

DRAFT MINUTES

March 7, 2023 - Wasatch County School District Board of Education Meeting (Tuesday, March 7, 2023)

A. Study Session

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Welcome by Board Member Hansen

Procedural: 2. Roll Call of Members

Members present

Board President, Tom Hansen

Board Vice President, Cory Holmes

Board Member, Kimberly Dickerson

Board Member, Tyler Bluth

Board Member, Marianne B. Allen (virtual attendance)

Superintendent, Paul Sweat

Business Administrator, Keith Johansen

Information: 1. School Fee Updates

Tod Johnson, Director of Teaching & Learning

Wes Bingham and Tod Johnson consulted with secondary principals to adjust school fees as needed. The following adjustments are included;

Wasatch High School Fee Schedule Updates -

Device fee \$40 will be removed

AP Tests 95-\$98

Prep ACT and Prep class 25-\$40

Yearbook 45-\$55

Drivers Ed Alt School 35-\$100(this price increases matches online Drivers Ed)

Pottery \$20-\$35

Student Travel(cost per activity) \$1500-\$1650

Middle Schools Fee Schedule Updates -

PE Clothes \$15-\$20

No basketball fee of \$50

Intro to cooking and childcare 10-\$15

Dance 1 fee removed

Dance 2 \$5-\$10

Drama 1 fee removed

Film intro, Film 1 and 2, Desktop Publishing, Movie Making 1 and 2 \$10-\$15

The fee schedules will be out for review until the next board meeting.

Tod Johnson shared, "For the State and primarily for the School District level, it is our desire that every student has every opportunity to participate in whatever they choose. Parents must complete the fee waiver and the student fees are waived in entirety if they qualify. We think the fee waivers may be underutilized, but we feel like we are trying hard to get the word out."

The District funds those students who cannot afford to participate, and fill out the fee waiver. We will support any student that wants to participate, it is important to connect students to activities."

During Board Meeting public comment will include the school fees. In the March 28th board meeting the board will solicit public comment as well. The communications director will send out the schedule asking for public feedback. The fee schedule should have board approval by April 1."

Information: 2. Wasatch High School Math Sequencing

Academic Director, Dr. Garrick Peterson -

"Ten years ago the state adopted different Math sequencing options. Secondary III is a very difficult class for a lot of students. This becomes a barrier for many of our kids. We have been looking for an opportunity to allow our students to leave Wasatch High School with a college Math credit of either 1030 or 1050. We have been given permission to run a pilot in this state to see what we can do with different sequencing to meet our goal of every kid getting college-level math credit."

Wasatch High Assistant Principal, Tara Jarvie shared, "This has been fun and challenging but we want to meet our goal. Our initial goal was to get kids to Math 1010 but now our loftier goal is to get kids to Math 1030 so they can get that college Math credit. Fundamental Algebra will be the remedial course that replaces Math of Personal Finance. This course will focus on reteaching the essential skills of Math I and Math II as well as introducing them to the Math III Essential skills needed for Intermediate Algebra. The course will be coded as Math III and upon completion students will be able to take Math 1010, 1030, or 1040. We have support for a 4-year Math program at WHS."

Superintendent Sweat included, "If you do not leave HS with a college Math credit unfortunately it's a difficult path. If you show up at college after a mission, a summer off, or whatever reason and you do not have a college Math class on your transcript students are required to take a placement test. Students have a hard time retaining math skills and they end up in the lowest level of prep math classes. Years ago 50% of Freshman coming from WHS to UVU already had their math course completed unless they were going into a degree that more math was required."

Board Member Kimberly Dickerson shared, "I am squirming with joy over this. I was the student that didn't finish college because of Math and so this makes me so happy."

Information: 3. 2023-24 School Year Calendar

Director of Communications, Kirsta Albert: -

"The calendar has been adjusted for the October Fall Break days and the Winter Break days. The comments from the community included that they felt the break was exceptionally long for parents, especially those who work and needed child care. We start early enough that we can finish the semester before Christmas Break."

Superintendent Sweat: "I am comfortable enough that I feel like we can pass this by vote tonight. The calendar has been out for review many times over the last 6 months."

The two extra PD days were given to us during the pandemic, and we have them for one more year. The teachers have loved and appreciated this time to collaborate and get the work done to help us meet our district goals as well as individual building goals. The PD that we are doing is powerful. We see the achievement needle move upward on our scores and we are really excited."

Board President Tom Hansen asked, "What days are the teachers working on grades vs. PD days?"

Principal Justin Kelly answered, "The high school will be working on grades on the second day of Professional Development days. The second day is more of a building day to collaborate as teams in the morning and they have the afternoon to finish up what they need to as far as grades."

