

The April 2019 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Castle Dale Elementary School, was called to order at 6:30 pm by Board President Tracey Johnson. Other Board members present were Vice-President Marie Johnson, Kenzi Guymon, Royd Hatt, Jessy Johansen, and student Board member Connor Cramer. Superintendent Larry Davis was also present.

**Work Session:** The following items were discussed during the work session:

- 1) **Community Reinvestment Area (CRA):** Stuart Clason with the Utah Association of Counties explained the role of counties and other taxing entities in establishing CRA's. He also explained how taxing and revenues work in a CRA arrangement. He mentioned that it would be good to gather questions or concerns and come back at a later time to work with the Board of Education, Superintendent Davis, and District staff on potential projects.
- 2) **Association Meeting Report:** President Johnson discussed her recent meeting with Superintendent Davis and association representatives. EEA has new leadership. They indicated that there is teacher support for the PLC movement and conflicts have been from scheduling and other concerns.
- 3) **Staff Hiring Policy:** The Board indicated that the proposed policy should be reviewed by Risk Management prior to approval in order to address any concerns and assure compliance with State and legal hiring guidelines. Generally, consensus is to have a 3-member vetting team chosen by the Superintendent or designee. This team would independently review applications and choose applicants for interviews based on qualifications that are outlined in each position advertisement. Following interviews, consideration is given to current employees when all other things are equal. A draft policy will be distributed for review, then sent to Risk Management.
- 4) **Superintendent and Business Administrator Evaluation:** Board members agreed to reduce the survey questions to include 5 questions from each of the 7 domains, with a single comment area. The Superintendent Survey will be sent out each May and the Business Administrator survey each November.
- 5) **School Board Handbook:** The Board will continue to work on this as time allows.

**Regular Meeting:** At 7:38 pm, President Johnson called the regular meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Action Item (C1):** Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the March 2019 meeting, and financial reports for March 2019. A motion was made by Kenzi Guymon and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C2):** Superintendent Davis recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

- |                   |                             |                              |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Cali Moon       | Educational Assistant, 5 hr | Huntington Elementary School |
| • Steven Taylor   | Head Custodian              | Canyon View Middle School    |
| • Alicia Whitesel | Head Swim Coach             | Emery High School            |
| • Karl Jensen     | Assistant Volleyball Coach  | Emery High School            |

Royd Hatt motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson and passed unanimously. All hiring approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

**Board Action Item (C3):** Royd Hatt mentioned that the hiring policy is not yet ready for approval. He made a motion to table the approval of this policy until the May 2019 school board meeting. Jessy Johansen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C4):** Superintendent Davis explained that Green River High School will be in a new sports region next year. The new region alignment reduces the number and availability of competitions for GRHS teams. Because of this, GRHS is requesting open ended approval to schedule competitions in Grand Junction and Fruita. These competitions would be presented on team calendars for board approval each year. Generally, these competitions would only require day trips, not overnight trips. Grand Junction and Fruita are geographically closer than other in-state schools. Following discussion, member Marie Johnson motioned to approve the request. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (C5):** Principal Garth Johnson presented an amendment to the Huntington Elementary Landtrust plan. It would allow for the purchase of snap circuit kits. Marie Johnson motioned to approve the Landtrust amendment as presented. Jessy Johansen second the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C6):** Member Jessy Johansen explained that three firms submitted proposals for audit services. The audit committee reviewed the proposals and scored each of the firms based on the criteria in the RFP. Gilbert & Stewart scored the highest of the firms and Mrs. Johansen recommended that the Board approve Gilbert & Stewart for audit services for the upcoming five-year period. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Report Item (D1):** Principal Melinda Durrant welcomed all in attendance to Castle Dale elementary school. She recognized the recent passing of teacher Betsy Johnson's son Joshua. Principal Durrant mentioned her appreciation for the opportunity to work in PLC's to share data and good teaching practices. She then reported on a variety of activities and programs at the school. Students have continued earning warm fuzzies for positive social and academic behaviors. The Marvin and Jessie character education program has been successful this year. She is excited about the results of full-day Kindergarten, mentioning that it has been a very positive change. Teachers continue to incorporate STEM in classrooms. The school had an upper grade robotics team that placed 12<sup>th</sup> in the state competition.

She added that her students have enjoyed recent school competitions in chess, checkers, and speed stacking. Porter Stilson won the school geography bee and recently participated in the State bee. Students have also had opportunities to display artwork through a PTO activity and the San Rafael arts guild. Laney Olsen from Ferron has been teaching music to students one class at a time. Students will also have an opportunity to work with a storyteller from the Timpanogos storyteller festival. Principal Durrant expressed her appreciation for the staff, volunteers, and parents who all contribute to the success at Castle Dale Elementary.

**Report Item (D2):** Superintendent Larry Davis recognized the recent passing of former employee June Shurtleff. He then read a letter from UHSAA written to congratulate the EHS girls basketball team on their recent championship. He also read a letter from Jennifer Thomas regarding the Communities that Care program. Twenty-eight kids are currently receiving food weekly through this program.

He commented that it would be good to continue the discussion on community reinvestment. He provided an update on the PLC program...he has been working with teachers on ways to add additional time for PLC's. For secondary schools, common preps will be scheduled within disciplines and substitute teachers will be scheduled to allow for PLC time. For elementary schools, the plan is to not require additional afterschool time. Team leaders and Principals will determine when to meet and how to facilitate the PLC's.

Superintendent Davis reviewed the Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) and other recently passed legislation. The Board of Education will need to create a framework and expectations for school level plans. Considerations for the framework might include literacy and CTE pathways. President Johnson proposed a mid-April work session in order to adopt the necessary TSSA framework in a timely manner. It was agreed to have this work session on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the school district office.

Superintendent Davis reported on the recent small fire at Emery High School. It was handled quickly. The District is working on emergency procedures and updating maps to include information that is important in an emergency. Labs in schools should have a container for flammable materials. These have been purchased for each of our labs.

The Juvenile Justice Committee will be meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup> with judge Craig Bunnell. It is expected that a tiered intervention plan will be finalized in May. The technology committee recently met and is working to update the 5-year technology plan. The committee also reviewed existing goals related to the Digital Teaching and Learning grant.

President Johnson added that the online policy manual is now fully updated and a committee has been meeting to discuss the structure of the licensed salary schedule in order to facilitate a higher starting teacher salary.

Member Marie Johnson noted that she volunteers in Kindergarten and has been very impressed by the amount of progress that full day Kindergarten is facilitating. She commended Ralph Worthen, principals and teachers for their efforts to make this successful.

**Public Comments (E):** No public comments were given.

**Closed Meeting (F):** At 8:31 pm., a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Kenzi Guymon to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion related to the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Tracey Johnson           Aye
- Marie Johnson           Aye
- Kenzi Guymon           Aye
- Royd Hatt                Aye
- Jessy Johansen         Aye

**Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)**

I, Tracey Johnson, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this closed executive session was not recorded.

---

Tracey Johnson, Board President

The closed meeting was held in the faculty room at Castle Dale Elementary School on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, beginning at 8:36 pm. The closed meeting finished at 9:30 pm.

**Adjournment (G):** Upon reconvening to the regular meeting, a motion was made by Jessy Johansen and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.