

**October 21, 2021 - Wasatch County School District Board of Education Meeting (Thursday, October 21, 2021)**

Generated by Brooke Wardle on Friday, October 22, 2021

**Members present**

Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

**Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM**

Study Session Roll Call:

Tom Hansen, President

Tyler Bluth, Vice President

Kimberly Dickerson, Member

Marianne B. Allen, Member

Cory Holmes, Member

Keith Johansen, Business Administrator

Paul Sweat, Superintendent

**Discussion, Information: 1. 2022-2023 School Calendar**

Welcome to Study Session by President Tom Hansen.

**2022 - 2023 School Calendar - Kirsta Albert**

After putting the 2022-2023 calendar out for review we overwhelmingly received comments around the early Spring Break.

A few years ago the start date was moved so that Terms or Quarters fall on natural breaks on the calendar being considered. Other districts in the state started on the same day as Wasatch.

Superintendent Sweat - There is a trend for districts starting earlier.

There have been many comments about Fall Break being too long. Other districts are typically having Spring break the first week in April.

Dr. Springer, our school Psychologist. - As it relates to behavior, students need structure. Aligning the calendar with natural breaks was very intentional for our students and academics.

Tod Johnson, former principal at Wasatch High School - From an academic stand point it makes a lot of sense to have the breaks fall at term and semester. Particularly for end-of-year testing. Specific to testing the calendar .....

President Tom Hansen - Recommending to move Spring Break back.

Director comments -

Discussion around the start date of school.

Marianne B. Allen - Is there any wiggle room in the calendar to move the start date?

President Tom Hansen - My suggestion is that we draw up another calendar that moves the Spring Break to the first week of April. Two days PD in March. We will Table the Action item for more discussion in the next Study Session.

**Discussion, Information: 2. GSBS Master Plan Process**

After the bond fail, we listened to all points of view. Through the process of listening, we were asked about the Master Plan for the school district. We didn't have one. We are in a climate that will require us to continue to build schools. This Board has set out on a mission to create a Master Plan. Through the RFP process, we interviewed two finalists, from that process the board narrowed it down to a GSBS - authorizing the district to work with them to get to a deliberate through the process and have outside help and resource's to help us develop a Master Plan. Today during the procurement discussion in the executive session, we will be proposing to enter into a contract for a master facilities plan. We also feel like we need to engage the community. There will be opportunities to come to the table and communicate throughout the process. We also need to make sure the public knows to participate in the community engagement. Wilkinson-Ferrari will assist with the Community Engagement process.

We will continue to work with Davis Demographics, Wasatch Public Communications

**B. Board of Education Meeting - 6:30pm****Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM**

Procedural: 1. Welcome -

Board President Hansen, thanks so much for everyone's help and especially the public! Great feedback in the study session tonight.

**2. Board Member Roll Call**

Tom Hansen, President  
Tyler Bluth, Vice President  
Kimberly Dickerson, Member  
Marianne B. Allen, Member  
Cory Holmes, Member

Keith Johansen, Business Administrator  
Paul Sweat, Superintendent

### C. Pledge of Allegiance-

Tyler Bluth

### ***D. Discussion, Information: 1. Public comments will be accepted for approximately twenty (20) minutes. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes. LINK-<https://bit.ly/WCSDOct2021BoE>***

Allison Larsen-Midway

1. Tele-health- is info going to be online for the tele-health program? Is the jab going to be done in schools?
2. Survey- no question about what the school boards role would be in mandating masks?
3. Where is money being spent from the state/federal?

Board President Tom Hansen: I have given you several contacts that you can schedule an appointment with to answer the questions you might have. On our website you can find where money gets spent or set up an appointment with Keith Johansen our Business Administrator. I do know that 70% plus of the money from the general fund is spent on kids.

Sylvia Cowell- Midway

Daughter goes to RMMS and was given a reading assignment in her Honors History class on a very left leaning agenda. The book is called *Lies My Teacher Told Me by: James W. Loewen*. I spoke with the teacher and then the Principal about my concerns and I asked if I could observe the class ? I was told that is not allowed. It's actually against the law. I want to be able to observe this class when the discussion takes place. I also would like an approved reading list as a guide to age appropriate reading.

