

# Emery County School District | Board of Education

The August 14, 2019 meeting of the Board of Education, held at the Emery County School District office, was called to order at 6:30 pm by Board President Tracey Johnson. Other Board members present were Vice-President Marie Johnson, Kenzi Guymon, Royd Hatt, and Jessy Johansen. Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

## Work Session

- 1) President Johnson gave a summary of priorities developed in recent strategy sessions, with the suggested priorities being: communications, CTE growth, PLC growth, a facilities plan, and overcoming social & emotional barriers for students. President Johnson added that she would like to include enrollment projections in the priorities. One option to improve projections is to advance Kindergarten registration a month or two. Mr. Black mentioned that he could develop a basic enrollment spreadsheet. Superintendent Davis commented that he could check with university contacts to see if anyone could help with population estimates. Both will follow through with these actions. It was also decided to look at moving up Kindergarten registration about a month. To improve communications, President Johnson asked Mr. Black to develop a monthly summary of board meeting discussions and decisions, then email it to all employees from a school board account.
- 2) Vice-President Johnson gave a brief report from the recent delegate assembly she attended. She distributed handouts to board members. The assembly agreed on a request of 6% WPU funding for the upcoming legislative session. She reported that the assembly held discussion, but no real answers were given on how to improve funding for teacher salaries and retention. President Johnson reminded board members of the upcoming leadership academy in September.
- 3) President Johnson discussed efforts to provide board members with a summary of significant activities and events each month that are happening throughout the district. This will provide opportunities that are more natural for board members to be in schools.
- 4) Superintendent Davis requested to discuss student recognition on the list of items for upcoming work sessions.

## Regular Session

At 7:10 pm, President Johnson welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Action Item (C1):** Members of the Board considered the warrants, minutes for the July 17<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 Board meetings and financial reports for July 2019. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the July 17<sup>th</sup> minutes. A motion was made by Royd Hatt to approve the August 1<sup>st</sup> minutes. Jessy Johansen seconded the motion. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants and financial reports as presented. All motions were approved unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C2):** Superintendent Davis recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

- Angela Huntington      Aide, Class-Size Reduction      Ferron Elementary School
- Emily White              Aide, Library                              Emery High School

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• Shelby Bagley	Drill Team Advisor	Emery High School
• Brittany Cox	Aide, Music & Art	Ferron Elementary School
• Makaila Grange	Aide, General	Huntington Elementary School
• Rolene Justice	Aide, General	Huntington Elementary School
• Shadleigh Gordon	Aide, TSSA	Huntington Elementary School
• Heather Hansen	Aide, TSSA	Huntington Elementary School
• Savahana Hansen	Aide, TSSA	Huntington Elementary School
• Jaycie Gardner	Aide, Resource	Canyon View Middle School
• Julie Woodhouse	Aide, General	Canyon View Middle School
• Nanette Harrison	Assistant Preschool Coordinator	Cleveland Elementary School
• Adrian Jensen	Preschool Lead Teacher	Cleveland Elementary School
• Maegan Butterfield	Preschool Assist Teacher	Cleveland Elementary School
• Allisha Hughes	Aide, Music & Art	Cottonwood Elementary School
• Natalie Olsen	Aide, TSSA	Cottonwood Elementary School
• Sarah Burnett	Aide, Class-Size Reduction	Book Cliff Elementary School
• Julie Steuer	Aide, Title I & Speech	Book Cliff Elementary School
• Felicia Jeffs	Social Worker, Full-Time	District Elementary Schools
• Greg Daniels	Social Worker, Full-Time	District Secondary Schools
• Katelynn Cosby	Aide, TSSA	Castle Dale Elementary School
• Shelbie Laws	Aide, Class-Size Reduction	Castle Dale Elementary School
• Jessica Allen	Aide, TSSA	Ferron Elementary School
• Kimarie Howland	Aide, Resource	Green River High School
• Bailey Johnson	Aide, General	Green River High School
• Blake Greenhalgh	Assistant Wrestling Coach	Emery High School
• Becky Cook	Aide, General	San Rafael Middle School

Royd Hatt motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. Jessy Johansen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

**Board Action Item (C3):** Superintendent Davis presented policy GBEB for approval. This policy was first reviewed in the July board meeting.

