

TENTATIVE MINUTES OF A WORK MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOX ELDER SCHOOL DISTRICT
Sept 11, 2024

Work Session of the Board of Education, Box Elder School District, held Wednesday evening September 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Independent Life Skills Center.

Those in attendance at the meeting included Board President Wade Hyde, Board Vice President Connie Archibald, Tiffani Summers, Julie Taylor, Nancy Kennedy, and Karen Cronin. Bryan Smith and Danielle Wright were excused. Also, present were Superintendent Steve Carlsen, Assistant Superintendents Keith Mecham and Heidi Jo West, Facilities Director Corey Thompson, SpEd Director Catherine Allen and Accountant Sherri Harper. Business Administrator David Roberts was excused for personal reasons.

The Box Elder Leadership Team shared the videos and presentations created to inform the public on the upcoming Bond proposal. Board members asked questions and made suggestions for upcoming meetings to ensure the public has opportunities to get their questions answered and make comments.

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BOX ELDER SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

Tentative minutes of the Regular Session of the Board of Education, Box Elder School District, held Wednesday evening Sept 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Independent Life Skills Center. Box Elder School District.

Those in attendance at the meeting included Board President Wade Hyde, Board Vice President Connie Archibald, Tiffani Summers, Julie Taylor, Nancy Kennedy, Karen Cronin, and Student Board Member Easton Johnson. Bryan Smith and Danielle Wright were excused. Also, present were Superintendent Steve Carlsen, Assistant Superintendents Keith Mecham and Heidi Jo West, SpEd Director Catherine Allen, HR Director Emily Williams, IT Director Robert Gordon, and Accountant Sherri Harper; members of the press, employees and patrons. Business Administrator David Roberts was excused for personal reasons.

President Wade Hyde called to order the meeting and welcomed those in attendance and conducted the business of the meeting.

Reverence offered by Superintendent Steve Carlsen and the Flag Salute/Pledge of Allegiance was given by Wade Hyde, Board President.

Recognitions

Julie Taylor, Board Member

I just want to thank all district people for a successful start to the school year. As a parent I feel good about our education. Personally, and from the Board, thank you.

Nucor Grant Presentation

Jeri Lynn Nelson, accountant, has worked at Nucor for 12 years - presented 41 projects to award with a total of \$23,105.00.

Approval of Agenda:

Karen Cronin made the motion to approve the agenda, second by Connie Archibald. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes

Karen Cronin – Yes

Swear in Student Board Member, Easton Johnson, BRHS:

Steve Carlsen, Superintendent.

Easton is excited to be here and make a difference in our District. He plays basketball and tennis. He plays music from around the world and likes to create inspiring music for everyone.

Public Comment:

Kristine Nelson and Chelsey McFarland: Parents are concerned because elementary level lunch time is really short. Kids feel like they don't have enough time to eat. They like to have time to go play also. At the middle school, the lunch room is too small so they just do not go in to eat. Kindergarten students have 10 minutes to eat after they get seated. Some schools have a slow eating table and that table is always full. Custodians are rushing them out of the lunch room. This needs to be addressed. Society has eating disorders and we are starting this at a young age and teaching our kids bad eating habits. We will see more and more problems in the future.

Mayor DJ Bott: No issue. He wanted to say something good. He is grateful for the good relationship with the Board and the staff. Brigham City and the School District can help each other. They have developed a really good relationship with Superintendent Carlsen and Dave Roberts. We feel it is important to work together. He voiced support on solving problems and fixing the misconceptions. Brigham City will work with the District to keep kids safe. When the Board is ready to close 200 S they are in support of doing so. He wanted the Board to hear positive things.

Becky Carol: She works with the young women in her neighborhood. They say that kids love Fridays, that in class they do not do anything but talk. She has concerns about busing. She is not happy that her child cannot ride on the bus. She lives close to the bus stop but is not allowed to ride the bus. She is a mom whose husband is deployed and has many small children she has to pack up and take her child to school. Single moms need help.

