

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The March 2018 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Huntington Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Tracey Johnson, Kenzi Guymon, and Marie Johnson. Board member Royd Hatt was absent. Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

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

Presentations & Recognitions (B1-3): Superintendent Davis recognized the following students who recently earned Academic-All-State awards: Laine Jensen (Girls Basketball), Allen Durrant (Swim), and Landon Fairbanks (Football). Members of the Board also expressed their congratulations to these outstanding students.

The Emery High School boys swim team was recognized by President Johansen for their recent accomplishment of winning the 3A state championship. Superintendent Davis and members of the Board expressed their congratulations to the coaches and student-athletes. President Johansen and Mr. Davis presented gift baskets to the coaches and Certificates of Achievement to each of the young men on the team.

Doug Johnson and Kerri Allred gave a presentation detailing the features of the new ECSD app.

Board Action Item (C1): Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the February 2018 meeting, and financial reports for February 2018. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by McKenzie Guymon to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (C2): There were no new hires to be approved so there was no action taken on this agenda item.

Board Action Item (C3): Superintendent Davis presented athletic schedules for the EHS & GRHS track & field teams, requesting Board approval for these schedules. Marie Johnson motioned to approve the schedules as presented. McKenzie Guymon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (C4): The next item was the appointment of negotiation team members for upcoming meetings. President Johansen appointed herself and Marie Johnson to the Classified team, with Royd Hatt and McKenzie Guymon being appointed to the Licensed team.

Report Item (D1): Principal Garth Johnson thanked the Board of Education for their support. He also wished to express his gratitude for each of the faculty and staff at Huntington Elementary. He noted that they are independent and proactive in their responsibilities to help students...something he appreciates greatly. Debbie Murray stepped in as the school food service manager and has done very well this year. Dani Tuttle should be completing her teaching degree in April.

Principal Johnson commented on successful after-school projects including two slime-making classes that were very popular with students and parents. As the weather warms up, there are plans to have after-school classes for air, water & chemical driven rockets as well as robot making. Technology continues to have a greater presence at the school. The current ratio is 1 device to 1.07 students. Wi-Fi hotspots are in every classroom and technology is being used more and more. President Johansen thanked Principal Johnson for his report.

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Report Item (D2): Mr. Black provided some information on Necessarily Existent Small Schools (NESS) funding. The District is working on an application for the upcoming school year and it looks like 6-7 of our schools will be designated as NESS schools.

Report Item (D3): Superintendent Davis recognized that ECSD was represented at the “Schools Day on the Hill” event at the State Capitol by one of our middle school robotics teams. The team represented the District very well. He also mentioned that the Emery High girls basketball team recently won the 3A state championship. He added that the District was also awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association and the Association for School Business Officials for excellence in financial reporting.

Superintendent Davis provided a Legislative update—the Our Schools Now group has been working on a compromise with Legislators that would create additional revenue by increasing the gasoline tax by .10 per gallon as well as by freezing the property tax rate. Also surfacing this week has been a ballot initiative to eliminate the State Board of Education. The juvenile justice amendments are on track to pass. The bill proposing fee requirements for the use of Aspire was pulled, which is good news for the District.

Mr. Davis also gave an update on various District committees. The teacher evaluation committee has developed proposed amendments which are going through a comment period that will finish on the 13th. The Technology committee has approved scholarships for the administrator & two teachers from each school to attend the rural schools conference, where the focus will be on blended learning. The Stem Ed / CTE committee meeting held their first meeting earlier this week. They evaluated the current status of programs & began a discussion on potential future directions.

President Johansen thanked Superintendent Davis for his report.

Public Comments (E): Neal Peacock indicated that 7 teachers were able to attend the Educator Day on the Hill. They met with local legislators as well as Superintendent Davis. He also expressed concerns with the compromise being discussed related to Our Schools Now. His concerns related to rural areas paying more in the proposed gasoline tax while not receiving as much benefit as urban areas.

Closed Meeting (F): A closed meeting was not held.

Adjournment (G): A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Tracey Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.