

MINUTES OF THE BOARD WORK MEETING held Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the boardroom in the district office building.

**This meeting will be available for public remote participation at the following link:**  
**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSydTBpJWn38IQFBvPq8TOw>**

At 4:30 p.m. President Lambert began the meeting.

The following Board Members were present to begin the meeting: Michelle Lambert, Dale Brinkerhoff, Ben Johnson, Dave Staheli, and Jeff Corry. Shannon Dulaney, Superintendent; Todd Hess, Business Administrator; Kevin Garrett, Steve Burton, Roy Mathews, and Monica Torres were also present.

Kevin Garrett offered the prayer.

Ben Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Board Training

President Lambert reviewed chapter two, Accountability, from the book, *The Key Work of School Boards Guidebook*.

#### **Superintendent Selection Discussion and Timeline**

President Lambert led a discussion on the timeline for selecting a new superintendent. She explained the first order of business will be for the Board to decide if they would like to appoint a superintendent from within the district, or do an advertised search. If the decision is made to appoint someone from within the district the Board could utilize a closed session to discuss personnel and then make an offer. Mr. Brinkerhoff indicated his preference is for the Board to perform an advertised search so there isn't an issue with favoritism. He said if we have to hire an interim that's fine, but whoever is appointed for interim should not be eligible to be hired full time. Mrs. Lambert noted there is time to do a full search and if that is what the Board would like to do a decision needs to be made on the job announcement. Mr. Staheli agreed with Mr. Brinkerhoff on opening a full search. He thanked Mr. Hess for the sample job announcements that were sent to the Board for review. He suggested scheduling a board retreat to discuss the qualities they would like to see in a superintendent before creating the announcement.

President Lambert reviewed a standard timeline. She said the position would need to be posted for at least 4 weeks minimum. A newly appointed superintendent generally has a month to five weeks to make the transition. It would be ideal to appoint someone by the end of May, unless a decision to hire an interim is made. She suggested getting the announcement out in the next few weeks. She said Richard Stowell recommended involving community members in the selection process to determine who the finalists are. President Lambert asked the board members to review the information that was given to them and send her their notes and she would forward them to Richard Stowell to create a draft. Mr. Staheli suggested holding a special meeting to discuss the information. The Board agreed to hold a special meeting prior to the regular meeting next week. Mr. Johnson requested holding the meeting later in the day so teachers have the ability to watch or attend. It was decided to hold the special meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday the 22nd of March.

### **Capital Facilities Plan and Bond Discussion**

Mr. Hess reviewed proposed bond projects and the costs associated. The top priority bond project is safety and security measures. The total for securing the entrances with a key card entry to each of our buildings would cost \$864,000. This security option will not require any remodeling to the schools. It will stop everyone at the door and will require key card access to enter the building. Hunter described what the security would look like. The system is automated so that at the beginning of the day, as students are arriving, the doors can be scheduled to be unlocked. Once the first bell rings the doors will automatically lock. When teachers and staff go in after hours it is recorded. Mr. Hess reviewed the capital facility plan and the projects that were discussed in the last meeting. The high priority projects include the Canyon View Middle School music wing, Canyon View Middle School science remodel & addition, Cedar Middle School classrooms and music room, a new East Elementary, Cedar High School science remodel, South Elementary HVAC & other upgrades, Parowan High School Lunchroom/Multi-use Facility, Bus Garage Facility and South Elementary Replacement. Mr. Brinkerhoff requested an appraisal on the bus garage property as well as the property the district owns by the warehouse. Mr. Hess explained that all of the district projects that need to be completed, plus associated fees, would cost around \$92-93 million. He reviewed the projects that could be completed with an estimated \$60 million bond. He suggested paying for the safety and security projects out of capital funds rather than a bond. The South Elementary replacement and upgrades to the current building would be pulled out of the plan for the time being. This would take the total cost of projects down to an estimated \$60,515,000. Mr. Corry asked if there was a plan to get regular air conditioning in Canyon View Middle School. Hunter indicated the project will be completed this summer and paid for out of the capital budget funds. Mr. Hess indicated a second bond issuance of \$30 million would be needed a couple years down the road to replace South Elementary. President Lambert asked how long it would take for South Elementary to be repurposed and a new school built and if the district can afford to wait that long. Hunter said the timeline to build a new elementary school is around 17 months, if they use a repeat design it would take less time. Mr. Johnson asked if the designing process could be taken care of with the first bond issuance. Hunter informed the Board that if they could give him authorization he could start the design process of a new East Elementary School. This would speed things up and allow for us to obtain a bid by January 2022 and start construction by March, if the bond passes. Mr. Brinkerhoff supported giving authorization to start the designing process. The Board thanked Hunter and Todd for their presentation. Marcus Keller from Zion Bank reviewed the district's outstanding general obligation bonds. Mr. Hess informed the Board the refunding approval will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Health Ed Curriculum Discussion**