Action Items:

Approval of Exemption of Community Council at Sunrise High School Randy Rasmussen, Sunrise High Principal, submitted the letter for the exemption. Every year they send messages out to be on the community council. There is no desire to participate. They have lots of homeless students and no participation with parents so he is asking for an exemption.

Karen Cronin made a motion to approve the Exemption of Community Council at Sunrise High School, second by Connie Archibald. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Approval of BRHS Water Polo Club and Amendment of the 2024-25 General Student Fees Keith Mecham, Asst. Superintendent of Secondary Teaching & Learning - Coach Danny Esplin and water polo students came to be in support of the request. The club is a community club and has to rent the natatorium to practice. This has never been inside the school. It is not under the Utah activity association. There are 30 to 60 students annually. They have taken 7 state championships. If the water polo is approved as a club, a fee will need to be added to the student fees. Recommendation to the Board to approve Water Polo as a club. We ask that the Board also accept the amended fee schedule.

Tiffani Summers made a motion to approve the BRHS Water Polo Club and Amendment of the 2024-25 general student fees, second by Nancy Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Approval of Architect Selection: Corey Thompson, Facilities Director – The Board approved moving forward with the bond. Corey went to work to find the architect. This will help us to see what it would look like if the bond passes. The committee finalized and selected VCBO Architecture. The price is not to exceed \$15,000 prior to passage of the bond. If bond is not successful then we will still have to pay for the architect. If the bond is successful, the fee will roll into the buildings.

Mr. Dave Cox explained what VCBO will do. He appreciates the confidence we have in him. He specializes in K-12 architecture. He showed examples of modern middle schools. They design buildings to keep 6th graders in separate wings from older kids.

Connie Archibald made a motion to approve the architect selection, second by Julie Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Public Hearing: Bond

Julie Taylor made a motion to move into public hearing on the bond, second by Nancy Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

John Ficklin: Will new schools have air conditioning? He feels there will be more charter schools and private schools in the future. What will happen with this bond if we move that way? Thank you for everything you do. Superintendent Carlsen says that kids do sports at the high schools even though they are home schooled.

Superintendent Carlsen thinks public schools will stay strong for a long time.

Laura Wheatly From PTA: Parents are concerned about middle school propositions. After parents saw the email, they were all in favor of the bond. We need to get more information to out to people.

Keith Mecham gave presentation on the website and all the information that is there to educate people.

Elise Dearing: If money is not all used what happens to extra money or if there is not enough money what do you cut out? Parents would appreciate more information to let them know about the hearing. What happens if the bond does not pass?

Heidi Jo West referred her to the videos on the website.

Keith Mecham explained that because of the severe need of new buildings in Box Elder School District, we will need to revamp our ideas and go for another bond in future years. We will need to figure out why it did not pass and try again.

Chelsea McFarland: How long after the bond is approved will things start?

Corey says timeline is as soon as possible. If we use a plan already developed it would be faster. The time frame is 2 to 2 1/2 years to finish the project. We will start with middle schools then the high schools. We want to get it done quickly. He is estimating 5 years to be done totally done.

Alex Buxton with Zions Bank: The bond is a 20-year bond. After it passes money will need to be spent within 10 years or possibly sooner. We will issue the money as it is needed it so interest will not be paid on the entire amount.

What happens when the bond is paid for, do our taxes go down? Yes, they will. By the time we pay off the bond, there will probably be a need to go out to bond again.

Nancy Kennedy made a motion to close the public hearing and move back into regular Board Meeting, second by Julie Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes

Karen Cronin – Yes

Resolution Providing for the Conduct of the Local Special Bond Election: Steve Carlsen, Superintendent

Ryan Bjerke, attorney for Chapman & Cutler, said that we have already adopted the resolution to hold the election. This resolution states the process of the regular election. It is just the mechanics of how the election will work.

