

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
March 7, 2007
Canyon View Junior High School, Huntington, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen, who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other board members present were Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton, and Rue Ware. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud was present as was Business Administrator Jared Black.

Others attending the meeting included Jed Jensen—District Elementary Supervisor, Larry Davis—Principal of Canyon View Junior High School, and Leroy Maxfield—District Director of Maintenance. Kim Player and Carol Ediger represented the Emery Education Association. Thelma Livingston, Ben Carroll and Delena Fish were also in attendance. The press was not represented. Robert Gilbert arrived during the presentation given by Ben Carroll.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation from the Department of Workforce Services to Superintendent Sitterud. Delena Fish requested to the Board that her presentation be delayed as she was still waiting for her co-presenter to arrive at the meeting.

Ben Carroll, Band Director at Emery High School, was next to address the Board of Education. Mr. Carroll presented to the Board a request to adjust the extra duty pay for his current position. Included in the presentation was an analysis of extra duty pay for band programs in other Utah school districts, as well as a summary of the extra duty hours that Mr. Carroll has worked over the last two school years. Superintendent Sitterud thanked Mr. Carroll for his presentation and indicated that J.J. Grant is currently working on an analysis of all extracurricular pay in the District and that the information presented by Mr. Carroll would be forwarded to Mr. Grant. Board President Johansen also thanked Mr. Carroll for his work at the high school.

Mrs. Johansen then invited Delena Fish and Robert Gilbert of the Utah Department of Workforce Services to the front of the room to make their presentation to Superintendent Sitterud. Ms. Fish recognized and thanked Superintendent Sitterud for 9 years of service as a member of the Regional Executive Council for the Department of Workforce Services. Superintendent Sitterud commented that he had enjoyed his time on the Council, and would continue if it were not for his upcoming responsibilities as President of the Utah School Superintendents Association for the 2007-08 school year.

The first action item was to consider the warrants, minutes for the February Board meeting, and monthly financial report for February. Business Administrator Black presented the Board with an updated copy of the minutes under consideration. A motion was made by Rue Ware to approve the minutes as presented, as well as the warrants and the February financial reports. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Black presented bids for a gymnasium sound system at Green River High School to the Board. After consideration of each bid, Sam Singleton moved to approve the bid of \$4,941 from Rockland Music of Price, UT. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Other bids submitted were from peavey.com (\$6,200) and musicianfriend.com (\$5,020). The sound system will be installed by District employees as soon as the equipment arrives.

The next item on the agenda was an executive session. Board President Johansen recommended that the executive session be delayed until all other items and reports on the agenda had been presented.

Principal Larry Davis gave a report on Canyon View Junior High School. Principal Davis emphasized that in preparation for its upcoming accreditation, the school will be emphasizing Desired Results for Student Learning (DRSL's). The school continues to utilize Improvement Teams successfully. Canyon View Junior High has been experiencing declining enrollment numbers, which should continue for another year or two before those numbers begin to level off. Principal Davis mentioned numerous successful programs and initiatives the school has been involved with, including monetary donations to charitable organizations, food and clothing drives, a homework helper program, and the Top Cat achievement program, which recognizes student success in service, academics, citizenship, attendance, and meeting standards in Accelerated Reading.

Principal Davis has also been pleased with the high student participation in various activities offered by the Castle Valley Activities Association. The school has several capital improvement needs, which were reviewed for the Board. The school also operates many of its useful programs through grant monies, for which Principal Davis mentioned his appreciation. Board President Johansen expressed appreciation to Principal Davis for the passion and compassion that he brings to his position, also recognizing the excellent preparation his students receive before moving on to high school.

Superintendent Sitterud reported to the Board on the recent Utah legislative session, highlighting several of the bills that will impact the School District. The Superintendent discussed the impact of the Education Voucher bill, also mentioning that there has been a referendum filed with the Lieutenant Governor's office to let the voters decide the outcome of the voucher issue. Superintendent Sitterud and Mrs. Player informed the Board of the legal procedures for gaining petition signatures. Some of the bills mentioned include: School District Funding, Student Assessment Amendments, Optional Extended Kindergarten, and Teacher Association Amendments.

Business Administrator Black informed the Board that the District's life insurance policies will be switched from Beneficial Life to The Hartford, beginning April 1st. Mr. Black invited Mr. Maxfield to report on the gymnasium construction in Green River. Mr. Maxfield reported that the project is proceeding well and is ahead of schedule, with possible completion by the end of the school year. Mr. Black also presented to the Board an updated schedule for classification of District positions.

At 8:35 p.m., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn to closed meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session, Superintendent Sitterud presented to the Board the following requests for resignation, retirement, and/or participation in District early retirement policies. After careful consideration, Sam Singleton moved to approve all requests as presented, with the added stipulation that any employee wishing to withdraw his or her request must do so on or before March 31st, 2007. Rue Ware seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

The following is a complete summary of these requests as approved by the Board of Education.

The following employee has submitted a letter of intent to resign, effective May 25, 2007:

- *Julie Duncan* *Educational Assistant* *Ferron Elementary*

The following employee has submitted a letter of intent to retire at the end of the current contract year:

- *Helen Piacitelli* *Teacher* *Huntington Elementary*

The following employees have submitted letters of intent to retire at the end of the current contract year, as well as applications to receive full benefits offered under District Policy GCPCAA "Early Retirement":

- *Shannon Olsen* *Teacher* *Castle Dale Elementary*
- *Lana Kofford* *Teacher* *Huntington Elementary*
- *Valinda Roush* *Teacher* *Huntington Elementary*
- *Julie Johansen Love* *Teacher* *Huntington Elementary*
- *Sharyn Hughes* *Teacher* *Book Cliff Elementary*
- *Art Hughes* *Teacher* *Green River High*
- *Christy Bingham* *Teacher* *Cottonwood Elementary*
- *Carol Ediger* *Teacher* *Ferron Elementary*
- *Adele Huntington* *Counselor* *Emery High*
- *Bill Jensen* *Bus Driver*
- *Marianne Hunter* *Administrative Secretary* *District Office*
- *Joan Healy* *Educational Assistant* *San Rafael Junior High*
- *Paula Caldwell* *Child Nutrition Manager* *Huntington Elementary*
- *Garth Childs* *Maintenance Worker*
- *Karrie Behling* *Educational Assistant* *Emery High*
- *Connie Ware* *Educational Assistant* *Cottonwood Elementary*
- *Cheryl Lyn Morgan* *Child Nutrition Worker* *San Rafael Junior High*

The following employees have submitted letters of intent to retire at the end of the current contract year, as well as applications to receive full benefits offered under District Policy GCPCAB "District Purchase of Employee Service Credit":

- *Alan Gurr* *Teacher* *Ferron Elementary*
- *Kelly Alton *** *Assistant Principal* *Emery High*

** Board approval is granted on the condition that stipulations included in Mr. Alton's letter of request are resolved on or before March 31, 2007.

As stated above, all requests can be withdrawn by the applicant on or before March 31, 2007.

Following the approval of these requests, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.