

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
May 2, 2007
Huntington Elementary School, Huntington, Utah

The May 2007 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen, who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other Board members present were Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton, and Rue Ware. Board member Royd Hatt was absent as was Superintendent Kirk Sitterud. District Secondary Supervisor J.J. Grant was present in place of Superintendent Sitterud. Business Administrator Jared Black was also present.

Also attending the meeting was Jed Jensen—District Elementary Supervisor. Principal Thomas Baltzer of Huntington Elementary School was in attendance with his wife Shirley, an Educational Assistant at Canyon View Junior High School. Kim Player represented the Emery Education Association. Teachers Todd Jeffs and Annette Cook were also in attendance. The press was not represented.

The meeting began with Board action items, the first of which was to consider the warrants, minutes for the April 2007 Board meeting, and monthly financial reports for April 2007. After consideration, a motion was made by Marie Johnson to approve the minutes, as well as the warrants and the April financial reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Sam Singleton. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Grant presented to the Board a request from Canyon View Junior High School to allow the volleyball team to travel overnight to attend a tournament in Blanding. The Emery High volleyball team is making the same trip. The tournament would include nine games for the junior high team. Expected cost for the trip would be \$20.00 per student for lodging and \$20.00 per student for meals. Mr. Singleton asked Mr. Grant how the District has responded to these types of requests in the past. Mr. Grant responded that to his knowledge, the District has not had a request of this type. The only overnight trip that has been allowed in the past for junior high students was for students to attend the State FFA convention. Junior high teams have been allowed to travel with high school teams out of the two-county area in the past, but only if there has been room on the bus and the travel did not include an overnight stay. Mrs. Johnson asked if there are other opportunities for the junior high volleyball team that do not require an overnight stay. Mr. Grant responded that there are. Mrs. Johnson stated that allowing this type of a trip would set a precedent that the Board does not want to set, especially since the volleyball team would miss a day of school. Mrs. Johansen stated that she agreed with Mrs. Johnson's comments, especially since there are other opportunities which don't require overnight travel. Following this discussion, Mrs. Johnson made a motion to deny the request of Canyon View Junior High School as presented. Rue Ware seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next action item was a request from Emery High School to allow the boys basketball team to attend the San Diego Surf-n-Slam basketball tournament which will be held December 26-31 of 2007. Participation in the tournament would not involve any missed days of school since it is held over Christmas break. The tournament would include several games. Expected cost for the trip would be between \$390 and \$435 per student as well as any cost for travel (airfare or bus). The students would be responsible for the cost and will be given the opportunity to raise part or all of the money through two fund-raisers: a summer basketball camp and the sale of advertising banners to local businesses. Mr. Grant mentioned that he had discussed this request with Superintendent Sitterud. The District has allowed drill teams and bands to travel out of state for competitions, so there would not be any new precedent set if the Board approves this request. Also, the District did allow the basketball team to travel to St. Louis and North Carolina back in 1990 for tournaments. Mr. Ware asked if there is a limit to the amount of fund raisers a school can participate in. Mr. Grant responded that all fund raisers do have to be cleared through the District office. The basketball has held these fund raisers in the past, so they would not be adding any additional fund raisers. Transportation has not been decided on yet. Mr. Jeffs stated that if several parents want to go, it may be more economical to take a bus,

but if it is just the team going, flying may make more sense. President Johansen noted that with any travel request like this, liability is always the major concern. Mr. Grant mentioned that any commercial travel carrier has to have liability insurance, which would cover the team. Board Member Ware asked Coach Jeffs what he would do with kids who were not able to raise enough money. Mr. Jeffs responded that he would take them anyway—that all members of the team would be able to make the trip, even if they do not have enough money. Mr. Grant noted that both he and Superintendent Sitterud would support the Board in approving this request. Mr. Jeffs added that there would be about 14-16 players going on the trip, and none of them would be 9th graders, unless a 9th grader made the varsity team. Sam Singleton made a motion to approve the request of Emery High School as presented. Rue Ware seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next action item was to consider approval of an interlocal agreement with Emery County, regarding the swimming pool project the County is pursuing. Mr. Grant, who is the District representative to the pool project committee, mentioned that the agreement was drafted by Emery County Attorney David Blackwell. Mr. Grant also mentioned that the attorney for the School District will need to sign the agreement, if approval of the agreement is granted by the Board of Education. Board President Johansen stated that she has three concerns with the agreement as presented. First, in paragraph three (3), “all uses of the pool” needs to specify the School District. Mr. Grant noted that in the most current version of the document, this wording has been clarified. Second, language needs to be added that clarifies that the School District can use the parking lot when District activities are being held at the pool. Third, an indemnity clause for the School District needs to be added, so that in the even of a future lawsuit over the pool, the District is held harmless. Board Member Johnson added that in paragraph six (6), the description of facilities for which the District accepts no liability needs to include the parking lot and any future site development. Following this discussion, Mrs. Johnson moved to approve the interlocal agreement, with the condition that the aforementioned changes are made and that the School District attorney also approves the agreement. Sam Singleton seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Grant recommended to the Board that the following persons be approved for hire, beginning employment at the start of the appropriate contract period for the 2007-08 school year:

