

The April 1, 2020 meeting of the Board of Education, held electronically via WebEx due to the COVID-19 outbreak, was called to order at 7:05 pm by Board President Tracey Johnson. Vice-President Marie Johnson and members Kenzi Guymon, Royd Hatt, and Jessy Johansen were also present. Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were in attendance.

President Johnson welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. She expressed the appreciation of Board members to all school district employees, parents and students for their willingness to adapt admirably to the circumstances we are in. Members of the Board commented on some of the impressive things they have seen happening in our school district during the current school dismissal. President Johnson then outlined how electronic participation would work during the meeting.

Discussion Items

School Dismissal & COVID-19 Update (B1): Superintendent Davis reviewed the steps taken by the school district to continue educational services during the current school dismissal. Food services personnel are providing between 1,500 to 1,700 meals a day, which is significantly higher than what is typically served when school is in session. The coordination between food services and transportation to provide these meals throughout the district has gone well. In addition, he reported that the system being used for homework pickup and drop off has improved and continues to improve as we learn each day what works best. Mr. Davis added that grading for the 4th term will be based on a A/B/Pass/Incomplete system. He discussed some of the details about how this will work.

Guidelines have been given to supervisors regarding how the District will handle pay and leave days. All employees have been given the opportunity to continue to work their regular hours and receive regular pay. Flexibility has been given to supervisors to find meaningful work for our employees. For example, some educational assistants may be assisting custodians or preparing meals with our food services staff. Employees are also being encouraged to work from home as much as possible.

Mr. Davis reported that our employees have risen to the challenge and are doing great work to continue to serve our students. Teachers and support staff have shown dedication in providing resources to parents and students. A lot of work with students is being done over video conferencing. Custodians are deep cleaning schools and recleaning any areas where employees are working.

Proposal for Elementary PLC Time (B2): Superintendent Davis gave an overview of a proposal that would allow all elementary schools to have an early out on Wednesdays at 1 pm in order to facilitate additional PLC work and collaborative teaming. He explained that elementary supervisor JR Jones and all six elementary principals have worked throughout the school year to develop the proposal. All are supportive and have worked with their respective faculties to develop specific plans for how this extra time would be used. A summary of these plans is included in the board member packet. Mr. Jones and each of the principals spoke briefly about their support for the proposal. Mr. Jones mentioned that the proposal was initiated due to teacher input. President Johnson thanked them for the work they have put into this proposal, indicating that it would be moved to an action item for the May 2020 board meeting.

School Facilities / Bonding Update (B3): Mr. Black mentioned that the facilities committee will be meeting tomorrow to move forward on the current plan for bonding. The upcoming economic situation is something that will have to be considered by the committee. The next step will be to hire professional services such as a financial advisor,

architect, and construction manager. Working with these professionals, the committee will be able to develop more specific information for the bond election.

Hunter Solar Donation (B4): President Johnson reviewed what was discussed last month regarding a potential donation from the developer of the hunter solar project. Some of the options brought forth regarding the use of the donation have been robotics and computer science. She indicated that these are good options because they would provide a benefit to students throughout the district. The board may consider other options as well. Mr. Black indicated that there has been no additional discussion about the donation. Commissioner Wilson was going to discuss some possibilities with the developer. This will be followed up on.

Board Action Item (C1): Members of the Board considered the warrants, minutes for the March 2020 Board meeting and financial reports for March 2020. A motion was made by Jessy Johansen and seconded by Kenzi Guymon to approve the warrants, minutes, and financial reports, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item (C2): Superintendent Davis commented that Principal Gordon recently interviewed for a language arts teaching position at Emery High. All interviewed candidates are current teachers in the school district who have requested a transfer. The candidate chosen is Jodi Sitterud, who has accepted the position. He added that because this is not a new hire, the Board will not need to approve this selection.

Board Action Item (C3): Following brief discussion, President Johnson assigned herself and Kenzi Guymon to the Licensed negotiating team with Royd Hatt and Jessy Johansen assigned to the Classified team.

Board Action Item (C4): Jared Black presented a recommendation from the transportation department to declare bus 021 and bus 032 as surplus vehicles. He explained that these are the two oldest buses in the district bus fleet. In addition, the District has been awarded a \$40,000 federal grant for upgrading to more efficient buses. Declaring these buses as surplus is part of the required local effort for this grant. Marie Johnson made a motion to declare the buses as surplus. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Principal's Report (D1): A principal's report was not given.

Superintendent's Report (D2): Superintendent Davis gave some brief follow-up comments on the legislative session. He explained that school districts normally receive a booklet from USBE with a summary of bills passed and action items on each of the bills. Due to our current circumstances, this booklet will arrive later than usual this year. Superintendents will participate in a video conference with USBE on April 13th & 14th and information will be provided about specific bills at that time. Mr. Davis added that the legislature is likely to hold a special session sometime in the next couple of weeks to discuss funding for the upcoming fiscal year. It is possible that some of the funding approved in the recent session could be rolled back due to the expected economic downturn.

Superintendent Davis mentioned that the technology committee met earlier today and finalized the Digital Teaching and Learning grant application for the next 5-year cycle. He added that the upcoming Juvenile Justice and Administrative Council meetings will be cancelled. President Johnson thanked Superintendent Davis for his report.

Public Comments (E): Member Guymon commented that some constituents have asked if there will still be an official spring break next week. Superintendent Davis indicated that there will still be a spring break and it will be up to principals and teachers to determine if any homework is assigned during the break.

Closed Meeting (F): At 8:10 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Jessy Johansen to move to a closed meeting for 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

The closed meeting was held via WebEx on Wednesday, April 1st, 2020, beginning at 8:15 pm. All board members were in attendance, as were Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black. For the final portion of the closed meeting, Mr. Davis and Mr. Black were excused. The closed meeting finished at 9:20 pm.

Adjournment (G): A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Jessy Johansen to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.