

**WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**5320 Adams Avenue Parkway**  
**Ogden, UT**

**Study Session**  
**February 1, 2023**

The Board of Education of Weber School District held a Study Session in the Board Room at 5320 Adams Avenue, Ogden, Utah. The meeting convened at 5:15 p.m. The following Board Members and Superintendency were present:

Paul Widdison	Board President
Jon Ritchie	Board Vice President
Doug Hurst	Board Member
Janis Christensen	Board Member
Bruce Jardine	Board Member
Jan Burrell	Board Member
Kelly Larson	Board Member
Gina Butters	Superintendent
Clyde Moore	Assistant Superintendent
Dave Hales	Assistant Superintendent
Robert Petersen	Business Administrator

Also attending, WEA President Jenny Gravier and teachers Shelley Burke and Meredith Hoskins.

Facilities Director Larry Hadley shared updates on the storm drain issue at West Field High School and the proposed plan to resolve it. A map of the area was given to Board Members to further explain. The issue was noticed when the design team and civil engineer were brought in for a sight survey. When 4300 West was surveyed there were five pipes in the road not laid out very well. One issue is on record, the pipe is listed as 24 inches but actually is 42 inches. This creates a problem because you cannot go underneath the road. Options presented to Hooper Irrigation were presented at their Board meeting on August 1st. Lift stations were suggested but are costly. Hooper Irrigation suggested going north down 4300 West but we would still have to put in pumps. After the Hooper Irrigation meeting Larry met with a brother of one of the Hooper Irrigation Board Members. After meeting with neighbors in the area about running a pipe, we asked permission to survey and go back to neighbors with the civil engineer about an easement agreement, drafted by District Legal Counsel Heidi Alder. Thirteen restrictions were placed on a proposed parcel. Neighbors wanted to sell ground but not an easement. Larry explained all the restrictions and options to the Board. Finally, they looked into a land purchase to place our pipe on and then resale the land with little cost to the district. On January 16th the owner of the property agreed to sell the land but would not sell the water shares. We will buy a parcel and place the storm drains.

Business Administrator Robert Petersen noted the land purchase is an action on the Board Agenda tonight.

Superintendent Butters noted there is a Special Board Study Session scheduled on February 15th. It will consist of strategic planning on our vision and student outcomes for the district, boundary study process, and school builds.

Board Member Janis Christensen noted the JLC (Joint Legislative Committee) meets every Friday during the legislative session. HB215 *Teacher Salaries & Optional Education Opportunities* was signed by Governor Cox on January 27, 2023. The intention of HB215 is to provide funding with \$43 million. Criteria will determine who receives the scholarships for \$8000 and \$200 million designated to teacher salaries at the rate of \$6,000 per year. These are not out of the education fund but general fund. Accountability will be a concern and may require amendments in the future. Superintendent Butters explained the concern on how this does not allocate funding for classified employees and pulls money away from public education. We want to fund all employee groups. It was also noted Utah continues to be almost last in the country in student funding. We would like some guarantee on the WPU to employ and retain employees. Board Member Jan Burrell asked if the funding for teacher salaries is ongoing. Superintendent Butters noted they are not sure. Board Member Bruce Jardine asked what explanation was given to the oversight on how the bill came to be. The accountability on this is also a concern. Business Administrator Robert Petersen noted it has been twelve years since a deposit was placed into the educator salary adjustment for teachers and is now below and has not grown since. It is also subsidized every year. The net for teachers would be around \$4,300 after retirement and social security deductions.

Another legislative update shared was the removal of the earmark designating funds from income taxes to public education (Amendment G.) Superintendent Butters explained the JLC will propose options and ask the WPU continue to be adequately funded. Board President Paul Widdison asked if they try to change the constitution on Amendment G, would it have to go to a public vote. Superintendent Butters noted it would need to pass public vote.

President Widdison briefly discussed the updated Board Committee Assignments.

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm