WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT

5320 Adams Avenue Parkway Ogden, UT

Study Session February 2, 2022

The Board of Education of Weber School District held a Study Session in the Superintendent's Office at 5320 Adams Avenue Parkway, Washington Terrace, Utah. The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. The following Board Members and Superintendency were present:

Jon RitchieBoard PresidentDean ObornBoard Vice President

Doug HurstBoard MemberJanis ChristensenBoard MemberBruce JardineBoard MemberPaul WiddisonBoard MemberJan BurrellBoard MemberJeff StephensSuperintendent

Lori Rasmussen Assistant Superintendent Robert Petersen Business Administrator

Assistant Superintendent Art Hansen was excused. Also attending, WEA President Jenny Graviet and teachers Meredith Hoskins and Jenae Clegg.

Superintendent Stephens began with an update on the legislative sessions.

1) Amendment G - Each year legislators take the base budget from the prior year, factor in enrollment growth and inflationary adjustment based on a rural CPI. This money is put into the Uniform School Fund and by constitution can only be spent on K-12 education. In order to provide assurances it will be funded, they can pull from the Economic Stabilization Fund or rainy-day fund. In the event the economy will not allow for a base budget enrollment growth it gives a cushion. Any year ongoing money is not needed it is available as a onetime fund. Last year was the first year it was in place and the legislature determined to use it for teacher bonuses. This year there is \$128 million in the fund. Superintendent Stephens has recommended to use it through the WPU to make sure rural districts have a reasonable amount of revenue including NESS funding. Last Friday at the GLC meeting he proposed to draft a letter to legislators stating this is our recommendation how to distribute it. If distributed using this formula we could receive close to \$6 million in onetime capital expenses and without it small districts would not receive any. We are in a position where premium is limited. Board Member Janis Christensen asked how much is committed by the legislature to the stabilization fund. It was noted they have a ceiling cap of up to \$400 million.

- 2) HB114 School Nursing Services Amendment Representative Harrison. Adjusting ratio of nurse to students in schools. If we could have one or two more nurses per school it would be great.
- 3) HB 162- Period Products in Schools Representative Lisonbee. Requires schools to provide products in school restrooms. There are families that do not have resources resulting in young girls staying home from school.
- 4) HB193 Full Day Kindergarten Representative Waldrip. Currently in the state we have half day kindergarten only reimbursed .5 on the WPU. This will keep it optional but give every family the option of full day kindergarten. The challenges are teacher shortages and capital or space. Board Member Jan Burrell asked if they are doing anything with non-certified teachers. It was noted we will still have LEA license flexibility. We currently are losing kindergartners to charter schools because they offer full day kindergarten.
- 5) HB234 Public Educator Curriculum Transparency Requirement Representative Teuscher. This would have required teachers to post a class syllabus to be available online, but this bill has been pulled.
- 6) SB114 Public School Curriculum Requirements Senator Fillmore. This bill has some similarities to HB234 but provides a better effort to connect with districts and teachers. This is more on the front end when a school district adopts a new curriculum. It was noted we have always done this with a textbook adoption committee. Board Member Doug Hurst suggested to at least wait a month for public input similar to how we conduct a first reading.
- 7) SB127- Early Literacy Outcomes Improvement Senator Millner. This is for K-3 to align research-based practice in the science of reading and instruction involving the letters program. It was noted we have about half of our teachers currently trained. Board Member Jan Burrell asked if this will impact our reading coaches. It was noted it will reinforce what is already happening in Weber District.

Board Member Doug Hurst asked about the Fremont drill and cheer teams travel memo in the consent calendar. It was noted we are working with the school and following the proper procedures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.