



Just So You Know

When it came to finding the right person for the new Emery School District superintendent, the Board shopped locally and announced Feb. 13, that District Business Administrator Jared Black will assume that position on July 1, 2020.

In a special meeting of the Emery Board of Education, President Tracey Johnson announced that Mr. Black was the unanimous choice of the Board. Since early in the school year, the Board has known that the district would need a new superintendent for the 2020-21 school year.

Since it is not generally known that the qualifications for a school district superintendent are left to the discretion of the local board, many assumed that a candidate with educational administration licensing would be required. That was the case up until 2018 when the law was changed to allow local boards to decide the qualifications that would best fit local needs. The law simply states, "outstanding professional qualifications."

It is apparent that the Board has concluded that Mr. Black meets desired qualifications. He has been the business administrator for 14 years and has worked with two superintendents, several district supervisors, and a number of school board members. His Emery District Business Department has been the recipient of annual awards for Excellence in Business Administration. His expertise in finance will be especially valuable as the district moves forward with bonding for new construction over the next several months and years.

In making the announcement of the new superintendent, the Board also noted that the opening for a new business administrator will be announced in the near future.

Superintendent Davis



DISTRICT CHANGES: Jared Black, front row, right, will become the district's new superintendent on July 1, 2020. He will replace retiring Superintendent Larry W. Davis, front, left. The two are pictured with current Emery Board Members Royd Hatt, Kenzi Guymon, Jessy Johansen, Marie Johnson, and Tracey Johnson.

Vision Statement:

"Education is a collaborative effort of home, community, and school. Students experience success on a daily basis and excel in performance through applying knowledge to real life situations. Schools are student-centered, guided by educators who possess excellent leadership and educational skills. Education expands beyond the classroom walls through the use of technology, and the curriculum meets the highest standards of an ever-changing world. Graduates are prepared to enter the workforce or continue their formal education at an advanced technical institution or a college or university. The Emery County School District believes that learning today provides leadership for tomorrow."

County library grant to benefit Emery School District

CASTLE DALE: In an effort to provide after-school technology support to district students, the Emery County Library System and the Emery School District have partnered to apply for grant funding. Recently, it was announced that the application was approved.

What this means for students and other patrons of county libraries is an upgrade in technology and access to programs necessary for student advancement toward high school graduation.

The grant is part of the Emery County Library System's "Assisting Students for a Stronger Emery Tomorrow (ASSET)." The program is under the direction of Desiree Malley, library director, and County Commissioner Gil Conover. The Emery School District is a co-sponsor and will lend technical support from the Emery District Instructional Technology Department.

In making the application, director Malley noted, "...we discovered that many families in our communities do not have computers and internet access in their homes... The students who do not have access to a computer and internet within their homes need a place where they can have access to these resources outside of school hours to allow them to have the same educational opportunities as the students who do have access to these resources."

It is the intention of the library system to utilize grant funding to provide Chromebooks at the libraries while the District IT Department personnel will assist with installation of the computers as well as the necessary programs needed for school assignments. IT personnel will also train library personnel on use of the Chromebooks and accompanying software and programs.

The ASSET program will include a public relations campaign designed to make students and parents aware of the opportunities available at the community libraries that will facilitate school homework assignments and projects.

The grant also calls for the collection of usage data by library personnel to determine the effectiveness of the program.



Using grant funding, the County Library System will purchase 32 Chromebooks. Funds will also be used to purchase advertising banners and flyers to promote the new addition. The cost to the school district will be through in-kind contributions that include personnel time dedicated to the project.

Going forward, the county system will dedicate \$1,000 annually for the maintenance of the computers.

According to Supervisor Malley, "...the ASSET program represents a shift in the way we operate. In the past, the libraries have assisted schools and students within the confines of the 9:30-5:30 hours of operation and not worked directly with the schools to provide services." She further noted, "Under the ASSET program, Emery County Libraries and Emery County School District will be working hand-in-hand to provide resources to students during evening hours that were previously unavailable."

Emery District Superintendent Larry W. Davis said of the partnership, "We are thrilled to be part of a program that enhances the educational opportunities of our students. So much of what we do relies on technology, but we understand that such technology is not always available to students after school closes for the day. This will help give all kids what they need to succeed."

With the addition of the Chromebooks and access to school programs, library hours will be adjusted.

Feb. 24, 2020



Dear District Employees:

We are in the midst of determining staffing for the 2020-21 school year, and there are still a lot of pieces of the puzzle not yet in place to complete the picture. However, we are collecting staffing requests from administrators at each of our schools. We are completing kindergarten registration, which will give us a clearer understanding of student numbers for next year. We have some idea of what our financing (WPU and other public ed funding) will look like as the 2020 legislative session winds down, and we have estimates on tax revenue to our district. What we don't have is a more definite count on employees who are planning on retiring or resigning from their current assignments at the end of the school year.

Having recently gone through the process of making the decision to retire from or continue to work for the school district has helped me understand how difficult and emotional the process can be. I have respect for anyone going through such conflict at this time. I also understand the challenges of giving up a job, for whatever reason, and all that has to go into that decision-making process. These things are very personal and need to fit a singular dynamic.

While there is no legal requirement or employment rule or policy requiring such notification, there is a certain ethical and moral responsibility to do so for those who have made the final decision to leave our district. However, knowing the number of employees who won't be returning to their positions for the next school year could mean the difference in someone keeping their job or losing their job through a reduction in force. It could mean the difference in having teaching assignments filled by the end of the current school year rather than on the cusp of a new school year. It could mean the difference between dedicating time and energy to professional development and curriculum enhancement rather than discerning last minute faculty assignments. Ultimately, it could be the difference between clarity and ambiguity.

