

MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 4, 2023

The October 4, 2023 meeting of the Board of Education, held at the Canyon View Middle School, 550 North 400 West, Huntington, UT, was called to order at 6:00 pm by Board President Royd Hatt. Vice President Tracey Johnson, and members Kenzi Guymon, Todd Huntington, and James Winn were also present. Superintendent Ryan Maughan and Business Administrator Jackie Allred were also in attendance along with student board member, Kallee Lake.

WORK SESSION:

- A1. Frantz Law Group Social Media Invitation:** William Shinoff, representing Frantz Law, explained the litigation action against social media companies regarding the assumed targeting of youth using algorithms and advertisements. This law group also represented the district with the previous Vaping litigation. The purpose would be to allow parental control with social media apps with children and make it safer.

- A2. District Building Water/Plumbing Proposal:** Continuing from last month’s discussion, the proposal has been presented to both employee associations along with the administrative team. The preferred option is to hire a plumber to work on the water line conversion for several years. This will possibly take more time and require construction in the buildings during school days, but will be far less expensive in labor and summer recess time crunches.

- A3. Small Capital Grants:** With additional FY24 legislative funding for Small School Districts’ capital grants, it was proposed to apply for three separate grants. 1) Seismic reinforcement for Huntington and Cottonwood Elementary 2) HVAC boiler conversions for Huntington Elementary, Cleveland Elementary, and Cottonwood Elementary 3) Playground conversion from wood chips (EWF) to Poured in Place rubberized surfacing. If the grants are approved, it would require the district to fund 50% of each project. It is the economic reality that the potential of future funding to replace older schools for many years is very limited. These proposals will address the physical needs of the buildings to extend the life expectancy and increase the current functions. The estimated total cost for district commitment is about \$4.4 million. This would be funded from the capital outlay fund balances.

- A4. Summative Testing Review:** Yvonne Jensen, District Supervisor, reported that school report cards will be available shortly from USBE. Ms. Jensen presented scores using USBE’s Gateway and ACT information for high schools and Rise scores for elementary/middle school levels. Scores are given in comparison to like schools along with state scores.

- A5. TSSA Framework Review:** Supt Maughan shared a report from each school on the individual TSSA plans and the results from the previous year. Tracey Johnson requested clarification with different test scores through the different grade levels.

REGULAR SESSION:

- B1/B2:** President Hatt welcomed all in attendance and led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSED MEETING (C): At 7:05 p.m., 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:

- Royd Hatt Aye
- Tracey Johnson Aye
- McKenzi Guymon Aye
- Todd Huntington Aye
- James Winn Aye

The closed meeting was held in the media center at the Canyon View Middle School on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, beginning at 7:05 pm. All Board members were present for the closed meeting. James Winn motioned to convene closed session and return to open session with a second by Royd Hatt and all approving.

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

I, Royd Hatt, 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.

Royd Hatt

The closed meeting finished at 7:13 pm.

PRESENTATIONS:

D1: Westland Construction: Trent Huntsman from Westland Construction gave the status of the Emery High construction project. The structural masonry will be completed in about two weeks for this phase. Trusses and deck have been installed in the auxiliary gym. Roofing over the media center and office/counseling area will start next week. Side concrete has been started this month and will continue throughout the fall season. Interior Framing has also begun in areas B & D with drywall in Area A. Wayne Maxfield also commented that the District has started the planning to move the portable trailers that are needed for the last phase.

D2: Data Privacy and Security Risk Analysis: Doug Johnson, IT Supervisor, presented the Security report that represents the risks of our software systems. Inventory of all computer hardware and building connections were given. The firewall system receives about 15,000 attacks every minute. Outside connections are restricted to less than 10 employees. The district hired an vendor to intentionally attack the system which resulted in additional segmented backbone added to the system. The best defense is still classroom management. There are three system backups in different locations for disaster recovery.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

E1: A motion was made from Tracey Johnson for the Consent Agenda items: a) September warrants, b) Monthly financial reports, c) Minutes for the September 6th meeting and d) Names for New Hire approvals and seconded by James Winn. All members approved the consent agenda.

Jacklyn Oveson	5.9 hour Preschool Aide	Cleveland Elementary
Kaela Kitchin	5.9 hour Landtrust Aide	Canyon View Middle
Stephanie Olsen	5.9 hour Preschool Lead	Ferron Elementary

E2: Out of State Travel for Emery High Automotive: Emery High Auto student, Wyatt Gardner, presented their itinerary and details for the competition in Farmington, New Mexico scheduled for November 16-17, 2023. This is an amazing opportunity for the auto students to learn skills which help to add to the instruction received at school. The auto club offers different skills and knowledge that is not available in the usual curriculum. Chandler Peacock, automotive instructor, spoke on travel details and expressed this great opportunity allows the students to learn to react in stressful situations. There is planned for 6-7 students to attend the competition. This program has been continued at least 20 years by EHS. The approving motion was made by Kenzi Guymon with a second from Tracey Johnson. All members voted unanimously in favor.

