

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Business Meeting and Closed Executive Session

December 6, 2011

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Business Meeting and Closed Executive Session at 5:37 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 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 (leaving at 7:00 p.m.), 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; Patrick Garcia, Executive Director Human Resources; JoEllen Shaeffer, Director of Performance & Accountability; Joann Price, ELP Supervisor & Elementary School Support; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Principals Randy Miller, Riley Elementary School, and Marian Broadhead, Hawthorne Elementary School; Mike Harman representing the Salt Lake Teachers 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 December 6, 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 5:37 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

Exhibit: A3
Board Meeting: 01/03/12

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

** (Nelson and Young)

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

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. and returned to the Board Business Meeting 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 BUSINESS MEETING

- President Swett welcomed everyone in the audience. She recognized the presence of Mike Harman, representing the Salt Lake Teachers Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; and Sharon Grey, President, Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association. She also acknowledged the presence of Boy Scout Troop 819 who was present working on the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge.
- Ben Parkin and Will Gleave from Boy Scout Troop 819 led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

*(2) Approval was given to the seven items included in the Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.

** (Nelson and Thorderson)

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; the Budget Report for October 2011; and the School's Financial Reports for Elementary, Middle, and High Schools and Student Body Activities for East, Highland and West High Schools for the three months ended September 30, 2011.

2. The Human Resources Department Report, included new contract employment for six employees, changes for six, and releases for two.
3. Minutes of the Board Business Meeting held November 1, 2011.
4. Minutes of the Board Study Session held November 15, 2011.
5. Foreign Exchange Student Agencies for 2012-13.
6. Open Classroom Charter School Renewal.
7. Board Policies
 - a. Policy P-6, Alcohol, Tobacco, or Controlled Substances.
 - b. Policy P-7, Inspections.
 - c. Policy S-10, Student Fees, Fines, and Fee Waivers.
 - d. Policy S-13/G-5, Annual Student Population Review Process.

B. SPECIAL ACTION ITEM

1. Consideration for adoption of a resolution of the Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District, Utah, authorizing the issuance and sale of not more than \$20,000,000 aggregate principal amounts of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2012.

*(3) A motion was made that the board approve a Resolution of the Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District, Utah, authorizing the issuance and sale by the board of not more than \$20,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012.

**(Thorderson and Uluave)

Prior to approval of the motion, Janet Roberts introduced Alex Buxton from Zions Bank Public Finance. They reviewed the refunding opportunity with the board. Mr. Buxton told the board they anticipate refunding the district's outstanding general obligation bonds issued in 2002, a portion of the 2003 bonds, and a small portion of the 2005 bonds. He said they anticipate the refunding will result in a savings of approximately \$1.2 million to taxpayers. Current interest rates for the bonds to be refunded are 3 to 4% and they anticipate the new interest rate will be 1.8 to 2%. The resolution before the board will begin the process to refinance the bonds and authorize Janet Roberts to move forward with the refinancing when the market is at its best. He also noted the district's Aaa rating is the highest rating that can be given to a school district.

President Swett thanked Mr. Buxton for the careful attention he pays to the district's bonds and the money it saves taxpayers.

C. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

There were no requests to speak.

D. REPORTS

1. Highlights from School Improvement Plans:

a. Hawthorne Elementary School. Marian Broadhead, Hawthorne Elementary School Principal, thanked the board for the opportunity to provide them with an update on Hawthorne Elementary School. She introduced Lisa Henry-Benhan and Erin Baxter, SCC Co-Chairs, Patty Lingwall, PTA President, Joseph Nielsen, Library Media Technology teacher, Patty Jachim, Kindergarten teacher, Jan Belnap, Equity coach and ELD instructor, Misty Clark, 1st grade ELP teacher and SIC representative, Marilyn Taft, 4th grade ELP teacher, and Camille Gallagher, Kindergarten ELP teacher, who were present to show their support and answer questions.

Ms. Broadhead briefly went over the CRT trends in math and language arts for the past three years. She said while they are pleased with the trends there are sub groups they will continue to monitor closely. She said they are focusing on Tier I instruction and all teachers were given assignments based on WIDA standards for English Language Development. She reported LAND Trust funds will be used for math consumables, language arts, and an arts specialist. She noted the Hawthorne community has a high interest in arts at the school.