Mr. Mathews led a discussion on the Health Ed curriculum. He informed the Board that the Health Ed committee met last week. Their feedback was the curriculum we have is professional and uses the correct terminology. Mr. Mathews noted we have to read the state statute and the statute puts the burden on parents to teach the curriculum and the schools support that. In the state of Utah there is a lot of information on abstinence and what healthy relationships look like. He asked the Board if they had concerns. Mr. Staheli mentioned there is a lot of repetitive

information and gave the example of the process of pregnancy and prenatal care. Do we see the need for the repetition? He also mentioned he couldn't see which grade level the different presentations fit into. Brenda Killian, health teacher at Canyon View Middle School, indicated there isn't a lot of time spent on prenatal development in the middle schools. In high school there is a family consumer science class that includes a section where the focus is on prenatal development and the biological side of things. The curriculum will be approved in the next meeting. President Lambert thanked Mr. Mathews and the committee for the information.

### **School Fees Discussion**

Mr. Hess presented on school fees. Each year the school board is required to approve the district maximum school fees and school fees schedule by April 1st . Mr. Hess indicated they are proposing no changes to the maximum fees. He reviewed the proposed changes to class fees which include an added animal science class and an optional lab in biology and optional field trip in physics. The middle school changes include a 6th grade art/music increase from \$10 to \$35. There is also a proposed increase for choir and theatre from \$5 to \$15. Python is a software license that Canyon View Middle School uses in one of their classes and requires a fee of \$30. This fee will more than likely go away next year as we won't be able to charge fees for textbook related. Band and orchestra fees also had a slight increase in order for students to purchase music books and other supplies needed. The Board will approve the school fees in the regular meeting next week.

### **Public Input Regarding School Fees**

Time was set aside for public input regarding school fees. No input was received.

### **Secondary Instruction Time**

Mr. Corry gave a presentation on secondary instruction time. His concern is with secondary instruction time in regard to late start, XLT time and flex time. He reviewed general instruction time missed per year because of late start as well as over a student's four year career in high school. He reported there are approximately 32 Wednesdays in a school year and with late start, XLT and Flex time there are 110 minutes of instruction time missed- 3,520 total minutes missed in a year. He reviewed the loss of instruction time due to Advisory at Cedar High School, which is 23 minutes long. He said students miss about 10.73 hours per year and 277.2 hours over their high school career. Canyon View High School's XLT time is 40 minutes long. There are 160 minutes of instruction time missed per week and a total of 3,840 minutes per year. That ends up being 120 missed hours of general instruction time per year. Each student misses four weeks of general instruction time a year and 16 weeks are lost over a four year high school career. Another concern Mr. Corry had is kids sleeping in one day a week. There is no consistency. Kids need to get up early every morning and get to school at the same time everyday. He said he has heard of parents having to leave work to go home and pick up their kids and take them to school on Wednesdays because their kids sleep in and don't catch the bus. He said he is concerned for kids and would like instruction time to be restored. Mr. Mathews explained the other side of late start, XLT and FLEX time. He said teachers need time and they deserve time to plan. The students benefit from extra time to work with teachers. He said the benefits outweighed the basic math of lost curriculum time. There is a lot of remediation that happens during that time. Did we see significant drops in grades? He said if we would have data showing significant drops in grades that would be a deal breaker but that just didn't

