

**March 9, 2022 Board Meeting**  
*Meeting Location: District Office/Virtual*  
*Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2022*

**Members present**

Lori Maughan, Merri Shumway, Steve Black, Lucille Cody (*arrived 3:30 pm*), Nelson Yellowman (*arrived 5:50 pm*)

**Others present**

Superintendent Ron Nielson, Human Resources Director Matt Keyes, Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton, Julie Holt, Christine Fitzgerald, Denece Kitto, Coerina Fife, Tom Corrao, David Brown, Paul Murdock, Eva Ewald

**Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM**

**A. Approval of Agenda - 3:00 p.m.**

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**1. Agenda Approval**

*Motion to approve the agenda.*

Motion by Steve Black, second by Merri B Shumway.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black  
Not Present at Vote: Lucille Cody, Nelson Yellowman

**B. SJ Quest Update**

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**1. Spotlight Report- Update: Present Art Programs in the District- Ron Nielson- 3 min**

Superintendent Nielson highlighted Georgiana Simpson, from Whitehorse High School, who was recognized by the Utah Art Education Association High School Art Educator of the Year. He commended her for her efforts and exceptional course content being brought to students. In conjunction with Ms. Simpson's recognition, he also highlighted the Art & Fine Art Programs throughout the district on commended them on their efforts to ensure quality art programs and faculty to our students.

**C. Board Discussion Items** (*Note, discussion items not discussed before 5PM break will be discussed later in the agenda at the board's discretion*)

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### **1. COVID 19 2021-22 School Entry Plan/ update Information- Ron Nielson- 5 min**

Superintendent Nielson noted excellent numbers of positive cases, with fewer than 6 in the district. He stated that the district will continue to follow the current protocols and be vigilant to student health and safety precautions.

### **2. School Land Trust – Proposed Due Dates – Ron Nielson – 1 min**

School Land Trust was discussed in the February 9 board meeting, and the dates presented have been advertised. It has been brought before the board as an Action Item later in the meeting. No concerns were presented for discussion.

### **3. Capital Plan Work Session - Tyrel Pemberton/ Tom Corrao/ Ron Nielson - 30 min**

Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton shared a document titled Capital Projects and Fund Analysis, where he presented a general breakdown of capital revenue and expenditures as well as a rough draft of major projects. Included in the document is a breakdown of when buildings would warrant remodels and replacements based on historical project timelines, as provided by Buildings and Grounds Director, Tom Corrao.

Mr. Pemberton shared another document titled Capital Projects and Fund Analysis No Projects attachment, which included the Analysis with the financial impact of the Blanding Elementary Project with only the ARL HVAC project listed, as it is an immediate issue that must be addressed.

The attachment titled Square Footage per Student will provide a rough look at the current space per student at each school.

Board President Lori Maughan requested from Mr. Pemberton that a Priority of Projects list be created. Mr. Pemberton agreed, Superintendent Nielson noted that the attachment titled Capital Projects Fund Analysis could be considered a rough draft of what would be presented on the priority list. He stated that, as the board requests, a priority list will be created from that information.

Board Vice President Steve Black questioned calculations where inflation and future revenue were concerned, as it relates to future projects, future revenue but itemized in today's dollars. He will meet with Mr. Pemberton later to review the documents and concerns in detail.

Board Member Merri Shumway shared rising concerns and community request for a study of cost to remodel or replace the San Juan High School gymnasium. She stated concerns about facility safety, current capacity shortcomings. She stated that crowds continue to grow at events and, as it has the largest student and activity population in the county, these facility concerns need to be addressed. She commended the community on their support of students and the increase of student participation, and would like the board to consider the possibilities in the

current capital planning discussion. Board President Maughan agreed that it could be included in discussion.

Superintendent Nielson inquired of the board if they would like to consider a Bond presentation in the future to consider all possible funding options. He also noted that, while it's not directly quantifiable in the capital plan, the impact of capital investment and salaries are vital in recruiting and retention of personnel, and San Juan School District needs to remain competitive and be mindful of our current issues in both aspects.

#### **4. Spend Plans/Program Sustainability Fees Discussion- Ron Nielson- 45min**

Superintendent Nielson shared the proposed Sustainability Fee Schedule, noting that from feedback, it reflects a 10% increase. Ten percent was calculated from an 8% increase from inflation and the fact that the schedule had not been increased in over 15 years. He stated that he shared the information for the increase and the Spend Plans via all social media and email avenues available to reach the public regarding the changes and reasoning. He noted that the district is still very conservative in the participation fees charged, compared to other districts in the state.

Superintendent Nielson also clarified that for National Level competitions that are included in the School Spend plans and the current practice has been that, through an agreement and support of the San Juan Foundation (SJF), students who are competing at National levels receive support in the amount of \$500 for National events in the West, and \$700 for National events in the East. Mr. Nielson recommended that this clarification be added to any Spend Plan with potential National Level attendance by students.