It is the request of the Emery School District that those employees, who have made the decision to retire or resign from their positions, write a letter to the superintendent announcing those intentions as soon as possible. Doing so will not tarnish your accomplishments, but rather will underscore the integrity you have shown throughout the time you have served our school district. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Davis, Superintendent

Emery School District

Teacher Feature: Richard Nobbe

When selecting an educator for this 'Teacher Feature' article for our district newsletter, the EEA selected Mr. Richard Nobbe. Mr. Nobbe teaches at two schools. His assignments include band and music appreciation at Emery High school as well as at Canyon View Middle School. Therefore, his influence is greatly felt throughout our district. Traveling between two schools can be a challenge, however Mr. Nobbe has embraced it and puts in many hours beyond the traditional teaching day to ensure that his students in both schools are given the necessary attention.

Mr. Nobbe brings an energy and excitement to the Jazz band. He is always willing to



Richard Nobbe

jump up and join in with the student body and show his school spirit. The jazz band does a wonderful job giving the additional support to our teams. Without Mr. Nobbe's enthusiasm this

simply may not be the case.

Many people within the school system, as well as other stakeholders, admire band teachers for their determination, ability to turn sound into music, and the cognitive gifts they possess in their curriculum base. Mr. Nobbe is all that and more. He has a passion for music and his job. Mr. Winget, CVMS principal said, "Mr. Nobbe is always staying late, is passionate about the music he places in front of his students, and gives our school an invigorating excitement."

A thank you to Richard Nobbe for his dedication, passion, and enthusiasm toward our music in Emery School District.



Nominations are open for 2020 employee recognition

The Emery School District Education Foundation is accepting nominations for the following annual awards:

Secondary Teacher of the Year: Outstanding certified educators in district middle schools, junior highs, and high schools, including teachers, counselors, social workers, etc.

Elementary Teacher of the Year: Outstanding certified educators in district elementary schools, including teachers, counselors, social workers, etc.

Classified Employee of the Year: Outstanding employees in the district working as secretaries, aides, maintenance workers, custodians, lab assistants, lunch workers, etc.

Volunteer of the Year: Outstanding individuals donating time on a regular basis in service to our schools and their students.

Deadline and Selection Process: Nominations will be accepted until March 27, 2020. A district selection committee will review the nominations and then select the winners. The committee will also select an Emery District Teacher of the Year who will enter the Utah School Boards Association Teacher of the Year Competition. Announcement of the 2019-20 Outstanding Employees will be made in May. Awards will be presented to the winners at their schools and work sites as well as at the June School Board Meeting.

Nomination form: Anyone can make nominations in any or all of the above categories. Nominations must include the following: 1) Name of person making the nomination... 2) Name, position, and site location of the nominee... 3) Relationship to the nominee such as coworker, student, parent, community member, administrator, etc.... 4) Narrative describing why you think this individual is one of Emery School District's most outstanding employees or volunteers. In the narrative, include at least one example which exemplifies the nominee's outstanding qualifications for this award.

Submitting Nominations: All nominations must have the above information in order to be considered. Nominations may be emailed to Superintendent Davis at:

larryd@emeryschools.org or may be mailed to: Superintendent Larry Davis, Emery School District, PO Box 120, Huntington, Utah 84528.

All nominations need to be at the district office by Friday, March 27, 2020. Announcement and recognition of winners will be made before the end of the current school year.

Emery School District
Mission Statement:

“The mission of the Emery County School District is to provide a comprehensive education that will prepare students to take a proactive and responsible role in an ever-changing world.”

District Calendar

Feb. 24: Juvenile Justice Committee Meeting, 9 am, DO

March 4: Regional Spelling Bee at Green River High School, 1 pm... School Board Meeting at Castle Dale Elementary, 6:30 work session and 7 pm general session. The meeting will include a public hearing on proposed amendments to the district’s fees policy.

March 10: Administrative Council Meeting, 8:30 am, DO... Association/Board/Superintendent Meeting, 3:30 pm, DO

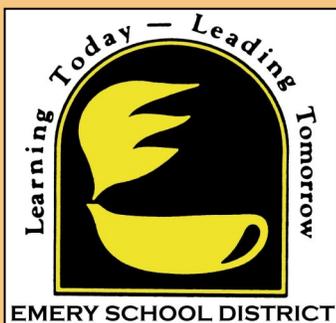


Emery County School District

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STICKY NOTES:



NEW DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS: As of the first of the year, the Emery School District Office will be open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4 pm. Use of the office after regular business hours will be scheduled as needed.

SCHOOL WEB CALENDARS: To find out what is happening in each of the Emery District’s 10 schools, go to the Emery Website at www.emeryschools.org, and click on the “schools” drop-down menu. Choose the school you are looking for, click on the name, and you will be taken to the school website where you can locate the school calendar.

INPUT REQUESTED: The District Technology Team is working on the Digital Teaching and Learning Grant for the next five years. The current DTL grant expires at the end of the current school year. The team is asking for input on types of professional development needed among employees as well as ideas on funding technology projects. If you have an idea for inclusion in the grant application, whether it be for professional development or for a technology-related program, contact Doug Johnson, district IT supervisor.