

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
January 9, 2002
Cottonwood Elementary School, Orangeville, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Sam Singleton and Rue Ware. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent, and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Jones, Principal at Cottonwood Elementary was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Jones reported on the efforts and programs his staff uses to help students improve reading and reading comprehension. The Olympic Committee has donated eight trees to the school. The trees have been planted on school grounds. The kids will be presenting their Olympic Program "Light The Fire Within" on January 31st at 1:30 pm. On February 1st they will have a school Olympics. It was noted that students sing the national anthem each morning. The Board expressed appreciation to the Mr. Jones and his staff for the great job they are doing.

Next on the agenda was J.J. Grant, the district's liaison for the Olympics, who presented a brief informational video about the Olympics. He then reported on the distribution of the Olympic tickets and the criteria used to distribute them.

Jon Crawford, Director of Student Services was next on the agenda. He reported on SAT and Core curriculum test results. Overall test results indicate that students from the Emery District generally scored above state averages. The Superintendent expressed appreciation to the teachers for the fine job they are doing in preparing kids. The Board President also commended the teachers for their excellent efforts.

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Laurel Johansen to appoint Ross Huntington as the business administrator for the next two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Darrell Gardner, teacher at Emery High School (EHS) presented information to the Board about a fitness program being offered to the school by the National School Fitness Foundation. Following discussion, a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to turn the matter over to our attorney for his assessment of the risk involved and then make a final decision based on his recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

Gwen Callahan, Principal at EHS requested Board approval to create a student lounge. She stated that students had raised enough money to pay for the project and there would not be any cost to the district. It was the consensus of the Board that a final decision could not be made until she provided the Board with a drawing depicting the wall modifications.

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Laurel Johansen to change the date of the next Board meeting from February 6th to February 13th. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud reported that two schools, Castle Dale Elementary and Ferron Elementary have been awarded third year funding under the 21st Century School Program. Castle Dale will receive \$16,500 and Ferron Elementary will receive \$20,880. He also reported that the legislature will be in session this year from January 21 - March 6th. We are working on our District Performance Report and will have it out by the end of the month. We are currently taking applications for next years enrollment from Grand County residents who have children attending school in Emery County.

The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the early retirement applications of Randy Lake, Bus Driver (23.5 years of service) and Geniel Huntington, Principal at Castle Dale Elementary (25 years of service). Following an expression of appreciation to both, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the recommendation. The motion then passed by unanimous vote.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve a request from the Junior High Honor Chorus to allow an overnight trip to Provo on January 25-26. There will be eight students from each of the two junior highs attending. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud then expressed appreciation to Patsy Stoddard, Reporter for the Emery County Progress, for the fine job she and the Progress do in providing newspaper coverage for the school district.

A letter from a student requesting a financial donation from the district was then considered. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Laurel Johansen to table the request and have the Superintendent convey the Board's policy on such requests to the student. Motion passed unanimously.

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