Other board member recommendations for edits include removing all cleats and shoes purchases from the plans, as these are not uniform require items, except in specific circumstances; removing all "senior gift" line items from spend plans as these should be considered optional and are not requisite for team play; adjusting the meal amount from \$11 to \$12, adding shorts or spunks to the Monticello High School Volleyball program spend plan, clarification on equipment items that can be provided and stored for fee waiver students (i.e. golf clubs, graduation gown and/or cap, baseball glove).

#### **5. Secondary Schools Spring Sports Schedules and 150 Mile Forms for 2022 – Ron Nielson – 3 minutes**

Superintendent Nielson presented additional Secondary Schools Spring Sports Schedules and 150 Mile forms for Whitehorse High School and Navajo Mountain High School.

#### **6. Extra-Curricular Handbook – Matthew Keyes – 15 min**

Human Resources Director Matthew Keyes presented a working draft of the District Extra-Curricular Handbook. He requested feedback on three main changes including: coach/scholastic additions, "flex" positions for 1A schools, and removal of Section 6 forms (which are now

completed online). The document is not presented for approval, and will continue to be edited and brought to the board in future meetings.

### **7. Audit Committee Member Discussion - Lori Maughan- 5 min**

The board selected two board members to serve on the Audit Committee; members will be Steve Black and Lori Maughan. The board may select outside members to participate on the committee at a later time. Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton noted that there is more information regarding the Audit Committee roles and procedures on the State Office of Education website.

### **8. SJSJ Policies 4120 and 4121 - Matthew Keyes- 5 min**

Human Resources Director Matthew Keyes presented recommended changes for Policy 4121 and 4120. Both were presented for updates in compliance.

### **9. Navajo Nation Health, Education, and Human Service Committee Visit Update- Ron Nielson- 10 min**

Superintendent Nielson updated the board regarding the meeting held with Navajo Nation Health, Education, and Human Service Committee. The meeting was initiated via complaint regarding mask rules within district schools. Superintendent shared the complexities of navigating the differing guidelines from the State of Utah and the Navajo Nation. Superintendent Nielson confirmed that the committee felt the district complied favorably with their directives and was positive. He noted that while the complaint initiated the meeting, there was much more discussion held regarding education and cultural climate. Superintendent, Administration and Board Members present had the opportunity to share the many efforts being extended towards Navajo Culture and Language Learning. He noted that another focus of the committee was curiosity regarding the working relationships in the board. Both Board members present reported a positive, balanced and fair collaboration effort from all members as well as administration. Overall, Superintendent Nielson expressed a positive outcome and extended his gratitude to those in attendance on behalf of the district.

### **10. Legislative Updates - Ron Nielson & Tyrel Pemberton- 10 min**

Business Administrator Tyrel Pemberton and Superintendent Ron Nielson shared a brief overview of the current bills brought before the Legislature in 2022.

### **11. Policy 5410- Julie Holt- 5 min**

Assistant Superintendent Julie Holt presented recommended adjustments to Policy 5410. She noted that with the increasing interest and development of our CTE CTSO clubs in our middle School grades, an inconsistency in Jr. High travel has come to light. While there is currently travel for Jr. High students to state competitions pre-approved, there is not pre-approved leadership positions in CTSO clubs. It also includes exemptions for overnight travel, region, state

and national competition opportunities from grades 4-8. The recommendation is that such exceptions would be presented on a case by case basis.

## D. School/Director - Board Reflection Opportunity 4:00 p.m.

### 1. Monument Valley High School Report - Coerina Fife- 10 min

Principal Coerina Fife shared goals, data, current progress, celebrations and challenges for Monument Valley High School. She also commented regarding the efforts for increased parent involvement and how the school is encouraging more parent and community involvement. Ms. Fife further noted that the fall to spring numbers of parent increase in participation have already exceeded the goal.

### 2. Tsebbii'nidzis'gai Elementary School Report- Denece Kitto- 10 min

Principal Denece Kitto shared goals, data, celebrations and challenges for Tsebbii'nidzis'gai Elementary School. Challenges include the long and often difficult commute for some students; road maintenance plays a role in this. She also expressed her main concern regarding the social and emotional needs of her staff and students, noting that there has been a great deal of grief and fear and the community, and it has certainly taken an effect on the children as well.

## E. Break - @ 5:00 p.m.

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## F. Welcome and Recognition of Guests - 6:00 p.m.

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## G. SJ<sup>2</sup> Recognition Awards

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### 1. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Christine Rock

### 2. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Misty Romero

### 3. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Marylena Yellowman

## H. Citizen Comments

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### 1. Citizens' Comments

Kristen Smith (community member and spouse of faculty member) commented in person. She expressed concerns with healthcare costs vs. teacher wages and the ratio spent per household on the district's plan on healthcare; she stated that the disparity has pushed many good teachers away and makes current salary unlivable. She encouraged the district, as the largest employer of San Juan County, to take action to make a difference and raise the standard of living in the county by addressing these concerns for employees.



