

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING held Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. at Iron Springs Elementary School and in the school board room in the district office building.

President Michelle Jorgenson conducted the board meeting.

Harold Haynie offered prayer.

The following Board Members were present to begin the meeting: President Michelle Jorgenson, Harold Haynie, Shane Adams, Becki Bronson, and Stephen Allen. Also present were Shannon Dulaney, Superintendent, and Kent F. Peterson, Business Administrator. Jennifer Wood, Terry Pickett, and Kevin Garrett were also present to begin the meeting.

The Board began the work meeting with a tour of Iron Springs Elementary School. Principal Bylynda Murray led the tour and answered questions.

The Board continued their work meeting at 1:15 p.m. dealing with the following items:

- Mrs. Bronson introduced Judy Rogg and Detective Mike Bleak. They met with the Board to make a presentation regarding the “choking game.” Stephanie Small, a licensed Child Therapist also joined the presentation via the telephone. Ms. Rogg indicated that they have created a program that can educate children about the “choking game” in a way that doesn’t encourage the children to actually try it. The reactions from students after participating in the program have been sobering. Ms. Rogg lost her own son when he was twelve years old due to his participation in the “choking game.” She shared a video showing the problem as discussed on ABC’s Nightline news program. Detective Bleak talked about actual deaths in Iron County that have been linked to the “choking game” participation. He gave a statistic of nine adolescent deaths in the past several years where four of the deaths have been a result of the “choking game.” Lesa Nelson joined the meeting at 1:40 p.m. Lesa’s son was found dead in her home and the death was initially ruled a suicide. Lesa’s persistence and the hard work of Detective Bleak eventually proved the death was due to the “choking game” and not a suicide. Detective Bleak indicated that kids do not want to talk openly about this issue so it is sometimes difficult to deal with. However, when they are older and out of high school they are more willing to talk and the statistics indicate that there is more participation in the “choking game” than people realize. Ms. Rogg and Detective Bleak will be having a training on January 29th at 9:00 a.m. for administrators and counselors dealing with her training tool. This training tool will not scare students but will make them think about this issue. They left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.
- Superintendent Dulaney gave the Board an update regarding the “late start Wednesday” proposed program. Parowan High School has implemented the program and it is going well. They will be having their third collaboration

meeting tomorrow. Parents, students, and teachers are positive about the program. Superintendent Dulaney indicated that she has given an outline to each secondary school to begin the community meetings during February and March to educate the public and answer questions. There will be a district wide meeting held in April. There will be a recommendation and report to the Board after the April meeting. She will be posting frequently asked questions with answers on the district website. We will also be posting successes on the website. Principals are working hard with their teachers to help them understand the value of this program. There will still be negative comments come from the public and we need to be united in our support and understanding of the program so it will be successful.

- Mrs. Bronson discussed with the Board the need to promote more volunteerism in the district schools. At the USBA convention they had a workshop dealing with using volunteers in the schools, particularly people who are retired and have the time to volunteer. The Board discussed asking someone to help lead out and encourage more people to volunteer in the district. Superintendent Dulaney indicated that Cindy Rose from the Iron County Volunteer Center has been in contact with her about some ways that the Volunteer Center can help. Volunteers will need to be consistent and reliable especially if they are involved in the “late start Wednesday” program.
- Mrs. Bronson shared some information she received at the USBA convention regarding the public input portion of board meetings. We need to be more in control of who will be addressing the Board during public input and what the subject will be. We should have a policy in place outlining how people can avail themselves of the public input opportunity and not just accept any and all comments during public input. Mrs. Bronson will contact some other districts and see if she can find some policies that the Board can evaluate and then develop a policy with which the Board is comfortable.
- Mr. Allen discussed the Prosperity 2020 workshop he attended. Alan Hall, chairman of the Prosperity 2020 Board, indicated that he and his wife are willing to give \$1,000 to each school district in Utah if the school district will match the amount. The money would then go to district teachers rewarding them for good ideas they develop or if they implement new innovative programs. The plan would be that these ideas and programs would be shared with other districts to help everyone improve. Mr. Hall wants to know what we need to do to move the needle forward in education. What is needed and what funding will be required. If this can be identified, he will work hard with his committee and the Legislature to get the necessary funding in place.
- Mr. Allen asked about the SAGE Assessment. (Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence) He wanted to make sure we were getting information to the public so they are aware of the new testing being done this year. Terry Pickett indicated that there are sample tests available for the public to view. The SAGE

tool is free of cost to the district as the State Office is paying for it. There will be additional costs to the district because of the testing rules being required and the extra proctor help that will be necessary. It will be a good test but will require the district to adapt to a totally new assessment instrument and scoring.

