

# Emery County School District | Board of Education

The October 2016 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Castle Dale Elementary School, was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Julie Wilson. Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

## WORKING SESSION

### **(B) Data Report and School Report Cards:**

Ryan Maughan made a presentation to the Board of Education to explain school accountability measures. He briefly reviewed PACE (Utah Governor's Report) and the School Federal Accountability Report. He then provided a detailed report on the Utah School Grading system and the various scoring factors. He also reviewed SAGE testing data from the 2015-16 school year. He explained that, due to new scoring criteria, two schools in the District received a failing grade. One of these schools, Book Cliff Elementary, has been designated as a turn-around school.

Principal JR Jones of Book Cliff Elementary School took a few minutes to explain the measures being taken by the faculty and staff to improve test scores. He added that the school will receive substantial assistance and resources from USBE this year. He welcomes this help. He (and District administration) will be meeting with a USBE representative later in October. They will also be holding a community meeting to communicate school plans and goals.

Members of the Board of Education thanked Mr. Maughan and Principal Jones for their presentation and comments.

## REGULAR SESSION

At 7:00 pm, Mrs. Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Action Item (B1):** Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the September 2016 meeting, and financial reports for September 2016. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (B2):** Superintendent Davis recommended to the Board that the following individual be approved for the position indicated:

*Tammy Duncan:*                      *Route Driver*                                      *Transportation*

Sam Singleton motioned to approve the hiring recommendation 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.

**Board Action Item (B3):** Superintendent Davis presented a recommendation to discontinue SAGE testing for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students for the current school year. He indicated that this recommendation comes from the SAGE committee, with representation from a variety of stakeholder groups within the District and community. The

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committee reviewed and discussed all relevant considerations prior to making their conclusion. Marie Johnson made a motion to approve the recommendation. Sam Singleton seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (B4):** Superintendent Davis requested approval of the Digital Teaching and Learning grant application. He explained that the technology committee has met several times and committee members have been working jointly on the application for a few months. He added that the application was finalized following input from USBE staff at the recent “boot-camp” in Price. He expressed his appreciation to all who have assisted in the development of the application. Sam Singleton made a motion to approve the grant application. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Superintendent Davis mentioned that the next step will be to submit the application to USBE. The technology committee will also be working on a 5 year comprehensive technology plan.

**Board Action Item (B5):** Superintendent Davis presented a list of coaches for current year athletic programs in the District. He recommended approval of all coaches on the list, noting that three of the proposed coaches will still need to complete a background check. Royd Hatt motioned to approve the list of coaching assignments. Julie Wilson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Report Item (C1):** Principal Melinda Durrant welcomed the Board of Education to Castle Dale Elementary and thanked them for their efforts to support education. Students are enjoying the “bucket filler” rewards program where they receive a small “fuzzy ball” for good deeds. The balls are put into a bucket and once it is filled there is a schoolwide reward. She reported that teachers and students are making good use of Chromebook and iPad labs, both in classroom-wide and station-style settings. The faculty are striving to make good use of the Mastery Connect program. Several attended a Mastery Connect conference over the summer.

Castle Dale Elementary is excited to host the elementary level Robotics Club. Faculty member Amanda Frandsen will be supervising the program and providing instruction to students. Principal Durrant mentioned that the faculty have been researching homework effectiveness over the last year. The decision was made to continue to give homework, but that the homework will not count in student grades. This will be evaluated further. Students in grades 4-6 recently traveled to the Utah State Capitol for a tour and educational experience in State Government. She also mentioned that students were eager to participate in the recent Walk-to-School day.

Board President Johansen thanked Principal Durrant for her report, adding that she appreciates the positive feeling that is evident at Castle Dale Elementary.

**Report Item (C2):** Mr. Black reported that the financial audit was successful and the audit report will be given in the November meeting.

**Report Item (C3):** Superintendent Larry Davis thanked members of the Board for their attendance at the USBA regional meeting in Price. He also thanked members of various committees (SAGE, calendar, technology) for their time and participation. He mentioned that Emery High School recently hosted the ASA (Aeronautics States Association). Participating students were engaged and it was a good event.

He indicated that he will hold off on recommending specific guidelines for District APT (Academic Pathway to Teaching) requirements. He discussed the upcoming Youth Protection Seminar that will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup>

at Emery High School. There will be a series of brief presentations on mental health and substance abuse issues relevant to our students. He presented the Board of Education with a proposed calendar of Board meetings for 2017, asking for their review and input. He also briefly discussed recommendations from the calendar committee and provided the Board with a preliminary 3-year calendar for review.

**Public Comments (D):** No public comments were made.

**Closed Meeting (E):** At approximately 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt 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.

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Laurel Johansen

The closed meeting was held in the Faculty Lounge at Castle Dale Elementary School on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, beginning at approximately 8:30 pm. All Board members were in attendance as well as Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black

**Adjournment (F):** A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.