

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The May 2009 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Castle Dale Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner. 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.

Presentations Item #1: The first agenda item was to recognize the District Employees of the Year. Board Vice-President Hatt first presented the Teacher of the Year award to Iva Wilske, Teacher at Book Cliff Elementary. Mrs. Wilske has taught for 21 years in the School District and also taught for 3 years in Carbon School District and one year in the Virgin Islands. In addition to being recognized as an outstanding teacher, Mrs. Wilske has been a mentor for other teachers in both lower and upper grades. She is well respected by her peers and is known for her care and concern for children. She has also been involved in many school and district committees, including serving on the curriculum committee for several years. Mrs. Wilske's classes always show outstanding academic performance and her enthusiasm for teaching is as evident today as it was when she began her teaching career. Members of the Board congratulated and thanked Mrs. Wilske for her excellence and dedication to students in Emery County.

Board President Johansen next presented the Support Staff Employee of the Year award to Roma Brotherson, Secretary at Canyon View Junior High School. For 19 years, Mrs. Brotherson has been the Secretary at Canyon View and has extended a helping hand to both students and faculty. She is known for performing her responsibilities with competence and efficiency and also for going the extra mile to help in any way she can. Mrs. Brotherson has also served on several school and district committees, including being a current member of the benefits committee. President Johansen joined the other members of the Board in expressing their appreciation and congratulations to Mrs. Brotherson for a job well done.

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

Board Action Item #2: Dixie Fielder, Counselor at Emery High School, presented the comprehensive guidance program plan for the 2009-10 school year. She noted some of the highlights and challenges of the program and outlined how the program is structured to meet State of Utah requirements. Members of the Board thanked her for her presentation. Sam Singleton made a motion to approve the plan as presented. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #3: Kaylynn Cornett, Drill Team Advisor at Emery High School, presented a proposal for the officers of the Drill Team to attend the Tremaine dance camp in Las Vegas from July 21st to July 24th. The camp would allow the drill officers to learn up-to-date routines which should improve the competition results for the team. She outlined the itinerary and rules for the trip. Superintendent Sitterud briefly reviewed the District policy for out of State travel and discussed the issue of risk and liability associated with crossing State boundaries. Risk Management recommends that if the trip is approved, that the students travel in a District-owned suburban. Members of the Board asked several questions to Mrs. Cornett to clarify aspects of the trip. Marie Johnson made a motion to approve the trip with the understanding that there is not an expectation that the trip will be approved annually. Nanette Tanner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Board Action Item #4: Superintendent Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

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| <i>Monica Wardle:</i> | <i>Cheerleader Advisor</i> | <i>Emery High</i> | <i>Beginning Immediately</i> |
| <i>Megan Gilbert:</i> | <i>½ Day English Teacher</i> | <i>Emery High</i> | <i>Beginning 2009-10 School Year</i> |

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

Board Action Item #5: Superintendent Sitterud next presented LAND Trust Plans for each school, noting that these plans require approval of the Board of Education. Members of the Board asked questions to clarify some of the items listed in the plans. After Mr. Sitterud responded to these questions, Nanette Tanner motioned to approve the LAND Trust Plans as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #6: Business Administrator Black next presented bids for summer flooring projects to the Board for consideration and approval. Mr. Black explained that flooring replacement is scheduled this summer for portions of Cottonwood Elementary, Ferron Elementary, Book Cliff Elementary, and San Rafael Junior High. The only bid received for these projects was from Affordable Flooring, for a combined amount of \$57,175. Royd Hatt motioned to approve the bid as presented. Marie Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #7: Mr. Black then presented bids for asbestos abatement projects at Ferron and Cottonwood Elementary Schools, to begin as soon as school gets out. The Maintenance Department received bids from three companies, Thermal West Industrial for \$35,200; Rocmont Industrial for \$37,750; and Eagle Environmental for \$22,780. Maintenance Director Kerry Lake explained that these bids do not include testing, which is performed by the Maintenance Department. After brief discussion, Marie Johnson motioned to approve the bid as presented. Nanette Tanner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Board Action Item #8: Mr. Black explained that after advertising for bids in the local newspaper, he received only one proposal from Kolby Jensen for the lease of 40 acres owned by the School District in Elmo. Mr. Jensen offered \$2.00 per acre per year, for a total of \$80 annually. He also requested a minimum of a 10 year lease and would use the land for livestock grazing and small-scale alfalfa production. Improvements would include fencing and an irrigation hookup. Mr. Black recommended that the Board consider an option of cancelling the lease with a one-year notification. It is not anticipated that the District will use the land any time in the near future, but if it is needed, this option would be necessary. Royd Hatt suggested that the lease be guaranteed for a minimum of five years so that Mr. Jensen could gain at least a minimum level of benefit from the lease. After brief discussion, Marie Johnson motioned to approve the lease with a guarantee of five initial years, and renewals of five year periods after that point, with the option of the District regaining use of the land with a one-year notice during these renewal periods.

Reports Item #1: Principal Worthen thanked members of the Board and the District Office for their support. He mentioned his appreciation for his staff, noting the outstanding caliber of faculty and staff at his school. He also recognized that Pam Jeffs will be retiring at the end of the school year. Principal Worthen briefly discussed some of the programs at Castle Dale Elementary. Several teachers are about to complete a multi-year math endorsement program that has brought added enthusiasm to math education at the school. The school partners with Emery High in a reading program where high school students come read with the elementary students. Both benefit greatly from the program. Castle Dale Elementary and Cottonwood Elementary are going to try a

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combined track meet this spring. It will be held at Emery High. Board President Johansen extended her thanks to Principal Worthen, his faculty and staff.

Reports Item #2: Superintendent Sitterud gave members of the Board the most recent update on flu outbreak recommendations for School Districts from the Center for Disease Control. He recognized Teri McElprang, teacher at Huntington Elementary, for being one of five recipients of the Arch Coal Teacher Award. Layne Hales, Lori Labrum and Vicki Rasmussen were also recognized by Arch Coal. Emery School District received financial and statistical awards from the State Office of Education. He mentioned that Emery High School has come up with an athletic travel plan for the 2009-10 year that will reduce mileage by 10-12%. He thanked Athletic Director Todd Jeffs and Principal Larry Davis for their efforts to reduce the travel budget.

Mr. Sitterud explained that he would like to update the vision, mission and goals for the District over the next year. He gave members of the Board information to review and indicated that he would be soliciting input from various stakeholders before making recommendations for the final revisions. He reminded members of the Board of upcoming graduation ceremonies and assignments were made for attending and participating in those ceremonies.

Reports Item #3: Mr. Black invited members of the Board and others in attendance to the Open House for the new Children's Justice Center, which has been built this school year by the construction program at Emery High. It will be held on May 18th at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Black also shared that the Child Nutrition Program received a \$33,000 grant for equipment (steamers) from the Federal Recovery Act. Schools receiving the grant monies are Huntington Elementary, Ferron Elementary and Book Cliff Elementary.

At 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Nanette Tanner to move to a closed meeting for discussions related to collective bargaining. The motion passed unanimously.

At 9:20 p.m., upon reconvening to open meeting, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Nanette Tanner to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.