

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
Wednesday, October 3, 2001
Ferron Elementary, Ferron, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Members present were Laurel Sitterud, Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Rue P. Ware. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Jed Jensen, Principal at Ferron Elementary was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Jensen complimented his faculty and staff for the excellent job they are doing at his school. He reported that they are working very hard on student reading skills. Children not on level are worked with on an individual basis. In addition, the CLIP program is used in the first grade to enhance reading skills at that level. Mr. Jensen expressed appreciation to the Board, the District Office and the Maintenance Department for their support. He also expressed appreciation to the businesses in the community for their generous support of Ferron Elementary.

Mr. Jensen requested the District participate with the school on a 50/50 basis to purchase and install 17 swamp coolers at an estimated cost of \$400 each.

The Board thanked Mr. Jensen for the excellent job he and his staff are doing.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended that Monica Hansen and Gayleen Cox be hired as three hour Educational Assistants at Emery High School. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to accept the recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve changes in policy JECA in order to accommodate applications for Grand County residents to attend school in Emery County. The change would simplify the application form for current non-resident students. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the changes as recommended. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud reported the October 1 enrollment as 2523 which is down 191 students from October 1 of last year. He also gave each Board member a copy of the USBA/USSA Legislative Program 2002 brochure. The brochure explains the Utah School Board Association's recommendations to the legislature for the upcoming session. The Superintendent then explained about the legislative boundary changes and the possible affect on our area. It appears as if Representative Brad King's district will be combined with Representative Max Young's district.

Ross Huntington recommended the Board accept the Independent Auditor's Report as prepared and presented by the accounting firm of Kimball and Roberts. After explaining they had reviewed the report with the auditors, a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

There were a number of people at the meeting in support of Michael Christensen former band teacher at Emery High School (EHS). Several people spoke on his behalf. Tyler Olsen, a student at EHS, expressed his support for Mr. Christensen. Mike Williams, Mayor of Emery Town, spoke in favor of Mr. Christensen. Trina Branson, a parent, also expressed strong support for Mr. Christensen. Natalie Blackwell commented on Mr. Christensen's ability as an outstanding musician and his willingness to support the community.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to allow Richard Childs, Warehouseman, to participate in the early retirement program at either the regular monthly rate for 51 months or a reduced monthly rate for 60 months. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to uphold the termination of Michael Christensen. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.