

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Business Meeting and Closed Executive Session

October 4, 2011

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Business Meeting and Closed Executive Session at 5:40 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Kristi Swett, Vice President Heather Bennett (arriving at 5:55 p.m.), Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Amanda Thorderson, Alama Uluave, Laurel H. Young, and Maria Chevesich, Student Member.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Dorothy Cosgrove, Associate Superintendent School Support; Gary Smith, Chief Information Officer; Randy Schelble, Director Exceptional Children Services; Jo Ellen Shaeffer, Director of Performance & Accountability; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Joann Price, ELP Supervisor & Elementary School Support; Principals Bobbie Kirby, Ensign Elementary School, and Linda Richins, Clayton Middle School; Mark Stevens, President, Buildings & Grounds Employees Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Sharon Grey, President, Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; Allison Sisam, Business Administration Office; and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Business Meeting of October 4, 2011, three motions were made. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

The meeting was called to order by President Swett, who presided.

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:40 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

Exhibit: A3
Board Meeting: 11/01/11

^A(1) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, personnel, and property items. Approval was given to the motion on a vote of 6 to 0 with Ms. Bennett absent at the time of the vote. ******(Young and Thorderson)

Present for Closed Session were Kristi Swett, Heather Bennett (arriving at 5:55 p.m.), Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Amanda Thorderson, Alama Uluave, Laurel H. Young, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, and Dorothy Cosgrove.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	2 & 3		1
EMERY	1 & 2	3	
NELSON	X		
SWETT	X		
THORDERSON	X		
ULUAVE	X		
YOUNG	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. and returned to the Board Business Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

2. BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

- President Swett welcomed everyone in the audience. She recognized the presence of Linda Richins, representing the Salt Lake Association of School Administrators, Cathy Johnson, representing the Salt Lake Teachers Association; Mark Stevens, President, Buildings & Grounds Employees Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; and Sharon Grey, President, Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association.
- Randy Schelble led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Board President Kristi Swett announced that Benjamin R. Montoya was awarded an Honorary Diploma from the Salt Lake City School District. Mr. Montoya lives in Franklin, Wisconsin and the diploma will be sent to him.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

*(1) Approval was given to the five items included in the Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.
******(Thorderson and Young)

1. The Purchasing/Accounting Report, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000, increases to existing purchase orders, a payment voucher report that includes travel and professional expenditures, and a Budget Report for August 2011.

2. The Human Resources Department Report, included new contract employment for 54 employees, non-contract to contract employment for 2, changes for 33, and releases for 6.
3. Minutes of the Board Business Meeting held September 6, 2011.
4. Minutes of the Board Study Session held September 20, 2011.
5. Board Policies
 - a. Policy C-7, Records Management.
 - b. Policy P-3, Nepotism Prohibited.

B. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

There were no requests to speak.

C. REPORTS

1. Highlights from School Improvement Plans:
 - a. Ensign Elementary School. Principal Bobbie Kirby provided the board with a report on Ensign Elementary School. Ms. Kirby introduced Janet Lake, self-contained kindergarten teacher, Jill Harmon, 1st/2nd C&A teacher, Nathan Liscomb, SCC, and Kristin Liscomb, PTA president elect. Ms. Kirby told the board Ensign has an excellent staff and has wonderful support from both the SCC and the PTA.

Ms. Kirby said in addition to celebrating Ensign's 100th birthday in 2012, the school is also celebrating that Ensign students consistently achieve proficient levels on both the Language Arts and Mathematic CRTs. She said they examined the disaggregated data and have identified achievement gaps for English language learners, low income students, and Special Education students. She said they are trying to find creative ways to implement 45 minutes of English language classes daily. In addition to receiving Tier 1 instruction, students are assigned to Tier 2 groups where they are monitored on a weekly basis. She noted all of Ensign's teachers are highly qualified. She said the regular education, special education, and self-contained teachers are all working together to increase student achievement and to find ways to motivate and challenge all students – those who are below, on, or above grade level. She reported the Ensign library is open before school and during lunch and an after school enrichment program is also offered. She said they are looking at how to ensure Ensign students who are bussed or driven to school have access to the before and after school programs and that their families feel like they are part of the Ensign Community.

Following the report they answered questions from board members. President Swett thanked them for the report and for everything they are doing at Ensign on behalf of students. A copy of the Ensign Elementary School Highlight Report has been added to the official minutes.

2. 2011-2012 Fall Enrollment. Gary Smith distributed the Preliminary Fall Enrollment 2011 report to board members. A copy of the report has been added to the official minutes. He told the board the preliminary numbers indicate the elementary school enrollment to be up by a few hundred students and the secondary enrollment to be relatively flat. He briefly highlighted some of the preliminary changes. He noted not all the growth is on the west side, some of the increase is in the central city schools. He said the preliminary enrollment at the 6 schools that had been year round is only down about 40 students so it doesn't appear that changing to a traditional calendar had made a big impact. He also said the preliminary enrollment numbers for the Salt Lake School for Performing Arts and Salt Lake Center for Science Education are up.

President Swett thanked Mr. Smith for the report and said they are looking forward to receiving the final reports.

