

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The March 2012 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Emery High School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud was also present as was Business Administrator Jared Black.

President Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition: Principal Larry Davis recognized the coaches and students from the Emery High School swimming and debate teams for their recent achievement of winning their respective region championships. Members of the coaching staff as well as students added comments. Members of the Board expressed their congratulations.

Board Action Item (B1): Dixie Fielder, District Counselor, presented the comprehensive guidance program plan for the 2012-13 school year. She noted some of the highlights and challenges of the program and outlined how the program is structured to meet State of Utah requirements. Members of the Board thanked her for her presentation, commenting on how useful the information in her report is to them. Marie Johnson made a motion to approve the plan as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (B2): Principal Jim Jones requested approval from the Board for Canyon View Junior High to modify their currently unused greenhouse space so that it can be used as an in-school suspension classroom, a tutoring hall, and for resource aides in working with their students. He explained that the plan would involve building a wall to separate the boiler from the rest of the room, then making minor repairs to the room and adding some carpet. He projected the total cost to be around \$1,000. School custodians would perform the majority of the work. The maintenance department would also need to assist in building a second access point to the room, likely through one of the brick walls.

Member Marie Johnson commented that as a volunteer at the school, this additional space is definitely needed. Irene Allred from the maintenance department added that the remodel could be done, however it would be very difficult to build a doorway through the existing wall. The Board discussed whether the trailer at the school could be used, however because it is located across the parking lot from the main school building, it would not be a suitable space for the one-on-one tutoring room the school is looking for. A motion was made by Marie Johnson to approve the project, pending coordination between the school and the maintenance department to work out appropriate details. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item (B3): Mr. Black commented that the District is in a position where it must increase school lunch prices in order to meet federal regulations. He and Child Nutrition Director Jeneane Warren would not be recommending the increases otherwise. He explained that federal regulations require that the District specifically demonstrate that it is not subsidizing paid lunches from revenues received from the free and reduced reimbursement. Mrs. Warren provided a calculation of necessary increases in order to meet this federal requirement. The average paid lunch price in the District is currently \$1.87 and it must increase to \$2.01.

The recommendation from Mrs. Warren is that Elementary prices go up five cents, from \$1.70 to \$1.75. Junior High prices would increase twenty-five cents, from \$2.00 to \$2.25 and High School prices would also increase twenty-five cents, from \$2.25 to \$2.50. These increases would make the average paid lunch price in the District \$2.01. Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented. Nanette Tanner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Board Action Item (B4): Members of the Board reviewed the consent agenda, including the warrants, minutes for the February 2012 Board meeting and financial reports for January and February 2012. A motion was made by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item (B5): Mr. Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

<i>Sarena Shorts:</i>	<i>Educational Assistant, 3 hr, Ext-Day Kindergarten</i>	<i>Book Cliff Elementary</i>
<i>Kim Dyer:</i>	<i>Educational Assistant, 3 hr, Resource</i>	<i>Canyon View Junior High</i>
<i>Sydney Larsen:</i>	<i>Bus Driver, Route</i>	<i>Transportation</i>

Nanette Tanner motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. Sam Singleton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

Board Action Item (B6): Mr. Sitterud presented the following policy change to the Board. He recommended that it be approved as presented:

- a. **Policy JJIB: Interscholastic Athletics (Revision)** – Revised to reflect Board request to integrate UHSAA rule with regard to tryouts and sports eligibility at another school for junior high students.

Following a brief discussion and explanation of the policy recommendation, Marie Johnson motioned to approve the policy action as presented. Sam Singleton seconded the motion. Members Johansen, Hatt, Johnson and Singleton voted in favor of the motion. Member Tanner abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Board Action Item (B7): Mr. Black reminded the Board that this item had been tabled from the February meeting in order to gather a data set that could be evaluated in regards to the District transportation operation and purchase of buses. He explained that many years ago, the Board agreed to purchase 2 buses a year until the entire fleet had been replaced with diesel engines. Since the time that replacement was completed several years ago, the Board has not had a follow-up discussion to review the bus replacement rotation. The District has continued to purchase and salvage two buses each year.

