

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The April 2009 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Cleveland Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner. Vice-President Royd Hatt was absent. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud was present as was Business Administrator Jared Black. President Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Action Item #1: Members of the Board considered the warrants, minutes for the February 2009 Board meeting, and financial reports from February 2009. A motion was made by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item #2a: Superintendent Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

<i>Tom Guymon:</i>	<i>Assistant Track Coach</i>	<i>Emery High</i>
<i>Kaylynn Cornett:</i>	<i>Drill Team Advisor</i>	<i>Emery High</i>
<i>Bianna Robinson:</i>	<i>Cheerleader Advisor</i>	<i>Canyon View Junior High</i>

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Nanette Tanner to approve the hiring recommendation as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #2b: Superintendent Sitterud presented a request for unpaid leave on behalf of Schaly Ungerman, a Preschool Assistant at Cleveland Elementary. Mr. Sitterud explained that she is requesting unpaid leave from March 10th to the end of the school year for family reasons. She does not qualify for Family Medical Leave. Board member Tanner asked about what happens to the position in the meantime and Mr. Sitterud responded that a substitute would be used. Marie Johnson made a motion to approve the leave until the end of the school year. Sam Singleton seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item #3: Superintendent Sitterud presented one policy revision to the Board:

 GBEE: Electronic Device Use by Employees

Mr. Sitterud explained that the revision of GBEE would match our policy to the recent rule change by the State Board of Education, allowing for the “appropriate use of two-way radios” when a school bus is moving. This type of communication is often necessary in the Transportation Department, especially when route changes, schedule delays and emergency notifications need to be made. Nanette Tanner made a motion to approve the policy revision as presented. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #4: Mr. Black presented a service agreement for Board approval which would allow the District to participate in a PrimeTrust plan through the Precision Retirement Group. Mr. Black explained that this plan would allow the District to pay longevity and retirement payouts into either a 401(k) or a tax-free medical trust account. The determination of which account the money goes into is made based on an interview the employee has with a representative from Precision Retirement. The medical trust option would provide tax-free money for medical expenses during retirement, which should be a tremendous benefit to many of the District’s employees. Marie Johnson motioned to approve the agreement and authorize Mr. Black to sign it on behalf of the Board. Sam Singleton seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Emery County School District | Board of Education

Board Action Item #5: Mr. Black presented a quit claim deed for Board approval. If approved, he explained that it would deed 3.36 acres of land near Canyon View Junior High to Huntington City so that a road can be built on it. The road would then be owned and maintained by the City. This is the road that would provide a new access route to the school. Members of the Board reviewed maps of the proposed project. Marie Johnson then made a motion to approve the quit claim deed and authorize the Business Administrator to sign it on behalf of the Board. Nanette Tanner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #6: The next item was the appointment of negotiation team members for upcoming meetings. Board President Johansen appointed herself and Marie Johnson to the Classified team and Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner to the Licensed team. Business Administrator Black will participate on both teams. She also extended authority to Superintendent Sitterud to appoint District Office personnel to chair negotiations meetings.

Reports Item #1: Principal Ed Clark of Cleveland Elementary was invited to present an update of Cleveland Elementary School to the Board. Mr. Clark thanked the Board for coming to Cleveland Elementary. The school is in consideration for a No Child Left Behind national award and was recently named a Gold Medal School of the Month in Utah. The school has experienced a 17% increase in enrollment from a year ago and that trend should continue into next year, when the projected enrollment is 184. Principal Clark also recognized the quality teachers and staff working at Cleveland Elementary.

Mr. Clark also reported on some of the vocational programs in the District. Novell scholarships were recently awarded to three Emery High students. Only six scholarships are given statewide, so having three go to Emery High is impressive. Other vocational awards recently received in the District include: Nikki Carter as the State Imaging Technology winner, the automotive program placing 2nd at a competition in New Mexico, and Jesse Malan representing Utah at the National Range Management Competition. Mr. Clark expressed some concern over vocational funding next year, noting that we will know more in the upcoming days and weeks. President Johansen and other members of the Board thanked Principal Clark for his work. President Johansen noted the standard of excellence at Cleveland Elementary.

Reports Item #2: Superintendent Sitterud reported on budgetary cuts for the School District. Final numbers have not yet been received, but it does look like there is a cut of 17% in ongoing money. Much of that will be backfilled with one-time funds, but it is still looking like a 7% to 8% overall cut for next year, with a strong possibility of further cuts a year from now.

Reports Item #3: Mr. Black briefly reported on the progress of Capital projects the District will be completing over the next few months. Major projects include the track resurfacing at Emery High, a new lunchroom floor at Ferron Elementary, asbestos abatement at Cottonwood Elementary and Ferron Elementary and fixing the heating and cooling systems at Green River High.

At 7:35 p.m., a motion was made by Nanette Tanner and seconded by Sam Singleton to move to a closed meeting for discussions related to personnel, negotiations and property owned by the School District. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:55 p.m., upon reconvening to open meeting, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Nanette Tanner to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.