3. AP, IB, SAT and ACT Updates. JoEllen Shaeffer provided the board with a short presentation on the ACT, IB, AP and Sat results. A copy of the presentation has been added to the official minutes.
 - **ACT** – ACT encourages educators to focus on trends not year to year changes. Ms. Shaeffer reminded board members 2010-11 was the first year of a state pilot. All 11th grade students participated in the testing, allowing for more access and opportunities for all students. She briefly went over the changes in demographics as a result of the change from optional participation to full participation.
 - **IB** – Ms. Shaeffer briefly highlighted the number of classes and the high pass rate at West High School. She also reported spring of 2011 was the first cohort of students at Highland High to participate in IB examinations.
 - **AP** – Ms. Shaeffer provided board members with information on the 2011 Pass Rates by Course for Advanced Placement Tests.
 - **SAT** – Ms. Shaffer told the board not as many students choose to take the SAT test but noted those students taking the test scored above the national average.

President Swett thanked Ms. Shaeffer for the report and for all her efforts on behalf of the district.

D. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. Redistricting (Board Member Precincts). Board members were given a copy of a memo sent to the Salt Lake City Council that outlines the Redistricting Criteria for Board of Education Recommendation and also a copy of a map that was developed using the School Board Redistricting Criteria from which to begin tonight's discussion. A copy of these have been added to the official minutes.

Board members discussed redistricting. Board members generally felt the sooner the district submits a recommendation to the Redistricting Working Group the more likely that Group could look at establishing School District Precincts that would be in the district's best interest. Board members discussed a suggestion that was made to reduce the size of Precincts 1 & 2 to the minimum number and move the remaining residents into just one of the other precincts in order to maximize the number of residents from the west side in that one precinct. It was noted, that while this precinct would have a majority of residents living on the east side this redistricting cycle that might not be the case the next time redistricting is done. It was also suggested that based on the above the remaining 4 districts be made as equal as is reasonably possible.

In response to a question from the board, Karen Halladay, Salt Lake City Council staff, told board members she thought it would be a couple of weeks before the Redistricting Working Group will begin their meetings.

E. ACTION AGENDA

1. Community Development Area (CDA). Prior to the motion, Ms. Roberts said a correction had been made to page 1 of The Block 70 Community Development Project Area – DRAFT Project Area Plan.

^N(3) A motion was made that the board accept the resolution of the Salt Lake City School District Board of Education authorizing the Superintendent to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Salt Lake City and Redevelopment Agency of Salt Lake City to authorize the use of a portion of tax increment for the Block 70 Community Development Area. Approval was given to the motion on a vote of 6 to 1 with Ms. Emery voting "No".

** (Young and Nelson)

Board members discussed the Community Development Area. Ms. Emery said she was not supportive of approving the resolution and tying up a portion of the districts tax base. She said she feels the property is a prime location, thinks the commercial building will be built without the CDA and new theater, questions the need for another stage in the downtown

area, and is concerned that many of the district's students would not have the opportunity to take advantage of the theater anyway.

Other board members voiced their support of the CDA. They expressed the need for cooperation in the community to support the arts and said they felt the new theatre is an integral part of the plan. In response to a question that was raised, Ms. Roberts told board members if the Performing Arts Center is not built the CDA will not continue to exist. She also noted the agreement outlines that any new property tax received from new growth will be distributed 70% to the RDA and 30% to the taxing entities.

2. There were no other Action Items.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

Proposed Legislation. Superintendent Withers updated board members on a proposed piece of legislation regarding local control. He said an SCC could choose to become the Board of Education for a neighborhood school and it would become an independent school district. If the newly formed board and neighborhood wanted, the school could be converted to a charter school.

State Revenue. Superintendent Withers reported there is some good news to report. Early projections indicate state revenue for the current year is up \$107 million over last year. He said some money will be siphoned off the top and there has been talk about putting some of the money back into the "rainy day" fund.

Grading Schools. Superintendent Withers gave a brief update on the Grading Schools. He said Senator Stephenson is proposing a bill that will dismantle schools receiving a "F" grade.

2. Other Superintendent Reports. Superintendent Withers told the board that each year the Health Professions Academy selects two students to attend a conference. He said this year the conference will be held in British Columbia. He told the board the location of the conference will result in the trip needing to come back to the board for approval as it will be an exception to the policy since it is outside the contiguous 48 states. He noted students would still be insured. He asked board members to let board leadership know if they have any serious concerns. The trip will be placed on the Consent Agenda at a future meeting.

Superintendent Withers reported the U.S. Dept. of Education is offering State Educational Agencies (SEAs) flexibility in ten areas if they adopt three policy priorities. He distributed a handout outlining the flexibilities and policy priorities. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes.

Superintendent Withers reported the State School Board has a meeting scheduled for Friday, October 7. He noted there is nothing too controversial on the agenda.

Superintendent Withers also reported an open house will be held on Thursday, October 13 at Riley Elementary on the proposed boundary change. He invited board members to attend if they were available. He noted that night will also be parent/teacher conferences at Riley.

Superintendent Withers noted a lot of great things are happening in the district:

- Comcast Cares Day at Rose Park Elementary
- Target's Heart of America Day at Lincoln Elementary School
- "Read for the Record" kick-off on October 6 – First Lady Herbert will be at Bennion Elementary School and Mayor Becker will be at Lincoln Elementary School.

Rosemary Emery reported Columbus Community Center will be starting a new program and they will be offering electronic imaging of records. She said she knows schools have a lot of old records and this might be an option for them. Ms. Roberts noted the State Archives will also microfilm records for a minimal charge.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Ms. Thorderson, seconded by Ms. Young, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

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