He and Roger Swenson contacted all Districts in the State and received responses from 32 of the 41 Districts. Based on the responses, the typical mileage Districts are running buses averages 200,000 miles which is close to what Emery School District is doing now. Mrs. Johnson added that she had reviewed the data and felt the District might be able to run on 5 buses every 3 years, instead of the current rotation of 2 buses each year (or 6 buses every 3 years). This would provide some savings for the District and still allow the fleet of buses to be relatively new and low-maintenance. Mr. Swenson added his recommendation that the District continue to purchase 2 buses each year. Mrs. Johnson commented that she would be okay with purchasing two buses this year as long as the Board continues to discuss and evaluate the bus rotation annually.

Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the purchase of two buses. The bid from Bryson's is \$111,087 per bus for a total of \$222,174. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

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Board Action Item (B8): Mr. Black recommended that the Board approve a contract with Weidenhammer Systems for their Alio financial software package. He explained that because the state-supported financial software is being dropped at the end of 2012, the school district will need a replacement software implemented by the end of the year. The implementation is very extensive and will take the remainder of the year. Emery combined with 22 other districts in the State in selecting the Alio product. The contract price is \$71,237 for the first year with annual support estimated to be \$9,753 in the second year. Sam Singleton made a motion to approve the contract as recommended. Nanette Tanner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (B9): Mr. Black explained that until the middle part of 2011, the District had always used Great American Plan Administrators (GAPA) for 403(b) administration. In 2011, GAPA decided to sell their business to TSA Consulting Group and by default, the District became a client of TSA. Because TSA is a national company with almost no Utah presence, the District wanted to look into the possibility of finding a more local 403(b) administrator. National Benefit Services out of the Salt Lake area can provide this administration at no cost to the District. Fees are paid for by 403(b) vendors. The District has worked with NBS on other benefits and has a very good working relationship. For this reason, Mr. Black recommended that the Board approve NBS as the new 403(b) administrator for the District, effective May 1st. Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the recommendation and Sam Singleton seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

Report Item (C1): Principal Larry Davis reported to the Board, thanking them for their support of education in the District and at Emery High School. He reviewed several programs at Emery High, including the Integrity Program, the Anti-drug Awareness Campaign, the Homework Class and Peer Tutoring Program, Gear-Up, Upward Bound and Go-Ya! He explained that each of these programs adds support to students in a variety of ways, helping them have a better overall experience.

Mr. Davis expressed his appreciation for the great faculty and staff at Emery High. The school enrollment has decreased to 386 students however that number will rise over the next three years. He reported that Emery High was well represented at the recent Sterling Scholar competition with four category winners and five runners-up. President Johansen thanked Principal Davis for his report and indicated her appreciation for his ability to tackle problems in a positive, uplifting way.

Report Item (C2): Superintendent Sitterud reported that he had received letters of intent to retire from Jeanie Olsen, Donna Majors, Shirley Baltzer, Tom Baltzer, Judy Rowley and Bill Wright. He took a few minutes to provide the Board with required training on the School Land Trust program. He then reviewed several education related bills currently being considered by the Utah Legislature.

Report Item (C3): Mr. Black had nothing additional to report on.

Public Comments: Patsy Stoddard commented that she wishes more students from Green River High School would participate in the Sterling Scholar program.

At 9:10 PM a motion was made by Marie Johnson and Seconded by Royd Laurel Johansen to move into a closed meeting for a strategy session to discuss the purchase of real property. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Laurel Johansen Aye
- Royd Hatt Aye
- Marie Johnson Aye
- Sam Singleton Aye
- Nanette Tanner Aye

Upon reconvening at 9:20 PM, a motion was made Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.