

# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board Study Session and Closed Executive Session

January 17, 2012

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Study Session and Closed Executive Session at 5:35 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 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 H. Young.

Also Present: Superintendent McKell Withers; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Dorothy Cosgrove, Associate Superintendent School Support; Kathleen Christy, Educational Equity and Advocacy; Barbara Kuehl, Director of Academic Services/Professional Development; Kenneth Grover, Director Career & Technology Education and High School Support; Laurie Lacy, Director Title One and Elementary School Support; Shauna Olson, Elementary School Support; Sue Parker, Elementary School Support; Joann Price, ELP Supervisor & Elementary School Support; Michael Williams, Director of Development and External Relations; Frances Battle, Bryant Middle School Principal; Mike Harman, representing the Salt Lake Teachers Association; Cindy Mills, representing the 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 Study Session of January 17, 2012, 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

Exhibit:      A4  
Board Meeting: 02/07/12

At 5:35 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

\*(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, Dorothy Cosgrove, and Patrick Garcia.

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			

Board members adjourned from the Closed Executive Session at 6:25 p.m. and returned to the Board Study Session at 6:30 p.m.

2. BOARD STUDY SESSION

- President Swett welcomed everyone in the audience and excused board member Laurel Young from tonight’s meeting.
- Roland Deardon, Bryant Middle School Teacher, 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 January 17, 2012, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000.

A. STUDY TOPICS

1. Student Achievement Plan – Equity and Advocacy. Kathleen Christy thanked the board for the opportunity for them to come and provide an update on the Educational Equity and Advocacy Essential of the Student Achievement Plan. She introduced Michele Grutter, Jennifer Newell, Renee Edwards, Susana Anderson, and members of the Bryant Middle

School Equity Site Team who would be participating in the presentation. Copies of the Equity and Advocacy Report and the presentation made to the board have been added to the official minutes.

Ms. Christy said since their report to the board last year the Educational Equity Department has continued to address the achievement gap by identifying inequities that impact student outcomes. She said they have worked with Academic Services to provide professional development for the coaches. She said four new schools, Rose Park, Highland Park, Emerson, and Jackson, have been added as equity sites and they are meeting monthly with the site teams for each of the schools.

Michele Grutter gave a brief review of the 2010-11 goals and the actions taken to achieve the goals. She said they plan follow-up meetings with the departments they have met with and are working to develop a cycle to relook at equity audits. Jennifer Newell reviewed the current goals for 2011-12 and the action steps established to achieve the goals. Renee Edwards went through the student demographic information included in the report with the board. She also briefly reported on the Advocacy Programs and the number of students participating in each of the programs.

Susana Anderson provided board members with further information on the Latinos in Action program. She reported there is one class at East and one class at West. The class is an elective class and is designed to help Latinos establish leadership skills. She said one of the goals of the program is for the students to serve as role models, mentors, and tutors for younger students at the elementary school level. She said they are currently working with elementary school students at Rose Park.

Ms. Christy continued the report with a brief review of the Education Equity and Advocacy goals for 2012-13.

Roland Deardon, Bryant Middle School Teacher and member of Bryant's Equity Site team updated board members on "Bryant Middle School's Ongoing Equity Journey." A copy of a handout he distributed to board members has been added to the official minutes. At the end of his update he told board members the climate at Bryant Middle School is changing. He said they are striving to achieve an aware and safe environment for students, courageous conversations taking place during faculty meetings have grown, but there is still room to improve.

Following the report they answered questions from board members. President Swett thanked them for the report and for everything they are doing to increase awareness for educational equity and advocacy.

2. School Improvement Plan. Ken Grover, Laurie Lacy, Shauna Olson, Sue Parker, JoAnn Price, John LaMalfa, and Sam Quantz provided board members with a presentation of the 2012-13 Electronic School Improvement Plan. A copy of the report and presentation have been added to the official minutes. They went through the process and the template that schools will use to complete their school improvement plans for 2012-13. They told the board changes were made to the electronic school improvement template in order to simplify and streamline the process and make it easier for all users. They said the new template will also reduce redundancy, schools will be able to enter information once and it will populate to all applicable areas. They also said the new template will allow budget information entered to carry throughout the entire plan. Following the presentation the School Support Team expressed their appreciation to Sam Quantz for all his efforts in getting the new template ready for use. They also told the board principals were very receptive to the changes and were appreciative of efforts to streamline the process. They also noted a teacher survey has been developed that can be used to gather input and feedback from teachers as the principal, community, and staff go through the process. Following the presentation they answered questions from the board.

On behalf of the board, President Swett expressed their appreciation for the efforts to simplify the process for schools and also make it easier for them as board members when they review the plans. She also said hopefully it will encourage more parents to be involved in the process and thanked them for the report.

## B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

USBA Conference Reports. Board members briefly discussed the USBA Conference they recently attended. Ms. Thorderson commended Ken Grover for the fabulous job he had done presenting the information on online courses. President Swett said she felt USBA's training and support for master boards was very helpful.

Proposed Legislation. Superintendent Withers provided board members an updated copy of 2012 General Session Legislation – by Subject. A copy has been added to the official minutes.

Redistricting. Superintendent Withers reported President Swett and Vice President Bennett had done an excellent job advocating the board's redistricting proposal before the Salt Lake City Council. He said the City Council is still considering two maps for redistricting school board

precincts. The map proposed by the board and a map that includes City Council edits. He encouraged board members to lobby their counterpart on the City Council to accept the map submitted by the school board. A copy of the two maps being considered by the City Council has been added to the official minutes. Board members briefly discussed the two maps. Consensus was given for Kristi, Heather, and Amanda to write a letter to the City Council stating the board's support and rationale for the map submitted by the school board that is labeled "School Board – RWG – SB Map 1" and why they do not support the other map.

2. Other Reports. Superintendent Withers reminded board members of the Bond bid scheduled for tomorrow morning. He said there has been a lot of interest in the bonds, noting 16 letters of interest had been received.

Board member Emery reported Columbus Community Center will be holding a Grand Opening for their Activity Center on May 3. They will be sending invitations to board members to attend if their schedules would permit.

President Swett reminded board members of the United Way Legislative Briefing breakfast scheduled tomorrow morning at the Grand America. She also reminded the board the March Study Session is scheduled to be held at the CTE center.

### C. 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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