- Mr. Allen asked if anyone in the district was aware of a free “Audit’ that he heard was available from Homeland Security. He thought that if the audit was free it might be worth our time to apply the audit to our facilities in the district.
- Jennifer Wood reviewed with the Board the updated Employee Relations/Corrective Discipline Handbook that has been recently updated through the work of a district committee. The teachers association had requested that the current corrective discipline policy be reviewed and this fulfilled that request. Jennifer indicated that the committee used the Granite School District’s Corrective Discipline policy as a guide because their policy has already been through legal review and is in compliance with state law. This update will now bring our district policy to a current status. The next step is to provide administrators with the training they need to help them be familiar with the handbook and know how to use it. The Board felt comfortable with having this Handbook be an administrative rule with a reference to the handbook included in the district policy handbook.
- The Board discussed a possible date for a meeting with the Cedar City Council members, Mayor, and City Manager. It was suggested that the meeting be held before the regular April board meeting. The Board also decided to hold the board work meeting at East Elementary School in April.
- Kevin and Sarah Laub joined the meeting at 2:45 p.m. They had requested an opportunity to meet with the Board to discuss some concerns they have with a bullying problem on their children’s school bus that transports students from the dairy on the Buckhorn Flats then through Paragonah and on to the Parowan schools. Their children attend Parowan Elementary. They felt that to one degree or another bullying has been taking place on this bus since their children first began riding last Spring. This has included spitting, bad language, and grabbing student’s private body parts. Sarah has been driving her children to school for several months because of the bullying issues. They felt that the driver hasn’t been enforcing the bus rules in a consistent manner. Superintendent Dulaney outlined some of the interventions the district has used to try and help with this situation. The district driver trainer has ridden on the bus with the driver and given suggestions for improvement. Tapes have been reviewed to evaluate what students are doing. Admittedly, the tapes can’t show everything that happens. The driver has been asked to assign seats to students to allow for better supervision by the driver. The driver has been asked to use disciplinary notes to better communicate with parents about concerns with their children. The Laubs recognized the efforts by the district but felt the driver still isn’t making satisfactory changes. It was determined that Superintendent Dulaney and Kent

Peterson will meet with the driver and the transportation supervisor to review this situation and outline the expectations we have for the driver and her responsibility to maintain discipline and control on the bus. Bullying is not to be tolerated and the safety of the students is paramount. Mr. Haynie reminded the Laubs that even with the continued interventions by the district with the driver, unless they put their children back on the bus we won't be able to determine if the driver has in fact made the necessary adjustments and changes. Superintendent Dulaney will visit with the Laubs after the meeting with the driver so they can know the meeting has taken place and then they will have to make a decision as to allowing their children to ride the bus again.

- Kent Peterson reviewed with the Board a possible refunding of some current general obligation bonds the district has outstanding. The proposal would refund or refinance \$9,970,000 of bonds currently payable between January 2015 and January 2021. The potential savings would be approximately \$580,000. We have been watching the market and other factors affecting the possible refunding and it appears that this is a good time to implement it and achieve some interest savings for the taxpayers in Iron County. If the Board is favorable to this refunding, the legal advertisement could begin immediately and the Board could officially ratify and approve everything in the February board meeting. The Board indicated their support for Mr. Peterson to proceed with the process to put this refunding of bonds in motion.
- Mr. Haynie suggested that the Board look at the possibility of having self-imposed term limits for our board members. He suggested a limit of three four-year terms. He had discussed the idea with Debra Roberts, who serves on the Utah State Board of Education, who thought it would be okay. He also discussed it with Richard Stowell, Executive Director of the Utah School Boards Association, who was neutral to the idea but not opposed. Mr. Allen indicated that he was open to the suggestion but felt it needed more discussion. He indicated that he personally didn't anticipate serving more than three terms but he also commented on the tremendous value of past board members who had served more than three terms and had brought a wealth of knowledge and experience that was of great value to new board members in particular. Mr. Peterson suggested that we would want to make sure what State Law said about this subject because it is State Law that governs local board elections and terms.

The work meeting adjourned to allow the board members and administrators to travel back to the district office for the regular board meeting.

At 4:00 p.m. the Board began the regular portion of the board meeting.

President Michelle Jorgenson conducted the meeting.

Abi Myers offered the thought. Aria Gunn and David Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, December 17, 2013 were approved on a motion made by Mrs. Bronson, seconded by Mr. Haynie, and passed unanimously by the board members.

Mr. Adams moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

The Iron Springs Elementary School Volunteer Award was presented to Aimee Gilbert. Aimee volunteers many, many hours of service at Iron Springs Elementary School. Bylynda Murray, Principal at Iron Springs Elementary School presented the award. The Board expressed appreciation to Aimee for her dedicated service.

The Board next recognized Wendy Moon as the outstanding school employee at Iron Springs Elementary School this year. Wendy is the media aide at Iron Springs Elementary School. Principal Bylynda made the presentation. The Board thanked Wendy for her dedicated service to the students at Iron Springs Elementary School.

The Board next recognized the Canyon View High and Cedar High students who recently participated in the State Soils Judging competition held at Snow College. Jonathan Burton, the CTE Agriculture teacher and advisor to the group, spoke about the competition and introduced several students who participated in the competition. He also introduced Don Holloway who volunteers his time to help the students. The student teams won first place and second place at the State competition. They will now represent the State of Utah in a national competition. This is an outstanding achievement and the Board congratulated them for their hard work and recognition.

