

Minutes of the South Summit School District Board of Education Work Session Meeting held on **December 8, 2016**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room at 285 East 400 South, Kamas, UT.

Present: Mr. Craig Hicken President; Mrs. Suni Woolstenhulme Vice President (arrived at 5:42 p.m.; Mr. Jim Snyder, Mr. Steve Hardman, Mrs. Debra Blazzard, Superintendent Shad Sorenson

Excused: Mr. Kip Bigelow, Business Administrator

Guests:

1. President Hicken called the Work Session to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. President Hicken welcomed everyone to the Work Session.
3. Superintendent Sorenson introduced the purpose of tonight's Work Session meeting being a visit by Logan Wilde, Utah State Representative-Elect.
4. Representative-Elect Logan Wilde introduced himself as the Representative-Elect for District 53 and talked about his personal and political background. He is visiting to get to know the SSSD Board of Education and what they expect from him so that he can be a better representative on our behalf. Representative-Elect Wilde also wanted to be informed as to any issues that affect the schools and to hear any concerns, information or suggestions from the Board Members.
5. President Hicken mentioned "equalization" among Utah schools. Small districts pay a big price when it comes to larger districts and charter schools per student. The legislators get focused on per student financials instead of making sure there is equalization in programs and student opportunities.
6. Mr. Jim Snyder noticed that when the legislature meets to discuss legislative funding, the legislators have lost focus on public education and focus more on conflicts between State Superintendent's Office and other entities and less on the children. Asked Representative-Elect Wilde to always keep in mind the value of education and the kids, during the legislative sessions.
7. Mr. Steve Hardman advised Representative-Elect Wilde to be aware that there will be a "break-in" period while he's learning the job. And to be mindful of rural education and to look out for the people (teachers, etc.) that need some help and support from the State.
8. Mrs. Debra Blazzard asked Representative-Elect Wilde to remember that the kids are number one and to do what's best for them. If we can't get equalized programs then try to get more funds per student. Also, when we receive funds, it should not all be allocated to one fund. We should have some leniency to use the funds as we see fit. We know what is needed in our District.
9. Mrs. Suni Woolstenhulme stated that our teachers don't need more help, they need less help. They are very competent individuals and if we just let them teach, they'll do great; if not, that's what the Board is for.
10. President Hicken added that so many educational programs come through and we don't wait to see the results of the last program before another program is added or changed. It takes a toll on our teachers and they feel frustrated and overwhelmed by the changes they face in order to do their jobs.

11. Representative-Elect Wilde asked if SSSD had a hard time finding teachers?  
Superintendent stated that we have a bit of a challenge with math and pre-engineering teachers due to our geographical location, however, we have been fortunate in filling these positions. President Hicken stated that housing in this area is hard to find. It would be nice to have incentives for rural teachers.
12. Superintendent Sorenson read a paragraph from Kip Bigelow, Business Administrator regarding growth in our area and "Impact Fees."
13. President Hicken thanked Representative-Elect Wilde and Ms. Wilde for coming out to SSSD and welcomed them back any time.
14. Meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.



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Board President



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Business Administrator