

## Emery County School District | Board of Education

The February meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Huntington Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud was also present. Business Administrator Jared Black was excused from the meeting. Mrs. Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentations:** Employee Recognition Awards were presented to two teachers from Huntington Elementary. Marie Johnson presented the award to Mr. Claron Durrant. Mr. Durrant has announced his plan to retire at the end of the current school year. Mrs. Johnson commended Mr. Durrant for his 41 years of dedicated service as a teacher, including 31 years of service to the Emery County School District. She also noted that Mr. Durrant stepped in as the acting Principal at Huntington Elementary for nearly a year and provided outstanding leadership during this time. Mrs. Johnson commented on his outstanding abilities as a teacher and his ability to help students succeed.

Board President Laurel Johansen presented an award to Mrs. Jody Carter and commended her for the work she does for the students in her classroom. Mrs. Carter has taught for 11 years and has also taken on some administrative duties when it is necessary for the Principal to be absent from the school. Mrs. Carter was also recognized for her abilities as a teacher and the success she has experienced in helping students to achieve.

**Board Action Item (B1):** Members of the Board considered the warrants as well as the minutes for the January Board Meeting. A motion was made by Marie Johnson to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Sam Singleton and carried by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (B2):** Superintendent Sitterud presented the Board with a request from employee Darlene DeBry for Family Medical Leave for needed surgery. The leave is scheduled to begin February 23, 2010. The expected date of return to work would be March 22, 2010, dependent on any possible complications. A motion was made by Sam Singleton to approve the requested Family Medical Leave. The motion was seconded by Nanette Tanner and carried by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (B3):** Since a revised Landtrust plan from Book Cliff Elementary School was not available at the time of Board Meeting, a motion was made by Marie Johnson to table any action on this item until a later date. The motion was seconded by Royd Hatt and carried by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (B4):** The Superintendent referred the Board to a report from Business Administrator Jared Black concerning the leasing of the District's water shares. It was explained that the only change in the water share status was the use of 2 shares of water from the Cottonwood Creek for the new building construction home in Castle Dale. Everything else remained the same as the previous year. It is the recommendation of both the Superintendent and the Business Administrator that the shares be leased in the same manner as they have been in the last several years. A motion was made by Marie Johnson to renew all water share lease agreements for the 2010 season with the same arrangements that were made in the 2009 season. The motion was seconded by Sam Singleton and carried by unanimous vote.

**Reports Item (C1):** LuAnn Sorenson, District Preschool Teacher, reported to the Board on the Preschool Program in the School District. She gave each Board member a copy of a brochure that outlines the District program and explains the goals and services provided to those children that are eligible for participation. She indicated that

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there are currently programs housed at Ferron Elementary School, Cottonwood Elementary School, Cleveland Elementary School and Book Cliff Elementary School. Students from Huntington are bused to Cleveland

Elementary and students from Castle Dale are bused to Cottonwood Elementary. Services are provided primarily to preschool age children who live in Title One school boundaries and to children with specialized needs under Special Education. There are also a number of tuition students who participate as allowed by law. The Board members expressed appreciation to LuAnn and to all of the para-educators and support staff that work in this important program.

**Reports Item (C2):** Principal Tom Baltzer was excused from the meeting due to a job-related assignment out of town. Mr. Baltzer had prepared a written report for each Board Member to review. Board President Laurel Johansen expressed appreciation for the written report and noted Mr. Baltzer's efforts on behalf of the students at Huntington Elementary School.

**Report Item (C3):** Superintendent Sitterud reported to the board concerning a copy of a resolution that the Juab School District Board adopted and would like all school boards in Region 12 to adopt concerning reducing the amount of time students are out of school for Basketball games. The resolution would require that the region not play games until at least 5:00 PM beginning with the 2010-2011 season. The Superintendent asked that the Board review the resolution and also allow him time to talk with other superintendents in the region about the issue. He would also like to make sure the Emery High School principal and coaches are aware of the resolution and have an opportunity to provide him with feedback.

The Superintendent reported on several bills being presented for the Legislature to consider during its current session. He indicated that the Executive Appropriations Committee has asked all state agencies to submit a proposed plan to cut an additional 4% from the current year's budget and to start plans for a 3-5% cut for 2011. The general feeling is that the Legislature will use "rainy-day" funds for part of the cuts, but that we could see some additional cuts on the current budget and on the 2011 budget as well.

**Report Item (C4):** Business Administrator Jared Black was excused from the meeting.

**Public Comments:** No comments were given.

At 8:00 PM a motion was made by Nanette Tanner and Seconded by Royd Hatt to move into a closed meeting for discussion related to personnel and possible litigation. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Upon reconvening at 8:30 PM a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Nanette Tanner to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.