

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
March 3, 2004
Huntington Elementary School, Huntington, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Rue Ware, Sam Singleton, Marie Johnson and Royd Hatt. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent, and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants as presented and to approve the minutes from both the January 7th and the February 4th meetings of 2004. The motion passed unanimously.

Tom Baltzer, Principal at Huntington Elementary School was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Baltzer explained about the various reading and literacy programs at his school, including the "I Can Read" program where aides provide one-on-one reading intervention two days a week for students grade 1-3 who are at risk readers. There are five trained CLIP teachers who provide reading intervention with first grade students five days per week. All students at Huntington Elementary are involved in the "Peer Tutoring Program" either as a tutor or a tutee. Seventh graders from Canyon View Jr High School work with fourth graders four days per week and first graders are reading to sixth graders. Fourth graders are working with the kindergarten students in both reading and language.

Mr. Baltzer went on to explain that this past year they had purchased a large number of books to really increase the size of their library. They now have 1,000 sets of leveled books for teachers to check out and provide group instruction at the student's instructional level. Mr. Baltzer stated that next year they plan to direct the State Trust Land money towards the math programs.

Next item on the agenda was an update on the Comprehensive Guidance Program (CGP) from the counselors. Karen Bishop, Counselor at San Rafael Jr High School and Green River High School introduced the program and requested a letter of support from the Board. The letter is necessary in order for the program to pass its periodic review. Nancy Karpowitz, Counselor at Canyon View Jr High School and Emery High School (EHS) gave a detailed power-point presentation about the CGP. Adele Huntington, Counselor at EHS, requested Board permission to purchase and distribute to the parents of all incoming 10th graders an informational brochure. The brochure, which costs about \$2 each, helps to explain many of the new things a student will experience as they begin the exciting new journey through high school. After carefully reviewing the sample brochure and discussing its pros and cons, it was the consensus of the Board to approve the request.

Following a discussion on leasing water shares to the various cities a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to authorize the Business Administrator to negotiate leases so that the District generates enough revenue to cover irrigation company assessments. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the early retirement request of Karen Brown, the district speech and hearing specialist. Mrs. Brown has sufficient points to be eligible for participation under district policy GCPCAA. Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board also approve the request for early retirement from Wendy Hodson, the district's Title One Teacher/Coordinator. Mrs. Hodson is one-quarter point short of the required 75. Superintendent Sitterud recommended the board waive the one-quarter point. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to accept the Superintendent's recommendations and approve Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Hodson for participation in the early retirement program. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the request from Jodi Willson, teacher at San Rafael Jr High School, for eight ninth graders to attend an overnight State FCCLA Convention in Provo on April 1-2. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the trip provided the group has the proper number of chaperones and meets all other requirements for overnight trips. The motion passed unanimously.

After reviewing a request from the Emery District Junior High School science teachers, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve a \$10 science lab fee. The fee will be charged all eighth graders and is for the purchase of safety goggles. Goggles will be individualized, will be the property of the student, and will follow the student when he or she leaves the school. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud provided the Board with information about current enrollment. District wide we are down 58 students since the October 1 count, however, 25 of those are early graduates from EHS. He informed the Board that the Regional Board meeting will be held on March 18 at 6:00 PM in Spanish Fork and then updated the Board on legislation.

Ross Huntington informed the Board about the significant rise in heating bills. January's heating costs were \$50,198 compared to last year's costs of \$32,539, an increase of \$17, 659. Electrical bills have also increased about \$10,000 over last year. As a result, some improvement projects may have to be delayed.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn to executive session to discuss possible litigation and personnel issues. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.