happen. Mr. Johnson pointed out the importance of measuring the right things. We may not have increased grades across the board because of late start, but we have increased opportunities. Students can now get a General Ed certificate and kids are taking harder classes. The biggest thing that late start has helped with is collaboration with teachers. He said people in parowan are nervous it will go away. He said getting rid of late start would prohibit his daughter from getting a general education certificate if she had to move her classes around. It gives kids an opportunity to sleep in one day a week which is a reset for busy kids is a positive thing. It also allows for group activities that are religiously related. Mr. Brinkerhoff indicated we need information from people on both sides. Mr. Corry said teachers don't need PLC time, they can meet during lunch as well as before and after school. Mr. Staheli indicated he has one grandson who has trouble getting to bed on Tuesday nights and therefore he sleeps in on Wednesdays. He wondered if teachers could be allowed more contract time to collaborate. Richard Jensen, from the audience, suggested holding a late start on Friday afternoon. Mr. Mathews indicated the reason we have late start is for teachers to get together to collaborate. This would prohibit collaboration for teachers who coach. William Pressgrove, audience member, asked who benefits? He said teachers signed up for what they are doing and they can do extra work after school. Tauna Brandt, another audience member, said that XLT and Flex Time are very valuable for her students and her program at SUU. Cedar Middle School Principal Byynda Murray said collaboration time can't be done at lunch, her teachers use two hours going over data and using time for remediation so students don't have to be taken out of class. 30 of 40 districts in Utah have a form of late start. Mr. Brinkerhoff indicated nothing can be changed until next fall so lets get feedback from parents and teachers before we decide on anything. Mr. Johnson mentioned he is concerned with making changes for next school year because it changes the number of teachers needed for students who already have their schedules set up. Mr. Staheli praised Mrs. Murray for the way she runs the SMART time program at Cedar Middle School. Mr. Corry agreed. Brenda Killian, Canyon View Middle School teacher, asked Mr. Corry why elementary instruction time is less important than secondary. Mr. Corry said early has always been used as a time for teacher preparation and he is not touching early out. President Lambert asked how the Board would like to move forward. Mr. Brinkerhoff suggested they get data and have planning sessions. Mr. Staheli expressed his concern with kids getting up for school on Wednesdays but realizes the PLC time is important. We can be creative in meeting needs. President Lambert said we need to remember the decisions we make impact the entire district. XLT, Late Start and Flex Time was implemented by the teachers. Principal Heaton asked if this will be discussed next week in the regular meeting. President Lambert indicated it would not be discussed or voted on next week.

### **Policy Handbook Review**

The Board reviewed the Cash Management for Federal Awards Policy and the Comparability of Services Policy. They will come back for a first reading in the regular meeting. The Board next reviewed the changes to the Curriculum Adoption Policy. It is up for a second reading in the next regular meeting.

### **Utah Department of Health Update**

Superintendent Dulaney reviewed the new bill passed by Utah Legislators and signed by the Governor regarding the mask mandate. The bill states the mask requirement will stay in place

for K-12 schools until June 15th. The state-wide mandate will end on April 10th for the community. Mr. Staheli indicated the Board didn't vote on having a dr. 's note for mask exemption. He suggested adding an action item in the next meeting to decide if the Board will approve an amendment that a school may require an individual to provide a medical directive and also respect parental rights in the choice of whether their child needs to wear a mask or not. He said employees who feel at risk, even with the vaccine availability, can do online learning. He said he would like to relieve the administration of this burden of mask issues. We need to vote to let the parents choose or vote to require a dr.'s note. Mr. Brinkerhoff said it's time we bite down and let people know this is the policy of the Board, if you want your kids to go to school without a mask, get a dr.'s note. Mr. Johnson indicated the reopening plan that was approved by the Board did indicate dr.'s notes were required. Does this mean we would need to make an amendment and resubmit the plan? Mr. Mathews said the reopening plan that was approved by the Board does require dr.'s notes for mask exemptions. It was intentionally added to the plan to give parents the option. Mr. Staheli agreed to review the reopening plan. He asked that it still be on the agenda because the board members represent the people and it should be the Board taking the heat from parents on this issue, not school administrators. Mr. Brinkerhoff said we have more responsibility to the thousands of kids we have in school than the two or three that are complaining about their lives being infringed upon. Our obligation should be to protect the students. Mr. Johnson said we should be saying thank you to administrators and our teachers for keeping our schools open. It has been a huge task they have had to deal with and this shouldn't be a political issue for the Board.

President Lambert adjourned at 7:39 pm.



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Board President



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Business Administrator