E3: EHS 24 Credit Applications: With the previous closed sessions, this item was discussed with the students and families along with school counselors and administration. A motion to approve was made by Royd Hatt to approve the applications. The motion was seconded by James Winn and approved unanimously.

E4: EHS Boys Volleyball Activity: With UHSAA sanctioning Boys Volleyball in 3A this school year, there were some interested parties present at this board meeting and last month’s work session. It was proposed to have an open gym offered with a coach or advisor in January that is similar with other Spring sports and integrate students into the club opportunities during the Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 seasons. This can then be evaluated for the 24-25 school year. There are currently eight 3A teams state-wide committed to a boys’ volleyball team with some 3A schools beginning with club programs. A public comment was made indicating there was enough interest from the current student body for a varsity and jr varsity team. It was motioned by James Winn to approve the program as presented with Todd Huntington making the second motion. Motion solidly passed.

E5: Winter Activity Schedules: The proposed schedules were presented to the board for the secondary schools’ winter activities. With little discussion, Todd Huntington motioned to approve the proposed schedules. Kenzi Guymon seconded the motion with all in favor.

REPORTS:

F1: The principal report: Jenny Gagon, Canyon View Middle School Principal, reported that CV’s team is focusing on goal setting. The last few summers the staff has had a summer retreat to review data from the prior year and to set goals for the coming year. She appreciates the team of teachers who work on the data dive to improve. The star reading data made 1.8 years of growth last school year. CV is on USBE’s Improvement School list for the Disability student group. Students with IEPs have made a

significant increase. The schedule continues to include an intervention or extension period. A full-inclusion model with Special Education students are attending classes with their peers. One of the goals for improvement is to decrease the number of students with Low Improvement reports. This has significantly improved with 95% of students passing their classes. CV has also seen a decrease in the chronically absent students by building relationships with students and parents. A new goal this year is to help students gain essential skills to succeed in life. Writing is a high-level application of reading skills and has been added to each teacher’s curriculum. The on-going SEL focused team has seen reduction in behavior reports. Their theme this year is “We are One!” that focuses on including all staff to help each student.

F2: Superintendent Report: Ryan Maughan reported in 2022 Legislation, SB127 established strategies and programs to improve early literacy outcomes in kindergarten through third grade. Since its implementation, a 2 percent (or roughly 4,000 students statewide) increase in reading proficiency has been realized in the first year.

Three of our elementary schools are being recognized at the state level. Castle Dale Elementary showed the largest increase by percentage in the state (29% increase) for 3rd-grade students achieving reading benchmarks from the beginning to the end of the year. Cottonwood Elementary, Cleveland Elementary, and Castle Dale Elementary all had one hundred percent of students making typical or better progress either as an entire grade level or in a subgroup of students.

F2: Business report: Jackie Allred presented the two financial certificates for the FY22 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report: Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). Both of these certifications represent the highest level of governmental reporting. Emery School District has received both of these prestigious awards for fifteen consecutive years.

F3: Board Committee reports: Tracey Johnson commented on attending the Evaluation committee with Brett Guymon who is working on an evaluation tool for staff and administration to use. Utah has also derived new educator standards. Royd Hatt attended his community councils and Leadership Team meetings. Kenzi Guymon also attended the evaluation committee and San Rafael’s community council meetings. Kallee Lake reported that both the EHS boy’s and girl’s cross-country teams took third place today.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (G): Tiffany Conover, EEA President, indicated there has been better communication within the district. Wayne Maxfield also reported on the status of the gas conversion system at Green River. Completion is sooner than expected with the natural gas system working before month end for both schools in Green River.

CLOSED MEETING (H): At 8:22 pm., a motion was made by Tracey Johnson and seconded by Todd Huntington to move to a closed meeting for the purpose to discuss matters related to collective bargaining. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Royd Hatt Aye
- Tracey Johnson Aye
- McKenzie Guymon Aye
- Todd Huntington Aye

- James Winn Aye

The closed meeting was held in the media center at the Canyon View Middle School on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, beginning at 8:30 pm. All Board members were present for the closed meeting. The closed meeting finished at 9:10 pm. A recording of the meeting was made and will be kept on file by the District. James Winn motioned to convene closed session and return to open session with a second by Royd Hatt and all approving.

ADJOURNMENT (I): Royd Hatt motioned and was seconded by Kenzi Guymon to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.