President Tom Hansen: Director Eric Campbell, Director Tod Johnson and Director Garrick Peterson can talk you through the next steps to get your answers and needs met.

Stephanie Smith-Heber

Upset about mask wearing and vaccine's that are coming down the pipeline. I am willing to fight for all kids in this district. We are friends and partners in this community and my stake in the ground is protecting children and it will not change.

Superintendent Sweat- There is no vaccination mandate or mask mandate in Wasatch County and no intention of having either. This board has kept schools open.

President Tom Hansen- This is not the place to have these discussions. Please set up time to talk about all your questions and concerns. We have heard your concerns but we need to set up a time to have an open dialogue and not have to do it in 2 minutes.

Stephanie Smith-

Are you paying teachers that have the vaccine sick leave and not paying sick leave for those that don't have the vaccine?

Superintendent Sweat- That is not true.

President Tom Hansen- We have heard this group and we appreciate your passion for kids, but this is not the place to discuss these things. Please set up a time that we can talk with your whole group.

Barbara Norris- Daniel

Great that the board is willing to talk but it needs to be transparent to the whole public. What kind of government money are you receiving and what is it tied too? I would like to also know all of the government money you are receiving?

President Tom Hansen- All accounting questions about where and what we do with government funds is online. Please set up a study session for the public realm. We want to have a dialog and have it public if that what this group would like. If your group feels like communication is lacking we need to fix that.

Tim Cowell-Midway

Sylvia's husband and I was hoping to follow up with my wife's questions since this book discussion is tomorrow?

Director Garrick Peterson- Sylvia will be allowed to attend that discussion tomorrow at her daughters school.

President Tom Hansen- Please follow up with us after the class discussion tomorrow and let us know what your thoughts are?

### **D. Celebrations/Information**

E. Consent Items

Action (Consent): 1. Consent Items

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2. Minutes -9.16.21 School Board Meeting

Action (Consent): 3. RMMS School Land Trust Amendment

Action (Consent): 4. Employee Separations

Action (Consent): 5. Employee New Hires

Action (Consent): 6. Employee Status Changes

Action (Consent): 7. LEA-Specific Educator Licenses

Action (Consent): 8. Financials

Action (Consent): 9. Home School Affidavits

Action (Consent): 10. School Choice

Action (Consent): 11. Staff or Student Travel

Motion to approve consent items by Tom Hansen, Marianne B Allen

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

#### ***F. Action Items***

##### ***Action: 1. 2022-23 School Calendar - Director Kirsta Albert***

2022-2023 Calendar changes we made at the last round table we ended up one day short with our learning days. We re-evaluated and this version we ended up deciding that we would need to start school on Tuesday the 16th of August. A full fall break followed by two PD days(one PD day does count as an instruction day). End of term is Dec 20th with Christmas Break starting the 21st(Students get a full 2 week break again followed by 2 PD days one day counts as instruction day). Spring break April 3-7 and we will finish school on May 29. This calendar is the second year for the approved extra PD days. We had over 170 comments on this calendar and the majority agreed on this version. The overriding comments wanted to move Spring Break back a bit so in doing that we have to start a little earlier to get all of our instruction days in. We will put this new version back out for public comment and approval at the next board meeting in November if an approval is made.

Board members: Thank you for your work in making this calendar work Kirsta. We know you have spent a lot of time on this on our behalf.

Superintendent Sweat: We feel like these PD days have been so beneficial to our teachers. They are grateful to the board for approving them.

Director Kirsta Albert: Recommendation to send the revised calendar out for 30 day review.

Motion by Marianne B Allen, second by Tyler Bluth

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

##### ***Action: 2. IHC Athletic Trainers Agreement - Director Shawn Kelly***

We currently have a nice setup with a trainer. The program is ran through IHC and they give us a very generous grant for working with them. This contract goes along with what we have agreed to with IHC for a full time athletic trainer in our High school. We agree to advertisement and a 10,000 equipment and salary contribution. This is a good deal for us. We have all the support and help we need from them. This has been a great partnership for the last 10 yrs. One of their stipulations is they have an open referral program meaning you don't have to go to an IHC therapist or doctor you can make your own choice for that. Most high schools in Utah participate in this program.

