

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Study Session  
and Closed Executive Session

October 18, 2011

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Study Session and Closed Executive Session at 5:37 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 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, Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Amanda Thorderson, Alama Uluave, and Maria Chevesich, Student Member.

Members Excused: Laurel Young.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Dorothy Cosgrove, Associate Superintendent School Support; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Randy Schelble, Director Exceptional Children Services; Jo Ellen Shaeffer, Director of Performance & Accountability; Ann Cook, Supervisor, Early Childhood; Audrey Powell, Coordinator, Early Childhood; Robyn Giovacchini, Teacher Specialist; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; Danette Schrock, Business Administration Office; and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Study Session of October 18, 2011, two 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 5:37 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ A4  
Board Meeting 11/01/11

\*(1) That the board meet in Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, personnel, and property items.

\*\* (Nelson and Thorderson)

Present for Closed Session were Kristi Swett, Heather Bennett, Rosemary Emery, Dr. Douglas Nelson, Amanda Thorderson, Alama Uluave, McKell Withers, Janet Roberts, and Dorothy Cosgrove.

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. and returned to the Board Study Session at 6:30 p.m.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	X		
EMERY	X		
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W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		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			

2. BOARD STUDY SESSION

- President Swett welcomed everyone in the audience and excused board member Laurel Young from tonight’s meeting.
- Ann Cook led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Limited Consent Agenda

\*(2) A motion was made that the board approve the items included in the Limited Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.

\*\* (Thorderson and Uluave)

- a. Purchasing Report dated October 18, 2011, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000, and increases to existing purchase orders.

A. STUDY TOPICS

1. Student Achievement Plan – Early Childhood. Ann Cook told board members the primary goal in early childhood education is to provide young children with a foundation for success during elementary years as well as throughout their lives. She said rather than expanding programs for three year olds and summer kindergarten readiness classes, the focus has changed to improve the quality of current programs. A presentation was provided and a copy has been added to the official minutes.

Robyn Giovacchini talked about the implementation of the new creative curriculum and online assessments. She distributed manuals to board members for their review as she highlighted the new system design which focuses on children's progression from birth to five years of age, serves the needs of English language learners, and helps develop positive relationships with families. Ms. Giovacchini also highlighted the objectives for development and learning.

Audrey Powell reported on the various reports available through the online program, Teaching Strategies. She said these reports enable users to review and compare students in the same class and/or age group. She also talked about the new foundation model for Parents as Teachers which helps to increase knowledge of childhood development, improve parenting practices, assist in the early detection of health or development issues, and increases school readiness and success.

Board members expressed their appreciation to the group for tonight's presentation and their hard work.

2. Adult Transition for Special Education Students. Randy Schelble informed board members four actions steps were developed to improve outcomes for students in special education.

- Provide professional development and coaching to high school special education teachers on transition planning and compliance requirements.
- Develop clear post-school outcomes.
- Utilize the IEP team's option to make course substitutions focused on the student's goals.
- Create a continuum of 18-22 year old transition services for students who do not graduate with their senior class.

She also noted that all district high schools now have transition coordinators to help support students with disabilities. She said many students will age out at 22 without ever getting their diploma because of their disability. The Horizonte Outreach Program is helping these students by allowing them to come back to school and finish their education. Ms. Schelble told the board it is very important to get students connected with the right state agency, either before or after graduation, to help further their success. She said the Special Education Department is working towards being a role model for other urban school districts.

3. Draft Redistricting Maps. Superintendent Withers provided board members with a handout highlighting the redistricting background. A copy has been added to the official minutes. Board members then began discussing the proposed maps. Concern was expressed over students on the West side having adequate representation, interacting with the City Council to explain recommendations made by the board, and sharing the information with the community. Board members decided to focus on two maps (Uluave 4 and Thorderson 2 renamed "Jordan River South" and "Jordan River Central"), and to distribute them to the community right away. Discussion on the redistricting maps will be continued at the November 1, 2011 Board Business Meeting.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

AP Pass Rate Data. Superintendent Withers provided board members with a handout highlighting the pass rate by AP test. A copy has been added to the official minutes.

C. OTHER

1. There were no other reports.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The Board Study Session was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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Janet M. Roberts  
Business Administrator

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