Director Kirsta Albert continued, "The feedback we have gotten about Spring Break has been great. Parents and teachers are loving it."

President Tom Hansen, asked, "What about the virtual PD days? The teachers loved that as well. We heard a lot of great feedback from that day and how appreciative they were for being allowed to do that."

Board Member Maryanne B Allen shared, "I have had one teacher ask that the PD days be kept together. Also, do we need to put this out for 30-day review again?"

President Tom Hansen responded, "I am very hesitant to put this out for review again. We have worked on this calendar for a long time and we are looking to approve this version tonight at the regular board meeting."

The calendar does not need to go out for review again.

Information: 4. Round Table Discussion Items

Director of Elementary Education, Dr. Eric Campbell updated the board on policy. "We have been working on policy updates since the last board meeting. We have the meeting twice a month and are working on board policies first. There are some others since the legislature just finished up that we will need to review.

Our goal is to get through all policies in the next 5 years. The safe school policy is at the top of the list. We have had a few trainings with administration on this already. We see there are areas we want to update with more current information."

Director of HR/Operations, Shawn Kelly, update the School Board about an Emergency App that will be implemented in the schools. "The emergency app is part of what we are learning/training on as well. The team will be back in April but all the Principals loved it and are excited to get it up and running. We should be able to have it going at the beginning of the new school year. Every employee will have this app."

Mr. Kelly included an update about hiring staff for next school year. The District has about 20 job openings right now. The applications are fewer than a two or three years ago but the good news is the number of job fairs and candidates are increasing. The district had 20 applications for the History openings, 3-5 for Biology, English 15, and Elementary is about 10. Teacher salaries are competitive and one of the highest in the state, and the district insurance package is great. This sets us apart and teachers want to come here and work. Mr. Kelly included, "Thank you to the School Board for their commitment to teacher salaries and benefits."

B. Board of Education Meeting

Called to order at 6:32PM

Welcome by Board Member Hansen

Board President Tom Hansen, "Welcome, we would like to thank everyone for being here, especially the student-athletes. Good to see all your faces and congratulations on your big accomplishments at State."

Procedural: 2. Roll Call of Members

Members present

Board President, Tom Hansen

Board Vice President, Cory Holmes

Board Member, Kimberly Dickerson

Board Member, Tyler Bluth
Board Member, Marianne B. Allen (virtual attendance)

Superintendent, Paul Sweat
Business Administrator, Keith Johansen

C. Celebration/Information

Principal Kelly celebrated the State Wrestling Champions, "The boys wrestled really well at State and we ended up with three State Champs and ten State placers. The boys represented Wasatch High really well. This sport takes a lot of hard work and dedication and these are good boys. Education is the most important thing and wrestling is second. Thanks for all your hard work."

The three State Champs speak to what this sport has taught them and how it has impacted them.

President Tom Hansen honored Coach Wade Discher, "Coach Discher, you're a legend. You are what we are looking for in new coaches, and you're a great example. What has coaching wrestling taught you?"

Coach Discher responded, "Wrestling has taught me a lot and as I reflected over the last year or so I don't take anything for granted. I have enjoyed every second and every relationship I have made and I will always cherish these years."

Superintendent Sweat added that Coach Discher has left his mark on this community and he also has left a mark on my family personally. Coach Discher cares about kids at every level. Success comes from hard work and they are following the influence of their coach. "Thank you so much, Wade."

Principal Kelly, included, "Steph is just as important to this community and the wrestling team as Coach Discher. We are so proud of both of them and thanks for all of their support and influence over the years."

Special Announcement -

President Hansen explained, "We have had the opportunity to do something we have never done before in 28 years to be exact. The process has been awesome. We interviewed multiple candidates. The board has two hiring responsibilities 1.) Hire the Superintendent and 2.) Hire the Business Administrator. The future of the district is at play here and as the President, I can say we have made some very hard decisions. We have had to stand up and stand behind our decisions. If Keith said "No" we didn't make that decision, we followed his lead. We have had the confidence and courage to move forward with some big decisions because of Keith. His integrity and judgment and skill in what he knows has benefited us greatly. Big shoes to fill in Keith's place."

Dr. Jason Watt was announced as the new Business Administrator for Wasatch School District. He has worked for Wasatch for over 25 years.

President Hansen included, "I've always said, you interview for your next role every day, and Jason has done that. It has been a pleasure to work with you. We are so excited to have you as a member of our team. The board makes decisions together as a team and we are excited that you will be part of that team from here on out."

Board Member Tyler Bluth, added, "I can't think of a better person to be on our team. We are excited to go through the next tough decisions with you on our team."

