to the families who were brave enough to have these tough conversations with us and their support to help us in trying to fix this crisis. Tom Hansen is happy to spend the time to fill out the questionnaire and help get the process started.

Superintendent Sweat- "I appreciate board member Davis for heading this initiative to install the detectors in the High School. Grateful to parents who openly had conversations and discussed their own kids addictions to this drug. These parents took a very public approach and it helped the board commit to continue these efforts. We are pleased to join in this effort. If this effort doesn't pass then at least we know we are sending the right message that we will not tolerate this."

Motion to approve by Maryanne B Allen, Tyler Bluth

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

#### **Action 10. Approval of GSBS Change Order- Superintendent Sweat**

We approved a contract last month with GSBS to help us with our master facilities plan. It has become apparent that we need some support with the communication aspect of the plan. GSBS has a communication partner that has been recommended. This change will require a change order to include a public affairs/community outreach support to the current contract. The cost will be about \$71,000.

Motion to approve by Tyler Bluth, Kimberly Dickerson

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Maryanne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

#### **H. Board Report**

1. Dinner in the Park Sept. 20, 2021 at 5:30(Wasatch Events Complex Parking lot)

This a great event that always turns out well. The community gets to meet all the elected officials. Tom and Kimberly will be there and will also be passing out a little gift for Wasatch Wellness.

2. USBA Regional Dinner Meeting Sept. 30, 2021 (Grub Steak Park City 6PM)

We represent region 4. Fun opportunity to meet board members in our area and learn about what we are going to Legislative Session with. We also receive board training. It's an awesome event and Maryanne B Allen hopes as many board members can get there as possible.

#### **I. Superintendent Report**

1. WHS Homecoming Week, September 20-25

2. Wasatch Hall of Fame Ceremony, September 23, 2021 at Wasatch High School 7PM.

This is always a fun week at the High School. We would like to board to recognize our Hall of Fame Ceremony and the two women inductees. Griselle Zelaya and Brenda Mana are two amazing women originally from Puerto Rico and are sisters. They changed Wasatch High School forever. They had a very profound effect on helping the Latino Community(15-20%) feel welcome and were strong advocates for these kids and community families. Both ladies died very prematurely and will be terribly missed. We think these two ladies deserve this so much. These women worked so hard for the Latino community and were so loved. Please join the celebration if possible. It will be a fun night.

#### **J. Adjournment**

Adjourn Meeting- Tom Hansen 8:16PM

