

Emery County School District | Board of Education

The December 4, 2019 meeting of the Board of Education, held at Book Cliff Elementary School, was called to order at 4:30 pm by Board President Tracey Johnson. Vice-President Marie Johnson and members Kenzi Guymon and Royd Hatt were also present. Member Jessy Johansen was absent but joined the meeting electronically for the action items portion of the agenda (noted below in the minutes). Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black were in attendance.

Work Session (A)

- 1) Discussion was held on developing a board handbook. Members indicated a uniform interest in a short handbook outlining the roles and responsibilities of school board members. There is also interest in a citizen document that outlines procedures for public participation in board meetings. Tracey will work on a rough draft for the board handbook and Jared will work on a citizen participation form/document.
- 2) Upcoming school events and announcements were summarized in a handout.
- 3) The process of filling the Superintendent vacancy was discussed. President Johnson has contacted Richard Stowell with USBA. He would like to have a strategic planning meeting with the entire board sometime during the USBA Conference in January. The timeframe for the hiring process was discussed. Board members would like to accelerate the timeframe in order to have the best opportunity to attract candidates.

Regular Session (B)

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

Presentations (C)

- 1) Board member Hatt and Superintendent Davis recognized Samuel Corrigan, a senior at Green River High School, for recently receiving the UHSAA Academic All-State Award for 1A Baseball. Members of the Board also expressed their congratulations to Samuel.
- 2) Mr. Black provided a brief update on the work being done to comply with new law and rules related to school fees. The District will have public hearings on the proposed fee schedule in the February and March 2020 board meetings, with the schedule needing to be approved in the March 2020 board meeting.

At this point, member Jessy Johansen joined electronically in order to participate in the action items.

Board Action Item (D1): Members of the Board considered the warrants, minutes for the November 2019 Board meetings and financial reports for November 2019. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Kenzi Guymon to approve the warrants, minutes, and financial reports as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Board Action Item (D2): The Board continued a discussion from the October & November 2019 meetings concerning a bus stop request made by Kim Behling. Roger Swenson presented updated information on the number of vehicles passing through the areas under consideration. He also discussed the cost of adding a stop, which is

approximately \$700 per year, assuming morning & afternoon stops each day. He mentioned that many requests for additional stops are received each year by the transportation office.

Member Marie Johnson made a motion to deny the request made by Ms. Behling, on the basis of not wanting to create an unmanageable precedent. Royd Hatt seconded the motion, noting that everyone agrees that it would be preferable to be able to pick up all of our students on buses, but we have to stay within the rules and limitations we have. Member Kenzi Guymon added that it is important to always consider the safety and welfare of kids. She referenced a letter of support for the request sent to the School Board by a member of the Ferron City Council. Her feeling is that every situation is different and should be evaluated on its own merits.

Member Hatt mentioned that perhaps the District should ask the sheriff's office or the highway patrol to provide additional enforcement on roads that are less safe. Voting in favor of the motion were Tracey Johnson, Marie Johnson, Royd Hatt, and Jessie Johansen. Member Kenzi Guymon voted to oppose the motion. The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

Board Action Item (D3): Following a review of the proposed 3-year calendar (for the 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23 school years), member Marie Johnson made a motion to approve the 3-year calendar as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote. Curt Collard expressed thanks for the opportunity given to teachers to have input on the proposed calendar.

Board Action Item (D4): Gaylene Erwin presented two requests for unpaid medical leave. The requests are from employees who do not qualify for FMLA leave. Royd Hatt made a motion to approve the leave requests. Marie Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Member Kenzi Guymon was excused from the meeting at this time.

Principal's Reports (E1)

Principal Gaylene Erwin reported on a variety of programs and initiatives currently in place at Book Cliff elementary school. This year, the faculty have been using the Seven Mindsets program as a means to address social & emotional learning. Uniform lessons are given each Monday and have had a great impact on the school culture. She mentioned that community leaders are also working with students and she has been glad to see excellent turnouts for back-to-school night and parent/teacher conferences.

The robotics program is going well and has 5 participating students. Author Gary Hoge visited the school in October and met with each class to teach writing skills. His visit was very popular with students so arrangements have been made for him to return later this year. Book Cliff had a successful reunification drill in October. A recent elk bugling contest was very popular for students. District I.T. personnel gladly served as judges. The Utah Opera and Repertory Dance Company recently came and presented assemblies at the school. Breakfast & Books was successful with each student choosing a book that was purchased with Landtrust money. The school is currently preparing for spelling & multiplication bees and science & art fairs.

Principal Kayce Fluckey shared that the GRHS school motto this year is "Stronger Together". Efforts are being made to create better relationships among teachers, students & parents. The class schedule was adjusted to add an advisory

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period at the end of the day on Mondays. Teachers are at doorways welcoming students into the classroom. This is the second year of using Rachel's Challenge to work toward eliminating harassment, bullying, & violence.

GRHS has adopted a new behavior policy that encourages more teacher & parent interaction. The second-tier intervention is utilizing the JJS adapt class. The third-tier intervention is a student justice committee. Principal Fluckey mentioned her appreciation for having Greg Daniels at the school on Fridays. He is providing great support for social & emotional challenges. The school literacy goal this year is to improve by 1%. Two reading classes have been added and thus far, the STAR test shows 43% growth. Ms. Fluckey mentioned her gratitude for each member of the faculty and staff who work together to make GRHS successful. She thanked the School Board for their support in creating opportunities for the students in Green River.

Superintendent's Report (E2): Superintendent Larry Davis mentioned that EHS Principal Steven Gordon was recently named to the UHSAA Board of Trustees. It will be good to have local representation on this important decision-making board. He reviewed a recent Landtrust report indicating that our schools and Landtrust community councils are doing an excellent job budgeting and using the money given. He then gave a brief report of the recent SESC legislator luncheon where important matters related to the upcoming legislative session were discussed.

Utah Superintendents recently met with Governor Herbert at the Governor's mansion. The main topic of this meeting was tax reform. Superintendent Davis discussed the youth protection seminars that were held at Green River High and Emery High in November. Both were successful. He is working on draft policies for school fees and vaping. He reviewed the progress of various District committees. The recent meeting of the Juvenile Justice committee was highlighted by a visit from Dani Jo Thatcher, junior at Emery High who is working to address local opioid issues. She was recently featured in a NBC news clip and is also on the District website.

Public Comments (F): Curt Collard mentioned that licensing & new endorsements for next year will continue to be a challenging issue. He offered the help of teachers in this process.

Roger Swenson added that a new company may be coming into the area that has the potential to bring significant student growth to our school district.

Closed Meeting (G): At 6:30 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to move to a closed meeting for 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 Absent
- Royd Hatt Aye
- Jessy Johansen Absent

The closed meeting was held in the faculty room at Book Cliff Elementary School on Wednesday, December 4th, 2019, beginning at 6:45 pm. Board members Tracey Johnson, Marie Johnson, and Royd Hatt were in attendance, as were Superintendent Larry Davis and Business Administrator Jared Black. Members Kenzi Guymon and Jessy Johansen were absent. The closed meeting finished at 8:00 pm.

Adjournment (H): A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.