Board Member Kimberly Dickerson shared, "This hire is about what Jason brings to this team and his integrity, just like Keith's will be just one of the qualities Jason brings to the table. Jason can back up his trustworthiness and integrity."

Board Member Cory Holmes said, "I am excited to have you as part of the team. We know you will help us make good financial decisions and for the students as well."

Superintendent Sweat added, "We showed up at the same time and our careers have mirrored one another. Jason has been a big support to Keith and I. He is well prepared for this job and we are excited for what he brings to the team."

Dr. Jason Watt addressed the School Board, "I am genuinely excited about this new stage in my career. I can't imagine working in any other place. These people behind me helped me get to where I am. This District community has helped me prepare and Keith has also been a great example to me. I am really excited to work more closely with you to make courageous future decisions for this District. Thank you so much!"

D. Community Comment

Public comments will be accepted for approximately twenty (20) minutes. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes.
No comments made.

1. In accordance with U.C.A. R277-407-6, Wasatch County School District Board of Education will hold public comment for consideration of the 2023-24 school fee schedules.

No comments made.

Director Tod Johnson discussed the school fee adjustments in the Study Session prior to the board meeting. Additional public comment will be taken on March 28th, at the next Board Meeting.

E. Consent Items

Action (Consent): 1. Consideration of Consent Items

Minutes: 2. School Board Meeting Minutes - January 19, 2023

Minutes: 3. School Board Meeting Minutes - January 24, 2023

4. Employee Separations

5. Employee New Hires

6. Financials

7. Home School Affidavits

8. School Choice

9. Staff or Student Travel

Motion to approve consent items by Kimberly Dickerson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

F. Action Items

Action: 1. Elevation Curriculum: ELL Program Management Platform - Tod Johnson, Director of Teaching & Learning

Ellevation is an English Language Learners support program. The software organizes information and helps educators set goals for students learning English. The program would be state funded.

Ellevation Curriculum, an ELL program management platform, 1,075 licenses, 12/1/2023 - 6/30/2026 for \$62,595.46.

Motion to approve by Cory Holmes, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: 2. Imagine Learning Curriculum: ELL Adaptive Learning Program - Tod Johnson, Director of Teaching & Learning

Imagine learning is a software for English Language Learners, both Secondary and Elementary. It is used to enhance vocabulary development. The cost for this software is \$22,780.00 and will be funded through a state grant.

Approve Imagine Learning Quote for \$22,780; 134 licenses; January 31-2023 - June 30, 2024

Motion to approve by Tyler Bluth, second by Kimberly Dickerson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: 3. 2023-24 School Year Calendar - Kirsta Albert, Director of Communications

Revisions were made as discussed at the study session meeting to the 2023-2024 school calendar. This revision concerns the PD days surrounding Fall Break and Winter Break. The comments from the community included that the break was very long for parents, especially for those who work and need child care.

Recommendation to approve this calendar.

Board Member Maryanne B Allen asked, "Do we have a requirement to post the revised calendar?"

President Tom Hansen responded, "Jared Anderson our council says he is not aware of any requirements."

Motion to approve by Kimberly Dickerson, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: 4. Juul Settlement/Frantz Law Group - Keith Johansen, Business Administrator

Jared Anderson, District Council addressed the board explaining that last year Wasatch County School District joined with 1,494 other districts joined to bring claims against Juul Lab Inc(vaping-related material). We have received a proposed settlement and those agreements are to remain confidential. We bring this settlement agreement to the board tonight with the recommendation to accept as presented.

Motion to approve by Kimberly Dickerson, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: 5. Real Property Purchase Agreement - Superintendent Sweat

The property is to the South East side of the new high school property site. A five acre lot owned by Mrs. McNaughten. Mrs. McNaughten has accepted our offer of \$930,000 which includes four shares of Spring Creek ditch irrigation, and one share of sagebrush irrigation. Recommendation for the board to approve this site and purchase agreement as presented.

Motion to approve by Cory Holmes, 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

Board Vice President, Cory Holmes - Multicultural Night was a fun event and very successful at Timpanogos Middle School.

H. Superintendent Report

Last night was Sterling Scholars night at UVU. Wasatch had three Champs and six runners up. We will have these students come to a Board meeting so we can celebrate them.

1. National School Boards Conference, March 31 - April 3, 2023

I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Kimberly Dickerson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

J. Executive Session

Information: 1. Section 52-4-5 of the Open Meetings Act identifies the topics that may be discussed in a closed meeting. Discussion to purchase, exchange or lease of real property; character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; pending or reasonably imminent litigation; and or collective bargaining.

Adjourn to executive session for matters of personnel.

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