

From Board Meeting

Report on Board Meeting held January 8, 2008

Action:

Consent Agenda

The Board of Education reviewed and approved the consent agenda, consisting of the Purchasing/Accounting Report; the Human Resources Department Report; minutes from the Board Business Meeting held on December 4, 2007; an update to the Miscellaneous Salary Schedule; and the deletion of Policy BDDH – Public Comment at Board Meetings.

Discussions:

Board Policy Changes

Business Administrator Janet Roberts reported to the Board of Education on recommended changes to Policy KH – Gifts from the Public. The changes added a purpose statement to the policy and clarified how community members, businesses and foundation can make donations to the Salt Lake Education Foundation, the local schools, or the district in general. Board members discussed the changes and will place the policy on the action agenda for the next Board Business Meeting.

CTE Director Ken Grover brought to the Board a few recommended changes to Policy IGAD – Student Planning. The minor wording changes were made to accommodate a change in State Board of Education rules. Board members agreed to place the policy on the consent agenda for the next Board Business Meeting.

New Investments and Priorities for High Schools

Superintendent McKell Withers gave the Board of Education a list of recommended base funding changes for the high schools. The recommendations were developed following the Board's discussions on high school funding priorities over the past few months. The recommendations were:

- One-time funding for new and expanded concurrent enrollment classes;
- On-going funding to extend two secretary positions per school to 12 months;
- Remove matching FTE requirements from .5 Athletic Director FTE;
- Develop new fixed budget per site formula for athletics and activities;
- On-going funding to enhance resource/security officers in schools;
- Coordinate a single venue and date for all graduation ceremonies; and
- Develop a process to measure the impact of new investments and priorities.

Dr. Withers said if Board members agreed, the Business Office would use these recommendations in building next year's high school budget. Board members agreed and were instructed to direct any detailed questions to the superintendent or the business administrator.

Reports:

Riley Elementary School Improvement Report

Principal Bobbie Kirby reported to the Board of Education on the school improvement efforts at Riley Elementary. She said the plan includes increasing the number of interventions available during the day and in the after school program. There will be an increased focus on helping parents help their students achieve more academically. Ms. Kirby said another goal is to increase the number of parents involved in the decision-making processes at the school.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

A representative from Squire and Company gave the Board of Education a brief overview of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2007. The audits came back clean, meaning there were no significant findings and that the district is well managed.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McKell Withers reported to the Board of Education on the latest legislative activity. Dr. Withers said there were more than 100 education-related bills filed or requested, and he expected there will be even more coming soon. He handed out a list of significant dates and events for the upcoming session as well as a tracking sheet of the education bills.

Dr. Withers also reported on a series of meetings at Franklin Elementary regarding the possibility of changing the middle school Franklin students would attend. The superintendent praised Franklin's principal, Dahlia Cordova, for the thoughtful manner she conducted the meetings and a parent survey. The survey results show an overwhelming majority of Franklin parents would like to switch their feeder middle school from the Glendale to Bryant.

Other Items:

Recognition

Alan Kearsley, Director of Accounting, and his staff received awards from the Association of School Business Officials and the Government Finance Officers Association for the district 2005-06 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

The Board of Education recognized a group of teachers for their years of service. The awards went to Community of Caring teachers in each middle and high school. Each teacher received a clock with a small plaque noting the number of years they have worked.