

MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

The September 2020 meeting of the Board of Education, held in the Library at San Rafael Middle School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Tracey Johnson. Other Board members present were Vice-President Marie Johnson, Kenzi Guymon, Jessy Johansen, and Royd Hatt. Superintendent Jared Black and Business Administrator Jackie Allred were also present.

At 7:00 pm, President Johnson welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marie Johnson motioned to move to a public hearing for the purposes of the Bond Hearing and Royd Hatt seconded. All members voted unanimously.

**(B1): Public Hearing to Receive Public Input with Respect to the Bond Election and the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds**

Alex Buxton from Zions Bank and Brandon Johnson from Farnsworth Johnson (Bond advisor and Bond council) presented information on Bond Issuance. General obligation bonds are the lowest cost of issuing debt considering the state guarantee and current low interest rate.

Royd Hatt motioned to move out of public hearing with Marie Johnson seconding the motion and all agreeing with an aye vote.

**Presentations (C1): Licensing:** Yvonne Jensen presented the number of educators not fully licensed in both elementary and secondary levels. She also gave an update on the enrollment for secondary students enrolled in either distance, hybrid, homeschool, or unaccounted categories.

**Presentations (C2): Elementary Open Enrollment** JR Jones presented elementary numbers with certain classes closed to open enrollment based on high class sizes. These enrollments will be posted on our website. Discussion was held to propose students/parents commit to a full year when enrolling a student in a non-home boundary school with district transportation not mandatory.

**Board Action Item (D1):** Members of the Board considered the warrants, minutes for the two August 2020 Board meetings and financial reports for August 2020. A motion was made by Kenzi Guymon to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (D2):** Superintendent Black recommended the following individuals for board approval:

- |                     |                            |                           |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Makaila Grange    | Half-Time Teacher          | Ferron Elementary         |
| • Sarah Burnett     | Preschool Aide             | Bookcliff Elementary      |
| • Jenny Durrant     | Transportation Secretary   | Transportation            |
| • Trisdana Colledge | Secretary                  | District Office           |
| • Sofia Chimaras    | Kindergarten Aide          | Huntington Elementary     |
| • Ambree Bennett    | Resource Aide              | San Rafael Middle School  |
| • Tammy Curtis      | Preschool Aide             | Cleveland Elementary      |
| • Jaelyn Jeffs      | TSSA Aide                  | Castle Dale Elementary    |
| • Brittany Jensen   | Chorus Aide                | Canyon View Middle School |
| • Kara Smith        | Asst. Cheerleading Advisor | Emery High                |

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

**Board Action Item (D3):**

- a. Policy JE - Student Attendance was updated to include a Learner Validated Enrollment for Distance Learners in the District. Standards are set for teachers based on state guidelines. Marie Johnson motioned to approve this policy with Royd Hatt as a second motion and all approving.
- b. Policy GCFC - LEA Specific Licensing Requirements (new policy) which explains the procedures to comply with State Guidelines for teacher licensing. This also is guided by state rule. Marie Johnson motioned to approve the new policy with a second from Jessie Johansen and all in unanimity. As a sub topic of this policy action item, Kenzi Guymon motioned to approve Jake Mecham to be approved under this policy. Jessie Johansen seconded this motion and all members agreed with a positive vote.

**Board Action Item (D4):** School Landtrust Amendment for San Rafael Middle School was explained by Principal Doug Mecham to provide payment for 3 teacher preps. This accommodates the need with the increase of student numbers. Previous goals from Landtrust is being funded by TSSA and other school sources. Kenzi Guymon motioned for approval and Jessie Johansen seconded with all in agreement.

**Board Action Item (D5):** Land Proposal

Josh Gardner presented a proposal of trading potential property for a portion of the School District's property in Emery. This item was considered tabled to discuss in the closed meeting with more details.

**Superintendent's Report (E):** Principal Mecham reported on this being the most anxious year of teaching in his career. All the teachers are thinking and teaching 'out of the box' to address all the changing needs. All staff have stepped in to complete tasks including custodial, counseling, and other concerns.

SRMS is continuing the literacy program started last year and excited to continue this year. Lucy Robinson presented on San Rafael's counseling data project. The data project last year was a reading project to see a 5% increase in benchmark reading levels. By March 2020, they actually increased by 12%. The urgent intervention numbers also dropped. Counselors are constantly being trained in suicide, de-escalation, and QPR to stay attuned to the students' changing needs.

Superintendent Black gave appreciation to all faculty and staff getting our district ready for school. A special thanks to district supervisors to help the preparation. Principals have been able to take the approved School Startup plans and make them work with their faculty and students. With the heightened emotions of this year, many issues were resolved in a peaceful manner. Our enrollment is around 70 students higher than last year and 5% total students enrolled in distance education. The many extra-curricular events have gone smoothly with encouragement for students and fans to social distance and wear masks.

**Public Comments (G):** Julie Johansen addressed the revised policy of student attendance at one school will eliminate the difficulties for teachers and students. Logistics in the bond information rather than just financial information will also be more of a topic and help to voters.

**Closed Meeting (H):** At 8:20 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Jessie Johansen to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of holding a strategy session to discuss the sale of real property. Members 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 Library of San Rafael Middle School on Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, beginning at 8:16 pm. All Board members were present for the closed meeting. Supt Black and Business Administrator Allred were also present.

**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 above closed executive session was to review and discuss the sale of real property. A recording of the meeting was made and will be kept on file by the District.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracey Johnson

The closed meeting finished at 9:42 pm.

Motion to move to open meeting was made by Kenzi Guymon and seconded by Jessy Johansen, all in favor.

**Board Action Item (D5) continued:** The proposal for a land swap was denied by the board at this time. However, other options were presented to Mr. Gardner for him to pursue. Marie Johnson and Kenzi Guymon motioned for this with all agreeing.

**Adjournment (I):** Upon convening in regular session, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Kenzi Guymon to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.