She briefly highlighted volunteer efforts at the school. She said approximately 75 to 80 college education majors participate in the America Reads program and work with students. She said Hawthorne has a very effective, supportive PTA, a core of very committed SCC members, and volunteers who participate in the ELP co-oping program. She said while Hawthorne may not have a lot of extra financial resources, it certainly has a wealth of people resources. Volunteers are in the school at all times and all teachers are receptive to and appreciative of the help and support they provide. She noted students also participate in a fitness program and have set a goal of 100,000 miles walking or running this year.

In closing she told the board the C&A program is thriving, and the ELP and neighborhood teachers have welcomed the opportunity to be part of the professional development opportunities it provides. She said Hawthorne is a remarkable school; and while the three distinct programs make it hard to run, it is a pleasure to be the principal of a school with such a remarkable staff and community.

Following the report they answered questions from board members. Superintendent Withers said Principal Broadhead is a great ambassador for Hawthorne and its programs and has been able to connect its three distinct programs and their varying interests together. President Swett thanked them for everything they are doing at Hawthorne Elementary School on behalf of students. A copy of the Hawthorne Elementary School Highlight Report has been added to the official minutes.

2. K-8 Report. JoEllen Shaeffer provided the board with an update on the Nibley Park K-8 School Implementation. A copy of the Executive Summary of the Evaluation Report and the presentation have been added to the official minutes. She briefly reminded board members of the research related to the K-8 experience the board had considered, and the historical context and rationale for implementation of K-8 at Nibley Park. She then went through data on the academic performance of K-8 at Nibley Park compared to similar middle school students in the district, additional indicators of school quality, and the climate of the 7th and 8th grade students and parents.

After sharing the information, Ms. Shaeffer told board members she feels there are both encouraging and concerning findings. She said she felt implementation of the K-8 at Nibley Park had resulted in attracting students through choice options; had resulted in positive parental satisfaction; and after the initial capital investment, the school costs were no more to operate than the traditional middle school configuration. She said the data on the academic performance was somewhat disappointing and there were no real differences reported on the student climate survey. She then briefly outlined the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Following the presentation board members briefly discussed K-8, other elementary schools that have expressed an interest in looking at the possibility, and whether the district would want other schools to consider the K-8 option until some of the remaining issues have been resolved. President Swett thanked Ms. Shaeffer for the report and all her efforts on behalf of the district.

E. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. 2012 Legislative Priorities.

Superintendent Withers distributed a draft of Salt Lake City School District 2012 Legislative priorities. He said he feels providing this information is proactive and helpful when advocating with legislators. Board leadership will look at the calendar and schedule a day for the board to meet with legislators prior to the legislative session. Board members were asked to send any comments they had on the 2012 Legislative Priorities draft to board leadership.

F. ACTION AGENDA

There were no Action Items.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

Proposed Legislation. Superintendent Withers distributed a sheet of 2012 General Session Legislation – by Subject, a copy has been added to the official minutes. He said there is currently no content available and noted some of the legislation will definitely draw the district's attention.

State Revenue Projections. Superintendent Withers reported the state revenue projections are positive. He said there is a surplus from last year and there should be funds to cover growth and some priority items. He also noted enrollment in the state is up but less than originally projected and diversity has continued to grow.

2. Other Reports. Superintendent Withers reported on Monday, December 12, 2011, the Governor will share his budget with the public. The event is scheduled to be held at Bountiful High School. The Superintendent also reported on January 3rd the Highland High School Madrigals will perform at the Mayor's inauguration and West High School's JROTC will present the colors.

President Swett thanked those board members who had attended the School for the Performing Arts Open House.

Mike Williams reported the 3rd Annual District Service Project will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2011. The project will begin at 10:00 a.m. and Edison Elementary School students will be the recipients of the gifts.

Amanda Thorderson reported parents of district's students who had participated in a summer college experience at Westminster had been invited to attend a recognition event. She said the summer college experience had been so successful, Westminster College plans to write for another grant this year so additional students will have the opportunity to participate.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Ms. Young, seconded by Mr. Uluave, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

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