

The April 2016 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Cottonwood Elementary 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 Julie Wilson. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

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

Presentation (B1): This presentation was not held.

Board Action Item (C1): Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the March 2016 meeting, and financial reports for March 2016. Member Wilson asked about the timeframe for reporting on the grade level reconfiguration. Superintendent Sitterud indicated that it was his intention for reports to be given for at least the first 2-3 years following implementation. A motion was made by Julie Wilson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (C2): Superintendent Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

<i>Denise Smith:</i>	<i>Assistant Cheer Advisor</i>	<i>Emery High School</i>
<i>Dallice Webster:</i>	<i>Cheer Advisor</i>	<i>Green River High School</i>
<i>Tanya Winn:</i>	<i>Drill Team Advisor</i>	<i>Emery High School</i>
<i>Jon Faimalo:</i>	<i>Head Football Coach</i>	<i>Emery High School</i>

Sam Singleton motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson and passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

Mr. Sitterud indicated that the District has received a letter of resignation from Roseanne Dawes, teacher at Castle Dale Elementary School. Marie Johnson made a motion to accept the resignation. Julie Wilson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Sitterud also announced that the following employees have submitted a letter of intent to retire at the end of the current school year or contract period:

- Jon Crawford: Director of Student Services
- Jim Jones: Principal at Canyon View Junior High School
- Deborah Blackburn: Bus Driver and Educational Assistant, Ferron Elementary
- Jackie Wilson: Educational Assistant, Huntington Elementary
- Jeannie Jensen: Educational Assistant, Castle Dale Elementary

Members of the Board of Education expressed thanks to all of these employees for their years of dedicated service to the students of Emery County.

Board Action Item (C3): Superintendent Sitterud presented the following policy action to the Board of Education for consideration and approval:

- **GDO—Support Staff Evaluation:** Revision based on the new evaluation rule from the Utah State Board of Education. The changes are to be implemented this year. The District is working on new evaluation instruments that match the specific support staff position, per rule requirements.

Sam Singleton made a motion to approve the policy action as recommended. Julie Wilson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Report Item (D1): Principal John Hughes welcomed the Board of Education to Cottonwood Elementary School. He reported on several accomplishments from the past year. Cottonwood was excited to receive a “B” school grade, one of only three schools in the District to do so. The faculty have implemented the new “Go Math” curriculum. Through Landtrust funds, an Aide has been hired to provide additional math instruction to students in grades 3-6. Principal Hughes is holding regular “test meetings” with faculty members. In these meetings, he visits with the classroom teacher, resource teacher and school psychologist to evaluate each student and decide on strategies to help each student progress. He expressed thanks to the PTA organization at the school for being very active and providing supply funding to each teacher. He also indicated that for the 2016-17 year, the school will be phasing out homework and changing grading to be more focused on concept mastery.

Members of the Board asked questions about the concept of eliminating homework. Mr. Hughes indicated that the decision is research based and has been studied at length by the faculty. President Johansen thanked Mr. Hughes for his report.

Report Item (D2): Mr. Black briefly reported on the progress of the 2016-17 budget.

Report Item (D3): Superintendent Sitterud provided update training for all Board members on the Landtrust program and discussed the legislative changes that were made to the School Community Council requirements. He announced that the school district has received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the ASBO organization. He distributed a new sabbatical leave form to the Board of Education. He provided copies of the legislative update book to members of the Board and provided brief explanation on some of the bills passed.

Public Comments (E): Neal Peacock mentioned that the UEA has started a lawsuit with the Utah State Board of Education over the issue of holding public hearings in the legally prescribed manner.

Closed Meeting (F): At 7:45 p.m., a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion related to the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Laurel Johansen Aye
- Royd Hatt Aye
- Marie Johnson Aye
- Sam Singleton Aye
- Julie Wilson Aye

Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)

I, Laurel Johansen, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this closed executive session was not recorded.

Laurel Johansen

The closed meeting was held in the Library at Cottonwood Elementary School on Wednesday, April 6th, 2016, beginning at approximately 8:00 pm. All Board members were in attendance as well as Superintendent Sitterud, Jared Black, Jed Jensen and Ralph Worthen.

Board Action Item (C4): Upon reconvening to the regular meeting, Mr. Black presented members of the Board with a request for unpaid medical leave. A District employee has requested intermittent unpaid leave until the end of the current school year—for medical purposes. The employee does not have sufficient hours to automatically qualify for family medical leave. A motion was made by Marie Johnson to approve the requested unpaid leave. The motion was seconded by Sam Singleton and passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment (G): A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Laurel Johansen to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.