<i>Gloria Wilson:</i>	<i>Child Nutrition Program, 16 hours per week, Huntington Elementary School</i>
<i>Tammy Young:</i>	<i>Child Nutrition Program, 2 hours per day, Emery High School</i>
<i>Misti Fausett:</i>	<i>Child Nutrition Program, 2 hours per day, Emery High School</i>
<i>Kari Alton:</i>	<i>Teacher, Cottonwood Elementary</i>
<i>Tiffany Conover:</i>	<i>Teacher, Ferron Elementary</i>
<i>Jessie Ward:</i>	<i>Teacher, Huntington Elementary</i>
<i>Shelley Rowley:</i>	<i>Teacher, Huntington Elementary</i>
<i>Danielle Tuttle:</i>	<i>Teacher Castle Dale Elementary</i>

Mr. Grant also presented to the Board a letter of resignation from Thelma Livingston, recommending that the Board accept Ms. Livingston’s resignation, effective at the end of the current contract year.

Mr. Black then recommended to the Board the hiring approval of the following individual, beginning employment on May 7th, 2007:

Jeremiah Spainhower: Maintenance Worker

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve all personnel recommendations as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Grant next presented Trustlands Plans for each school. Mr. Grant noted that these plans have been approved by Superintendent Sitterud and also require approval of the Board of Education. Board Member Johnson noted that many of the plans include purchases of Smart Boards. She asked if all teachers are

conversant on Smart Boards. Teacher Annette Cook stated that the Smart Boards are excellent tools for teaching. Principal Baltzer added that he also agrees that they are wonderful for teachers to have in their classrooms. One of his teachers, Collette Clement, is a Smart Board “expert” and has trained many of the other teachers at the school. Mrs. Cook noted that now is the time to have Smart Boards because the kids are captivated by the new technology—it really holds their attention. Board Member Ware mentioned that he trusts the District and School administrators who have prepared these plans and that these plans are for the benefit of the school children. Mr. Ware motioned to approve the Trustlands plans as presented. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Grant also presented Block Grant Plans for approval. The only difference is that the budget is slightly different. Otherwise, the plans are identical to those of last year. Marie Johnson moved to accept the Block Grant Plans with Sam Singleton seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The final two action items on the agenda involved the approval of bids for carpet & tiling projects throughout the District, as well as heating upgrades at the Junior High Schools. Business Administrator Black stated that bids will not close for these projects until May 10th and consequently, there would be no bids available for approval by the Board at this meeting. Mr. Black added that he would contact each Board member when the bid tabulations are made on the 10th of May, and that final approval of the bids will be up for consideration at the next Board meeting in June.

Principal Thomas Baltzer of Huntington Elementary School was next to address to the Board of Education. Principal Baltzer welcomed the Board of Education to his school and expressed his appreciation to the Board for all that they do for Huntington Elementary. He then recognized his faculty and staff as being tremendous and also recognized the students at his school as being “wonderful.” Mr. Baltzer presented the Board with a handout explaining some of the summer reading programs sponsored by the school. Huntington Elementary now has 6 classes that are using online testing for math and science and it is going very well. Next year, language arts should also be added to online testing.

Principal Baltzer is having a School Improvement Team meeting on May 23rd, when the team will discuss drop-off and pick-up zones. The school is looking to put signs outside, in both English and Spanish, which direct parents to drop off and pick up their children on the east side of the school. The school will also be adding locks onto the gymnasium doors which will allow students to enter the school through these doors in the morning. Teachers will also be asked to park in various locations so that the north side of the building has less traffic. Principal Baltzer also mentioned the staffing changes his school is experiencing. He noted that he is excited about the new employees and also expressed his thanks to those who are retiring. Mr. Ware and Mrs. Johansen thanked Principal Baltzer for his work as Principal of Huntington Elementary.

Mr. Grant reported to the Board that the contractor for the swimming pool project will be Hughes Construction, the same contractor that built the Spartan Center. The project supervisor will be Ken Stilson of Orangeville. The annual closing social is set for May 31st at noon at San Rafael Junior High School. Mr. Grant encouraged the Board to attend, adding that they will need to RSVP with Marianne by the 23rd. There will also be a social on May 15th at the District Office from 3-5 pm to honor Marianne Hunter for her 30 years of service. Mr. Baltzer added that on May 23rd, from 5-7 pm, there will be an open house to honor the retirees at Huntington Elementary School. Business Administrator Black mentioned that there will be an open house for the Emery High School construction house on May 17th at 2:00 pm.

At 7:45 p.m., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Rue Ware to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session, a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.