

School Board Meeting  
Wednesday, October 14, 1998  
Ferron Elementary, Ferron, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Royd Hatt, Roger Swenson, Marie Johnson, Laurel Johansen and Sharman Seamons. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Roger Swenson to accept the warrants and minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathy Petersen, Principal at Ferron Elementary favored the Board with a slide presentation about the faculty and staff at her school. She requested the Board consider the replacement of some outdated equipment including the fire alarm system, intercom system, and restroom stall doors. She asked the Board to support elementary school counseling and look to the needs of the children who are affected by these programs. Mrs. Petersen requested the Board approve a fifth grade field trip to Grand Junction, Colorado to see a play about Ann Frank and also to visit a museum. Motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Roger Swenson to approve the field trip. Motion passed unanimously. The Board thanked Mrs. Petersen for the excellent job she and her staff are doing at Ferron Elementary and for all the help they provide to kids.

Kirk and Julie Johansen appeared before the Board and requested a property trade. They would like to trade a lot they own on center street, directly south of Lecta Olsen's home, for a lot the school district owns east of their property, lot #25 of Castle Dale Heights Plat "C". It was the consensus of the Board that no action could be taken until the two properties were appraised. It was pointed out to Mr. Johansen that lot #25 is not a buildable lot because it is not on an improved street. However, water and sewer connections have been provided and they are not provided on the lot they offer for trade.

A discussion was held concerning the proposed utility audit contract with the Snelgrove Corporation. A motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Sharman Seamons to authorize the Business Administrator to sign the necessary contract documents. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the following personnel be hired to fill vacancies in the District: Julie Steuer, FACT Instructional Assistant, Book Cliff Elementary; Kerrilyn Alton, Preschool Instructional Assistant, Cottonwood Elementary; Jim Fielder, Kevin Reynolds, Mark Justice, Daryl Littlefield, and Rick Frost, Assistant Football Coaches at Emery High School. A motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the names as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Having reviewed copies of a technology student survey that the Surweb project is asking to conduct with our students, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Laurel Johansen, to approve the survey. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud informed the Board that the October 1 enrollment for the District was 3102 students which is down 3.9% from last falls enrollment of 3228.

A brief discussion was held concerning the Employee Recognition Program. The new program would tie employee recognition to an outstanding program, project, or accomplishment with

which the employee is involved. Motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Roger Swenson to approve the program as presented and a monetary award, if attached, would be decided at a later date. Motion passed unanimously.

The following policies were presented to the Board for final approval: GDPA, Reduction in Force - Support Staff; GCD - Staff Hiring and GDBE - Support Staff Vacations and Holidays. Motion was made by Sharman Seamons and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve these policies. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Laurel Johansen to approve the schedules and travel for both the girls and boys basketball teams for Emery High School. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud presented information to the Board about the legislative recommendations of the Utah School Boards Association and the Utah School Superintendents Association. Some of the areas of interest this year are: 1) Reducing costs to parents by eliminating textbook fees and replacing them with legislative appropriations. 2) Revision of formulas to allow more schools to qualify for Necessarily Existent Small School Funding. 3) Applied technology education throughout Utah by providing a new center in Moab and satellite centers in Monticello and Green River.

The Superintendent reminded the Board that they have a meeting with the legislators at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at Castle Dale Elementary School.

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the new consent/insurance notification /physical exam form to be used by all junior high and high school students wishing to participate in interscholastic sports. As a part of the new process all students and their parents must sign the necessary form prior to participating and or practicing for a sport. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sharman Seamons to approve the forms and process as recommended. Motion passed unanimously.

The Superintendent informed the Board that three schools from the Emery District had been awarded 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Status by the State Office of Education based on their respective applications. Cash awards have been present to Castle Dale Elementary of \$11,723, Ferron Elementary \$13,802 and San Rafael Jr High School \$17,204. The Board expressed appreciation to the Principals, Geniel Huntington, Kathy Petersen and Merlin Weber and to their faculties for their extra efforts in securing the status and funding.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve a proposal from Larry Davis to print a program for the new Spartan Center. Mr. Davis would have the journalism class develop a program including stories and photos about the new facility to have available for the open house and dedication. The program would also be available afterwards for all interested parties. Estimated printing costs are \$700. A motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Sharman Seamons to approve the project and the printing costs which are to be paid by the District.

Merlin Weber, Principal at San Rafael Jr. High School was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Weber requested the Board approve the acquisition of 1) storage cabinets for band instruments (\$7,500), 2) new stage curtains (\$8,000), 3) sealant for the new tile floor (\$?) and 4) two new coat racks (\$1,084.20). Motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Roger Swenson to approve

items 1,2, and 3. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Weber was directed to get with Mike Huntsman and determine what needed to be done to improve the heating at San Rafael and then to report back to the Board at a later date.

Superintendent Sitterud reminded the Board that the Utah School Board Association's next regional meeting is at the Oak Crest Inn in Spanish Fork on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. He also handed out to the Board the new district directory.

A building progress report was presented by the Business Administrator. The hardwood floor is almost down, crews have begun laying flooring tile, bleacher placement will begin next week and other areas continue to move towards completion.

Yvonne Jensen was welcomed to the meeting to discuss the elementary school speech and hearing program. The Board thanked Yvonne for her input and will take her suggestions under advisement.

Motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation and personnel issues. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Marie Johnson to deny the request of Bert Jensen, teacher at San Rafael Jr. High School for lump sum distribution of medical insurance proceeds rather than have the District purchase insurance for him. It was noted that Mr. Jensen plans to retire at the end of this school year but does not qualify for either of the District's Early Retirement Programs. He would have to teach approximately two and one half more years in order to qualify. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Laurel Johansen to approve the extension of medical insurance benefits for Reba Hansen up to and including the month prior to her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was noted that the District had intervened in the Waiver of Premium Disability Benefit denial by Educator's Mutual on behalf of Mrs. Hansen and the District. The denial had been reversed, the waiver of premium granted, and the District stood to gain the equivalent of twenty four months of premium costs, a portion of which should be passed on to the subject. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve Kim Player, District Speech and Hearing Specialist, to travel to Minnesota to attend the annual UAACT "Bridge the Gap" conference. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the hiring of one additional custodian and transfer one person from the maintenance department to provide custodial and maintenance services for Spartan Center and the Auditorium. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. Motion passed.