

The September 2017 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Castle Dale Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice President Tracey Johnson, Kenzi Guymon, Royd Hatt, and Marie Johnson. Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

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 August 2017 meeting, and financial reports for August 2017. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Kenzi Guymon 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 individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

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| • Andrea Erwin | Resource Aide, 3 hr | Book Cliff Elementary School |
| • Felicia Nielsen | Resource Aide, 5.9 hr | Cottonwood Elementary School |
| • Yolanda James | EdNet Facilitator | Emery High School |
| • Belinda Peacock | EdNet Facilitator | Emery High School |

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

Report Item (D1): Principal Melinda Durrant thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to report on Castle Dale Elementary. She expressed appreciation for the wonderful faculty and staff at her school. She mentioned that they will miss Mr. Prettyman, who transferred to Canyon View, but are also excited to welcome two new teachers, Jaime Anderson in 5th grade and Angie Barton as an afternoon Kindergarten teacher. The school theme for this year is “reaching for the STARS.” Each letter in stars stands for a part of the theme—Success, Trust, Achievement, Respect, and Service. Students with positive achievements and actions receive fuzzy balls to put in a bucket. Once the bucket is filled, there is a school-wide reward activity. Positive office referrals from teachers are also sent home to parents.

The staff have introduced a new program called “Marvin & Jessie learn about life.” Every month there is a skit that introduces a new skill such as conflict resolution, self-confidence, respect, etc. Teachers are continuing to use iPad & Chromebook labs more effectively. The school is glad to have improving access to technology. Ms. Durrant indicated that she is looking forward to learning SchoolCity and feels it will be a powerful tool to help understand student strengths and weaknesses. She is thrilled with the focus on PLC’s and excited to meet together as faculty and grade levels. The PLC’s represent a powerful opportunity for teachers to collaborate.

Ms. Durrant reported that the staff are working to add maker-spaces. These are small labs that provide hands on, creative ways for students to design, experiment, build and invent using science and math principles. Castle Dale Elementary will again be hosting the elementary level robotics club this year. Interest has grown and there will be three levels of students: K-1, 2-3, and 4-6. The elementary PTO recently donated pickle ball nets, providing a new opportunity for recess and P.E. Ms. Durrant expressed her excitement for the school year and feels it will be very successful.

Member Johnson asked what the results have been related to the “no homework” policy at Castle Dale Elementary. Ms. Durrant responded that most parents have been very supportive while some have had concerns. She expressed

her opinion that there was not any negative impact academically. President Johansen thanked Ms. Durrant for her report.

Report Item (D2): Mr. Black reported that it has been a good start to school year, especially considering all of the changes related to the grade realignment. The benefits fair went well. He mentioned that the annual financial audit is going on this week and has gone well thus far.

Report Item (D3): Superintendent Davis reported that he is pleased with how well the school year has started. He thanked President Johansen for her remarks and attendance at Opening Institute, and thanked other Board members for their attendance as well. The program ended up changing at the last minute due to a sudden health problem for the scheduled keynote speaker. Following the main program, teachers and administrators worked together during two hours of PLC time in the afternoon.

Mr. Davis mentioned that the enrollment counts on the first day of school showed a loss of 29 students from last year. This was far better than the USBE estimate of 70 less students. He noted that it is encouraging that enrollment numbers have gone up slightly since the first day of school.

Superintendent Davis briefly reviewed HB125, a new student residency law. He asked members of the Board how they would like to approach decision making related to this law—would they like the Superintendent to deal with residency situations, or would the Board like to have input on these decisions? He explained that while some residency situations can get very complex and it may be good for the Board to weigh in, some situations are also very cut and dry. The Board indicated it would like the Superintendent to handle these decisions.

Ryan Maughan presented each member of the Board with a Special Education handbook, noting that there is now a requirement from the State to give Board members a copy.

Superintendent Davis added that the District is starting to get test data from last school year. A formal data presentation will be given in the October Board meeting at 6 pm. He also passed out a tentative 2018 Board meeting schedule, asking Board members to review the dates for any potential conflicts. President Johansen thanked Mr. Davis for his report.

Public Comments (E): It was asked, regarding HB125, that if a child comes into the ECSD through foster care, does this situation require approval before the child is admitted as a student. Superintendent Davis responded that foster care is a different situation than what is described in HB125, so an approval process would not apply.

Closed Meeting (F): At 7:30 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussions 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 faculty room at Castle Dale Elementary School on Wednesday, September 6th, 2017, beginning at 7:35 pm. All five Board members were present for the closed meeting, as were Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black. The closed meeting finished at 8:00 pm.

Adjournment (G): Upon reconvening to regular meeting, a motion was made by Kenzi Guymon and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.