

Minutes of the Board of Education  
Emery County School District  
November 6, 2002  
Book Cliff Elementary, Green River, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Royd Hatt, Sam Singleton, Rue Ware and Marie Johnson. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Nolan Johnson, Principal at Book Cliff Elementary School (BCES) and Green River High School (GRHS) was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Johnson explained about the incentive reading program implemented at BCES this year. Students receive points for reading a book and passing a quiz about the book. They are then able to use their points to purchase items at the Reading Counts Store. Since the program began some two months ago, there has been a noticeable increase in student reading.

Mr. Johnson requested the Board of Education assist BCES with the purchase of a new copy machine. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the District participate on a 50/50 basis with BCES on this purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board's consideration in solving problems with corroded pipes in the building and the lack of outside lighting. He also expressed concern about the lack of heat in the kindergarten room. Mr. Johnson then requested the Board consider the feasibility of constructing a new practice gymnasium at GRHS. They have numerous demands for use of the gym from various programs at the school plus additional demands from community programs so scheduling becomes a real problem. Junior High games are often scheduled for Saturday morning because the gym is unavailable any other time. The Board thanked Mr. Johnson and his staff for the excellent job they are doing to help kids and told him they would have maintenance look into the heating, lighting, and plumbing problems.

Principal Johnson then requested Board approval to remove a wall on the mezzanine of GRHS to make way for the new physical education equipment they will receive under the PEP federal grant. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the removal of the wall as outlined in the drawing presented. The motion passed unanimously.

After a brief explanation of the Administrative Outreach Program, a program that reimburses the District for administrative costs incurred in providing services to special education children, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the renewal of a three year contract with the Jordan School District to serve as fiscal agent for the program. The

motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Program Report as prepared and presented by the Business Administrator. The motion passed unanimously.

Duane Merrell, Teacher and Coach at Emery High School, appeared before the Board and asked for clarification of athletic eligibility for ninth grade students.

Mr. Merrell, in his capacity as teacher, requested the Board consider the possibility of recognizing students who graduate with more credits than are required in math, science and English. He suggested a different type diploma or perhaps a different color of robe at graduation.

Following a discussion of the matter, it was the consensus of the Board that the high schools should move forward with some type of recognition for those students who take extra English, math and science classes.

Superintendent Sitterud asked the Board to consider the possibility of eliminating the pole vault as an event. Elimination is recommended by the track coaches at Emery High School, Darrell Gardner and Kevin Reynolds, due to cost and safety matters. After consideration, it was decided to have the coaches send the Board a letter stating the impact on student scholarships and on the sport of track.

The next item discussed was the 40 acres of property the District owns near Elmo. The Sheriff's Office has asked the District to post the property so they can enforce trespass laws and address complaints from nearby residents. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the Superintendent's direction to the Maintenance Department to post the property. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve two, three hour instructional assistant positions at BCES to assist a student who has severe muscular dystrophy and one, eight hour per week bus aide (temporary) to ride the Castle Valley Center bus and monitor a 17 year old student with severe mental and emotional disabilities. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended that Margaret Putnam and Glade Westwood be approved for hire by the Transportation Department as bus drivers. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

A proposal from San Rafael Jr High School for a new science lab was presented by the Superintendent. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and

seconded by Rue Ware to table the motion until next meeting to allow more time to study the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

Information about current graduation requirements of all but one of the 40 school districts along with two alternative proposals for graduation requirements from the State Board of Education were presented to the Board for their review.

Kristine Robinson, a prospective bus driver, expressed concern over the difficulties she has experienced in trying to obtain certification and requested that the Board examine ways to assist with training. She was advised that the Board will look into the matter.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn to executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session, Principal Johnson was directed to refer a 17 year old male student at GRHS to Juvenile Court rather than release him from attendance.

A motion was mad by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.