

From Board Meeting

Report on Board Meeting of May 3, 2005

Action:

School Fee Schedule for 2005-2006

The Board of Education reviewed and approved revisions to the School Fee Schedule for the 2005-06 school year. The schedule lists the fee increases that are needed in 2005-06 to keep up with the increasing cost of materials and resources.

Appointment of Student Board Member

The Board of Education approved the appointment of the Student Board Member for 2005-06. West High student Sophie Jin will begin her term on July 1, 2005 and will serve through June 2006.

Naming the West High Football Stadium

Superintendent McKell Withers reviewed with Board members a proposal to name the newly renovated West High football stadium. The stadium would be named after former West High football and baseball coach Gean Plaga. Dr. Withers said the proposal had support from the Alumni Association, which would raise funds to put signage on the stadium, and from the community. The Board of Education agreed to move the proposal from the discussion agenda to an action item and approved it.

Discussion:

Name Change for Northwest Middle School

Superintendent McKell Withers discussed with Board members a proposal to change the name of Northwest Middle School. Dr. Withers said the proposal to change the school name was spurred by the construction of a new school and was suggested to the Board by the School Community Council. However, he said he has also received a petition from students and faculty members asking to leave the name unchanged. Board members said the lack of consensus made them reluctant to consider the name change. They asked the community to discuss the matter further, and if there was interest, a proposal for a name change could come forward later.

Policy Revision

Assistant to the Superintendent Kathleen Christy reviewed proposed changes to Policy JN – Student Fees. The changes are mandated by a change in state law and would require that parents/guardians who apply for fee waivers to provide evidence of their income. Ms. Christy said the state will soon provide revised fee waiver forms and a list of what materials, such as tax returns or pay stubs, would be acceptable as evidence. The Board agreed to place the policy revision on the consent agenda for the June Business Meeting.

Reports:

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McKell Withers reported to Board members that the deadline for schools to submit overnight trip requests for the 2005-06 school year was this week. He said the requests will be reviewed and then a list of recommended trip requests will be given to the Board during the Board Study Session on May 17, 2005. This will give the Board two weeks to review the requests before voting on them during the June Board Business Meeting.

Dr. Withers also told Board members the district is considering a new effort to welcome students back to school. Post cards will be mailed out to each family. The post cards will include a welcome message and list the starting dates for traditional and year round schools. Dr. Withers said each year there are students that miss the first few days of school, and hopefully, this effort will reduce that number.

Other Items:

Proclamation

The Board of Education signed a Proclamation naming May 2005 as Employee and Volunteer Appreciation Month. Board President Laurel Young said the proclamation is just one small way to thank those who spend countless hours bettering the lives of Salt Lake City's children.

Recognition

The Board of Education recognized Uintah Elementary Principal Brian Conley and Highland High teacher Dave Smith for winning the Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education.

Consent Agenda

The Board of Education reviewed and approved the consent agenda, consisting of the Purchasing/Accounting Report; the Human Resources Department Report; and minutes for the Board Business Meeting on April 5, 2005, and the Board Study Session on April 19, 2005.