Principal Bylynda Murray presented the school report for this month. She showed a video presentation highlighting Iron Springs Elementary and the outstanding programs at the school. The presentation was interspersed with live music and speaking parts by students from the school. Principal Murray thanked the Board and administration for their support. She also recognized her teachers, staff, and parents for their hard work to provide the best education possible for the students in the school.

The board meeting time was next made available for public input to address items not already listed on the published agenda. No additional public input was received.

Brennan Wood, Economic Development Director of the Iron County/Cedar City Office of Economic Development, met with the Board to discuss interlocal agreements for three community development project areas. All three areas involve solar fields with solar equipment and collectors that will each generate three megawatts of power. One megawatt will power 700 to 800 homes. Brian Harris, representing First Wind Energy Company, spoke about the company and the three sites they will be developing for solar power. Each site will be approximately 20 acres in size. One site will be on the Buckhorn Flat area north of Parowan. One site will be in the vicinity of the Cedar City solid waste plant. The third site is in the Escalante Valley/Beryl area. The interlocal agreement calls for a 50% tax incentive over a ten-year period. The projected life of the

solar field is 20 years. The tax incentive applies to taxes on real property as there will be no buildings or facilities constructed. The property involved is currently in Greenbelt status and generates a very small tax amount.

Mr. Allen moved to have the Board adopt Resolution No. 1-2014. A resolution approving and adopting the interlocal agreement between the Iron County Community Development and Renewal Agency and the Iron County School District for the Beryl Solar Community Project Area. Mr. Haynie seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mr. Haynie moved to have the Board adopt Resolution No. 2-2014. A resolution approving and adopting the interlocal agreement between the Iron County Community Development and Renewal Agency and the Iron County School District for the Buckhorn Solar Community Project Area. Mrs. Bronson seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Mr. Adams moved to have the Board adopt Resolution No. 3-2014. A resolution approving and adopting the interlocal agreement between the Iron County Community Development and Renewal Agency and the Iron County School District for the Cedar Valley Solar Community Project Area. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

Susan Durfee met with the Board to talk about Camp Kesem. Camp Kesem is by big kids, for little kids whose parents have cancer. It provides children affected by a parent's cancer with a life-long, peer support network that recognizes and understands their unique needs. It is led by the passionate volunteer efforts of college students at universities across the United States. It gives kids facing a parent's cancer critical support, while empowering college students with life and leadership skills. The camp is for six to 16 year old students. Southern Utah University is chartered with Camp Kesem. The only other chartered university in Utah is BYU. The Utah camp is located in Tooele County. Susan introduced three SUU students who currently work with Camp Kesem. They spoke about their assignments as student directors and leaders and about the program. They specifically serve the southern part of Utah. Mrs. Durfee is the advisor assigned by SUU to work with Camp Kesem and the SUU students involved. She wanted to solicit the help of the district in identifying students who would be eligible for participation in Camp Kesem and also get the word out so the public will know of this service. It costs about \$450 per camper per week. The SUU students raise the funds locally to pay for the campers so there is no cost to the family. Mrs. Durfee did not come to the Board to solicit funds but just to inform them of this service and of the tremendous work being done by students at SUU to help these families. She was also seeking the help of the district personnel in identifying students who might be eligible to participate in this program.

Becki Bronson was assigned to be the Board representative to the Five County Association of Governments Board.

Jennifer Wood explained to those in attendance that a district committee has just completed the process of updating the district employee relations/corrective discipline handbook. The goal is to help teachers and other district employees be successful in their employment. This handbook will be an addendum to the administrative rules of the district and be referred to in the regular district policy handbook in the current Board policy on termination.

Board members gave brief reports and shared highlights on the recent USBA Convention they attended. All felt that it was a very good convention with lots of good information.

The following policies were presented for a first reading: EBB (Safety Glasses) and KJ (Advertising, Distribution and Posting of Promotional Materials in the Schools).

The following policy was presented for a second reading: JFBCA (Protection of Athletes with Head Injuries). Mr. Allen moved to approve the policy and have it added to the policy handbook. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

At 5:54 p.m. Mr. Allen moved to have the Board enter into a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of one or more individuals employed in the District. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. By voice vote the board members voted as follows:

President Jorgenson - Yes
Mr. Haynie - Yes
Mrs. Bronson - Yes
Mr. Adams - Yes
Mr. Allen - Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The following persons were present for the closed session: Michelle Jorgenson, Harold Haynie, Stephen Allen, Becki Bronson, Shane Adams, Shannon Dulaney, and Kent Peterson.

The purpose of the closed session was to discuss personnel.

At 6:18 p.m. Mr. Allen moved to have the Board end the closed session. Mrs. Bronson seconded the motion and the board members passed it unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Haynie and seconded by Mr. Allen, the board meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.



President



Business Administrator