Recommendation to approve the contract as presented.

Motion by Cory Holmes, second by Marianne B Allen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

##### ***Action: 3. Proposed Legal Services Agreement - Superintendent Sweat***

Formalize a legal services agreement.

Mr. Jared Anderson please walk us through the agreement.

Superintendent Sweat- District of 8000 students and 1000+ employees. We are a big district and many schools have in house Attorney's. We need legal advice on many occasions so I am proposing this base retainer fee tonight. When you're a growing district we always need advise on leases and contracts. We will also continue to engage in land accusation so we will need legal advice and representation.

Mr Anderson- My relationship with this District began in 2015. My firm has worked with the District and with Superintendent Shoemaker since 2001. I have taken over this firm since my partner retired.

We do not do Special Ed needs. SpEd is a very specialized need. The district has someone else who works on those needs. I practice Real Estate law and I have 15 years experience.

Superintendent Sweat- curriculum contracts and such we always want legal representation. Mr Anderson is very thorough and questions everything. The amount we pay per month would be appropriate for our needs. Mr Anderson has caught things and found mistakes over the years and has actually saved Wasatch money.

Mr. Anderson-We are proposing to have a retainer agreement that would be around 3k a month. I will itemize my time still and the school district will be either be credited or charged more for the time I spend. The term is designed to be flexible and can be cut off any time.

Recommendation to approve the legal services agreement with the firm Seiler, Anderson, Fife & Marshall, LC for the continued representation of the District on a retainer-based arrangement.

Motion by Tyler Bluth, second by Marianne B Allen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

#### **Action: 4. Proposed Board By-Law Changes - Superintendent Sweat**

Proposing comprehensive review of the By-Laws. Proposing change tonight. Board can review this change on their own time and then discuss with the rest of the board. It used to be two board meetings a month and now the proposal is on the third Thursday of every month.

Recommendation to revise the current Board of Education By-Laws as presented.

Motion by Marianne B Allen, second by Kimberly Dickerson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

#### **Action: 5. Fiber Lease Agreement - Superintendent Sweat**

Superintendent Sweat- Our School district has been the leader in Wasatch County underground fiber. Many times our district has helped other companies with their internet capabilities. Our bill is zero. We brought it in here and we share it. We do lease out to other companies. There is a crossover with these agreements to the private sector. We have worked with Utah Broadband and they would like to use some of the dark fiber(fiber that isn't being used) to private residences. We have done a lot of research on this and Mr Anderson has helped with this. I want to be very careful and want you to know that the district is acting lawfully in doing this. Wasatch County, Wasatch Power, and others depend on us to help out. This is a nonexclusive agreement.

1.continue with Utah Broadband and let them place antenna's on top of our schools. There will be a price per month per antenna.

2. leasing out some of our dark fiber. If the district ever needs the fibers back for district use the contract says we can do that.

We have been very thorough to make sure it will benefit the district.

Corey Holmes- Will we have the ability to pull back if we need more for our new schools etc?

Superintendent Sweat- Yes Corey we can. We make money off this while we are not using it.

Recommendation to approve the non-exclusive lease agreement by and between FIF Utah, LLC (dba Utah Broadband), and Wasatch County School District as presented in the agreement document.

Motion by Tyler Bluth, second by Kimberly Dickerson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

### **G. Board Report**

Discussion, Information: 1. Information/Updates

No report from the Board at this time.

### **H. Superintendent Report**

Heber City Council recently approved Saw Mill development agreement. It accommodated us to be able to negotiate a sale agreement inside the Saw Mill subdivision for a future school site. There is about 1000 homes going in around this area so this new school is needed. We need relief for Old Mill Elementary too. We are working with the developer to negotiate a contract. We should have something for the board to look at next month to secure site.

### **I. Adjournment**

Action, Procedural: 1. Adjourn Meeting- President Tom Hansen at 8:10pm

Motion by Tyler Bluth, second by Kimberly Dickerson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth, Marianne B Allen, Kimberly Dickerson