Laneil Nakai (parent of WHS student) commented via email: *As a parent with Athletic scholars... I would suggest increasing the scholar meal amount to maybe \$15-\$20 a meal... When u add things up some scholars that qualify for the fee waiver never have the extra money to pay when meals are now costing more...the only place you can afford a meal on a bus trip would be McDonald's or Burger King. If that amount could be raised for next schoolyear Athletic scholars. Thank you.*

Joni Dickson (coach for WHS Girls' Basketball Team) commented via email: *As a coach for Whitehorse HS girls basketball team. my input for the proposed spend plan is that the Rate of Meal should increase to at least \$15 per meal. We've noticed that in most restaurants, meals cost a lot more than the \$10 that players are allocated. They typically get help from other teammates or the coaches. Because of this, they ultimately spend their money before it covers all meals they are initially given money for. Thank you. Respectfully, Joni Dickson*

Carolene Johnson (parent of WHS Jr. High student) commented via email: *Here are some suggestions and concerns: One of the ways to cut down on spending cost is have no school Friday. Have school Monday through Thursday. Another concern is that Whitehorse Junior High and High School need new uniforms for all sports. Lunch concern for Junior High – they only have 20 minutes to eat lunch. This is not healthy. Thank you, Concerned Parent.*

River Region Assistant Superintendent Christine Fitzgerald clarified regarding Ms. Johnson's comment that

## I. Closed Session (At Board Discretion, Closed Session may be moved)

### **1. Purchase, exchange or lease of real property**

### **2. Litigation**

### **3. Personnel**

*No motion for Closed Session.*

## J. Consent Agenda

### **1. Minutes**

### **2. Revenue Reports**

### **3. Expenditure Reports**

### **4. School Expenditure Reports**

### **5. Monthly Checks**

- 6. Board Travel Reports**
- 7. Personnel Report(s) and Information**
- 8. Home School Requests**
- 9. Student Hearings**
- 10. Approval of all Consent Agenda Items**

*Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.*

Motion by Lucille Cody, second by Steve Black.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Nelson Yellowman, Lucille Cody  
Not Present at Vote: Lucille Cody, Nelson Yellowman

## **K. Possible Action Items**

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### **1. COVID 19 Student Re-entry Plan Revisions**

*No action needed.*

### **2. SJSJ Capital Plan Next Steps**

*No action needed. Directive regarding more information given to administration.*

### **3. Extra-Curricular 150-Mile Trips**

*Motion to approve Extra-Curricular 150-Mile Trips.*

Motion by Lucille Cody, second by Steve Black.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

### **4. Proposed Land Trust Due Dates**

*Motion to approve Proposed Land Trust Due Dates.*

Motion by Steve Black, second by Lucille Cody.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

### **5. SJSJ Policies 4120 and 4121**

***Motion to approve recommended changes to District Policy 4120 and 4121.***

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Lucille Cody.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

## **6. 2022 Provisional Contract Renewal**

***Motion to approve the 2022 Provisional Contract Renewal.***

Motion by Lucille Cody, second by Steve Black.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

## **7. 2022-2023 SJSJ Program Sustainability Fee Schedule/ Spend Plans**

***Move to approve the 2022-2023 SJSJ Program Sustainability Fee Schedule / Spend Plans and to include that we do not approve any senior gifts for students, and all shoes/cleats be removed from the program spend plans as well.***

Motion by Merri B Shumway, second by Steve Black.

Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

***Move to amend the motion (above) by also approving the modified Program Sustainability Fee Schedule that is based on the presented 10% increase; also, to increase the meal allowance to \$12.00; and add a provision for National events on the spend plan, the wording of which would be delegated to Administration to specify assistance from the San Juan Foundation of \$500 for West Coast Travel and \$700 for East Coast Travel.***

Motion by Steve Black, second by Lucille Cody.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody

## **8. Policy 5410**

***Motion to approve Policy 5410.***

Motion by Lucille Cody, second by Steve Black.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nelson Yellowman, Merri B Shumway, Lori Maughan, Steve Black, Lucille Cody



L. Information Items

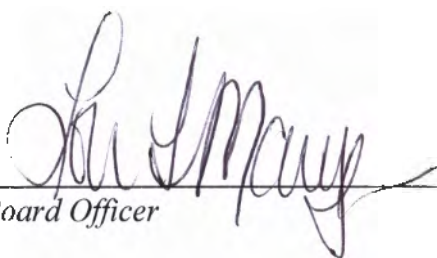
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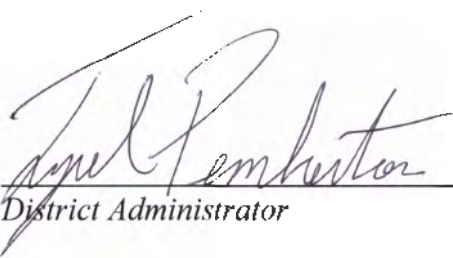
1. **Spring Break – No School – March 14-18, 2022**
2. **USBA 2022 Spring Regional Meeting Schedule – March 24, 2022 @ District Office 6:00 PM**
3. **Next Board Meeting-April 13, 2022 @ District Office/Virtual**

M. Adjournment

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1. Adjournment

  
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*Board Officer*

  
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*District Administrator*