

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The February 2017 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Book Cliff Elementary School, was called to order by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Tracey Johnson, and members Kenzi Guymon, Royd Hatt, and Marie Johnson. Superintendent Larry Davis was also present.

At 5:00 pm, Mrs. Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Action Item (B1): Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the January 2017 meeting, and financial reports for January 2017. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Tracey Johnson to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (B2): Superintendent Davis recommended to the Board that the following individual be approved for the position indicated:

Melissa Jensen: Educational Assistant, Computer Lab (29.5 hr) Huntington Elementary School

Marie Johnson motioned to approve the hiring recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded by Royd Hatt and passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

Board Action Item (B3): Supervisor Ryan Maughan presented the following policy amendment to the Board:

- **JICFA—Bullying and Hazing:** Revised to add cyber bullying, harassment and retaliation into the policy title and definitions. Also adds clarifying language regarding federally protected classes and the notification process to parents of students involved in a related situation.

Superintendent Davis recommended approval of the policy. Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the policy amendment as recommended by Superintendent Davis. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item (B4): Superintendent Davis presented a request from Chandler Peacock, auto mechanics teacher at Emery High, to take 5 auto students to the annual competition at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, New Mexico, on February 9th. All costs, including hotels and transportation are paid for by USU Eastern. Kenzi Guymon motioned to approve the travel as presented. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (B5): A revision to the Landtrust plan for Book Cliff Elementary School was presented by Principal JR Jones. The revision would allow for the purchase of a set of 30 Chromebooks, in lieu of updating two software programs, Gizmos and Reflex Math. This revision has been developed and approved by the community council. Superintendent Davis recommended approval of the amendment. Marie Johnson motioned to approve the amended plan as explained. Tracey Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Action Item (B6): President Johansen explained the history of water lease arrangements for the new Board members. She recommended that these arrangements be approved on the same terms as the previous year. A motion was made by Marie Johnson to renew all water share lease agreements for the 2017 season. The motion was seconded by Kenzi Guymon and passed by unanimous vote.

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Board Action Item (B7): Superintendent Davis presented a list of capital improvement projects to the Board of Education for approval. He explained the process administrators go through each year of project proposal and review. Several projects are recommended with a “maybe” status and would only be completed as time and budget allow. Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the proposed capital projects for 2017. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Discussion Item (C1): A discussion was held about junior high / middle school athletics and whether or not the Board should consider adjusting the number of allowed games & trips per sport. Members of the Board, Superintendent Davis, Principal Fluckey, and some community members voiced a variety of opinions on the matter. All agreed that students should not miss any more school time than they are currently missing. The Board indicated an openness to considering limited additional playing opportunities, particularly on Saturdays. Ultimately, it was decided that the policy would remain as-is, and schools can come to the Board to request any specific additional playing opportunities.

Report Item (D1): Principal JR Jones provided an update on the recent school robbery. The stolen iPads were recently reprogrammed and are back to functioning. A camera system is now in place in the school. He was thankful to the GRHS student council for doing an ice cream social with elementary students to help ease their worry. A community benefit dinner resulted in \$4,842 in donations and Emery Telcom also donated \$1,000 to the school. Principal Jones indicated that some AV equipment and chromebooks have been purchased with these donations and he will make sure to let the community know what is done with the rest. He thanked the District staff for being very supportive and responsive. He indicated that the Sheriff’s office was also very helpful.

Principal Jones spoke to the progress being made at Book Cliff as a designated turn-around school. USBE has been involved in some discussions, however the promised vendor assistance has not been released. Instead, the school has been proactive in creating a plan and it was initiated with a kickoff event shortly after the Christmas break. Faculty, staff, students and parents are being encouraged to take personal responsibility for their education. The different grades as well as individual students are making goals. The students and staff seem excited. Principal Jones also reported that the school held a successful science fair and 25 students will be participating in the District fair on February 2nd. President Johansen thanked Principal Jones for being proactive with the school turnaround plan.

Principal Kayce Fluckey of Green River High School thanked the Board for the opportunity to report. She discussed the transition to a block schedule, recognizing a few hiccups, but indicated that they are working through this & most classes are succeeding. She sees that students are more productive and engaged in learning. The 74 minute class time allows for direct teaching, cooperative learning, and group projects. She also wanted to recognize the faculty and staff for being exceptional during the transition. They have adjusted teaching strategies and followed through on individual plans to make it work.

Principal Fluckey mentioned her appreciation for the robotics program. The school team took 2nd place at their first meet and won the most innovative robot award. They will be participating in the state competition. She is excited to have a choir program again. She also reported that the new faculty and staff have been excellent.

Principal Fluckey recognized members of the GRHS student council, who were present at the meeting. She praised them for their efforts to involve and engage the community. Members of the Board expressed their appreciation to the GRHS student council as well.

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Ms. Fluckey indicated that new wifi was recently installed at GRHS. She also thanked the District staff for being present in Green River and helpful. She thanked Superintendent Davis for his visits, adding that it has made a difference. President Johansen thanked Principal Fluckey for her efforts & for the faculty and staff at GRHS.

Report Item (D2): Superintendent Davis also thanked the GRHS student council for their donation project for the Ethan Winter family. He provided an update on his District travels—he has been out a lot, and it helps him through a steep learning curve. He has been attending faculty meetings and is excited to see that schools are embracing the Professional Learning Community (PLC) philosophy. He has also noticed that instructional improvement discussions being held—with an emphasis on helping each student.

On personnel matters, he reported that there is an opening for a resource aide at Canyon View. He also mentioned that JJ Grant will be retiring from his service center position so the District will be looking for a replacement. Emery High School has finalized registration and will fill in open sections of the schedule with existing District staff. Once EHS is staffed, he hopes that the trickle-down positions will also be filled by willing District employees. He expressed his desire to fill all of these positions with existing staff.

Superintendent Davis reported that he had spent the last week at the legislature. There are dozens of bills involving education, most still in committee status. He feels good about the ongoing representation we have through USBA, USSA, and others. He met with all of our local legislators and they are committed to supporting our local education. Mr. Davis indicated that he is working on a district-wide recognition program, amendments to the child nutrition policy, a state of the district report, and a unique dropout prevention program that would include pathways back into education. He mentioned that with the tech grant approved, the committee is meeting again on February 22nd. The District also received some additional money in the grant. At the next meeting, the committee will set the plan in motion with infrastructure installation and professional development. President Johansen thanked Superintendent Davis for his report.

Public Comments (E): No public comments were made.

Closed Meeting (F): At 6:15 p.m., a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion related to the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Laurel Johansen Aye
- Tracey Johnson Aye
- Kenzi Guymon Aye
- Royd Hatt Aye
- Marie Johnson Aye

Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)

I, Laurel Johansen, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this closed executive session was not recorded.

Laurel Johansen

The closed meeting was held in the Gymnasium at Book Cliff Elementary School on Wednesday, February 1st, 2017, beginning at 6:20 p.m. All Board members were in attendance as well as Superintendent Larry Davis. The closed meeting finished at 6:55 p.m.

Adjournment (G): Upon reconvening to regular meeting, a motion was made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.