- **GBEB—Staff Code of Conduct & Appropriate Behavior (New Policy):** Establishes expectations regarding appropriate relationships between staff and students. Training will be provided to all employees.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Jessy Johansen to approve policy GBEB, with a minor wording change in section 4d of the policy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Black then presented an amendment to policy GEC for approval.

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- **GEC—Benefitted Staff Leaves & Absences (Amended):** Addresses changes to personal leave that were agreed to in negotiations. Also eliminates the disability policy that was replaced several years ago by catastrophic leave.

A motion was made by Kenzi Guymon to approve the amendment for policy GEC as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (C4):** Mr. Black explained the annual Asbestos Containing Materials notification procedures and read the annual notification, which will be published in local newspapers. Kenzi Guymon made a motion to approve the asbestos plan. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Superintendent's Report (E):** Superintendent Davis provided a staffing update. Of particular note, two social workers have been hired and will be ready to begin work as school starts next week. A grant of \$25,000 was recently awarded to ECSD by the Coal Country Strike Team. Grant funding will be used to train existing personnel in computer science endorsement areas in order to complete pathways.

Mr. Davis reported that a social & emotional learning conference was held last week, with several administrators and district staff attending. Opening Institute is tomorrow and he invited board members to attend. The keynote speaker is PLC expert Jack Baldermann with Solution Tree. Mr. Davis then briefly reviewed the Safe UT data report, as compiled through the 2018-19 school year. He also mentioned that the USBE also has a public hotline for voicing complaints.

Superintendent Davis next discussed the Mental Health Grant, explaining that we have used the grant to hire an elementary level social worker. The technology committee will next meet on October 8<sup>th</sup>. He will be activating a 3-year calendar committee. The juvenile justice committee will continue to meet throughout the upcoming school year. USU-Eastern is putting together a regional advisory council and would like to have a school board member on the council. It was decided that Marie Johnson will be the board representative for this council.

President Johnson thanked Superintendent Davis for his report.

**Public Comments (F):** Amanda Leonard expressed kudos for the support given by District employees toward suicide prevention trainings. She then voiced concern about 35 students being in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Castle Dale Elementary. Superintendent Davis responded by explaining that the Board authorized a 5.9 hour aide to help provide relief. Each school is given a number of teaching FTE's based on the number of students. Schools then determine how to best allocate these teaching positions. In this case, Castle Dale Elementary decided to go with larger upper grade classes instead of split classes. Principal Melinda Durrant gave some insight into the decision making process of the faculty. She also discussed how committed the faculty are to supporting the upper grade classes throughout the school year. Member Johansen mentioned that the assigned classroom aide is very good and will be very helpful.

**Closed Meeting (G):** At 8:05 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 collective bargaining, and 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:

- Tracey Johnson           Aye
- Marie Johnson           Aye

- Kenzi Guymon           Aye
- Royd Hatt                Aye
- Jessy Johansen        Aye

The closed meeting was held in the board room at the Emery County School District office on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, beginning at 8:15 pm. All five Board members were present for the closed meeting, as were Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black. Employees Yvonne Jensen, Jeff Winget, and Lance Whitesel were also present for a portion of the closed meeting. A recording of the portion of the closed meeting related to discussing collective bargaining was made and will be kept on file by the District. A recording was not made of the portion of the closed meeting related to discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

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

I, Tracey Johnson, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the unrecorded portion 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 portion of the closed executive session was not recorded.

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Tracey Johnson

The closed meeting finished at 10:30 pm.

**Adjournment (F):** A motion was made by Jessy Johansen and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.