

School Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 5, 1999
Emery High School, Castle Dale, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Sharman Seamons, Royd Hatt, Roger Swenson and Marie Johnson. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants. Motion passed unanimously. Because the minutes of the last meeting were not in the boards packet they will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Brent Arnold, Principal at Emery High was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Arnold presented information as to the many successes and accomplishments of the students at Emery High this past year. He also thanked the Board for their support in remodeling and upgrading the building and grounds. The Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Arnold for all that he does to help kids.

A motion was made by Sharman Seamons and seconded by Royd Hatt to have Laurel Johansen, J.J. Grant and Ross Huntington serve on the district's negotiating team for certificated personnel and Royd Hatt, Jon Crawford and Ross Huntington serve on the district's team for classified personnel. Motion passed unanimously.

A group of students representing the 8th grade FFA was welcomed to the meeting. They thanked the board for allowing them to attend the State Convention in Logan recently. The Board expressed gratitude to them for making the trip a positive experience for everyone.

Karen Bishop, Counselor at San Rafael Jr. High requested Board participation in a small remodeling project at her school, estimated cost of \$5000-6,000. They would like to move the counselor's office to the room across the hall from the office. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to table the request pending review of funding sources and scheduling time with the maintenance department. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Huntsman, Building and Grounds Supervisor, addressed the Board with information about a possible energy cost savings available to the district should they invest in an alternative energy supply for Emery High. Questar would charge a much lower rate for gas if the district were able to provide an alternative source of fuel that could be utilized on an emergency basis. The annual savings is estimated to be about \$12,000.

Ross Huntington, Business Administrator presented information to the Board about the current financial situation and the impact of the increase in insurance premiums on the district. Other impacting factors also considered were declining enrollment and a loss of transportation funding. He also presented information about the financial situation in the Child Nutrition Program (CNP). Jeneane Warren, Director of CNP then presented a proposal to the Board for cutting expenditures and bringing the program into the black.

Sharilyn Cano, Labor Relations Representative for the Utah School Employees Association presented alternatives to some points of the proposal and indicated agreement with some of the points. A motion was made by Sharman Seamons and seconded by Roger Swenson to table action on the proposals until the next Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Ross Huntington gave a brief report on the increase in health insurance premiums. Educator's Mutual has notified the District that effective September 1, 1999, premiums will increase by 25.1%. This will cost an additional \$431,000, bringing the total cost of health insurance to about \$2,100,000 per year. The District has joined with other rural districts to form a pool for bidding purposes and should have the results of that process about June 15th.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the following fee changes and/or additions for San Rafael and Canyon View Jr. Highs for next school year (1999-2000):

Family and Consumer Science - Cooking	\$10.00
TLC (Currently \$6.00)	10.00
Athletic Participation	20.00/maximum \$40.00
Band instrument rental (Currently \$25.00).....	5.00/month, \$45.00 /year

He also recommended that the Drivers Education fee be increased from \$20 to \$40 at both Green River High and Emery High Schools. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Roger Swenson to approve the fees as recommended. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the early retirement request of Sharon Guthrie, teacher at Cottonwood Elementary School and accept the retirement request of Monna Jensen, bus aide for Castle Valley Center. He also recommended that the Board approve the early retirement request of Richard Fairbanks, teacher at Emery High School. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the hiring of Jamie Huggard as a one-half day first grade teacher at Book Cliff Elementary for next school year. Motion by Roger Swenson and second by Sharman Seamons to approve the recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended that the Board approve a comprehensive guidance needs assessment survey to be done by San Rafael Jr. High School. This is a survey of parents, students, and teachers concerning the focus of guidance and counseling services. Motion by Marie Johnson and second by Roger Swenson to approve the survey. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Roger Swenson to approve the use of school buses by the Emery County Pageant this coming summer, providing they meet the agreed to stipulations and have the necessary insurance. Motion passed unanimously.

The Superintendent invited the Board to attend a crisis response discussion on Tuesday, May 18th from 9-11 a.m. at the District office. Administrators, representatives from the Sheriffs Office, Department of Mental Health and the PTA will be in attendance .

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Roger Swenson to change the date of the next Board meeting from the 19th of May to the 20th. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sharman Seamons to uphold the reduction in force action previously taken with regard to a district certified employee. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Swenson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. Motion passed.