Tiffani Summers made a motion to approve the Resolution Providing for the Conduct of the Local Special Bond Election, second by Connie Archibald. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Information Items:

Special Education: Catherine Allen, SpEd Director: Special Education is an over looked population. The number of students has doubled in last 5 years. There are 13 categories that a student may be eligible for, it is not just because of behavior. There is a lack of space. There are unique needs that need specific equipment. The space that is required is not large enough for the equipment. Garland does have an ADA playground which is fantastic. All students were lined up to play on this playground. We need to meet all the students' needs. We are being as efficient as we can with our space but we are out of space but. Mental health has become a real problem in our schools. SpEd covers from 3 years old to 22 years old, which is a huge span. They are all general education students first then we provide services as needed.

Connie Archibald at BRHS loved watching kids take their peers in wheelchairs to where they need to be.

Student Dress Code: Superintendent Carlsen asked AJ Gilmore and Jamie Kent to present.

Keith Mecham says that all people's values are different. Which values do we say are honored and which are not?

AJ Gilmore and Jamie Kent say they are trying to keep focus on what is affecting learning. Dress code is at the bottom. We need to have kids in the building and in the classes learning. Who gets to make the standards?

Julie Taylor says it is a parent's responsibilities to do the policing of the students not the school.

Parent commented that she has a child that is glad that dress code is not an issue. She can focus on other things.

Monthly Financial Report

Sherri Harper Accountant: We are in the second month of the year, and we are very similar to last year. Presented that everything looks good and in line with the budget.

Board Committee Reports

None

Policy to Delete:

Policy 2135 Capital Outlay Reporting: School Plant Capital Outlay Report

First Reading:

Policy 1036 Board Member Conflict of Interest

Policy 1040 Board Member Elections and Redistricting - Fix the wording on the policy

Policy 1070 Board Meeting Procedures

Policy 1072 Board Meeting Notice Requirements

Policy 2001 Fiscal Management Goals

Policy 2182 School Safety

Policy 3006 Employee Conflict of Interest

Policy 3007 Employment – Staff Code of Conduct

Policy 3047 Reemployment of Retirees

Policy 4040 Grade Level Acceleration/Retention of Students

Policy 4100 Elementary Homework

Policy 4190 Driver Training

Policy 4062 Curriculum: College Course Work

Karen Cronin made the motion to approve deleting Policy 2135 and the first reading of policies presented, seconded by Connie Archibald. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes

Consent Items:

Nancy Kennedy made the motion to approve consent items, seconded by Tiffani Summers. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes

Karen Cronin – Yes

The consent items included the following items:

Approval of the minutes of the work and regular meetings held on August 14, 2024.

Approval of claims

00050950, 00051141 – 00051416, 02081524, 05081224, 07083124, 08083124, 09082024, and 09083124

Personnel Actions

See attachment to agenda.

Out of State Travel

BRHS Robotics Team

Secondary Club Request

BEHS Pickleball Club

BRHS Scream Team

BEHS Governing Youth Council

Upcoming Events

Radio Hill Road Closed in Tremonton – Busing changes for September 12-13, 2024
(parents have been notified) Jason Sparks says that big buses can not drive on new pavement. SpEd buses can go on pavement.

Legislators Day in the Classroom September 23-27, 2024

Connie says that Representative Peterson, Representative Quinn, and Senator Sandall are coming to spend time in our classrooms. They would like the Legislators to go into the classroom and teach. We do not have a schedule yet.

USBA 2024 Fall Regional Meeting, September 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at Maddox. Great meeting to attend. All Board Members need to be at this meeting.

Closed Session to Discuss Real Property & Personnel

Connie Archibald made the motion to go into closed session for purposes of real property and discussion of personnel, second by Julie Taylor. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote. Closed session began at 9:10 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes

Karen Cronin – Yes

Connie Archibald made the motion to return to Regular Board Meeting, second by Karen Cronin. The motion passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Nancy Kennedy – Yes

Julie Taylor – Yes

Wade Hyde – Yes

Connie Archibald – Yes

Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Adjournment:

Karen Cronin made the motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting, second by Julie Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Kennedy – Yes
Julie Taylor – Yes
Wade Hyde – Yes
Connie Archibald – Yes
Tiffani Summers – Yes
Karen Cronin – Yes

Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

With the announcement that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 with a Work Session at 5:30 p.m. and Regular Session at 6:30 p.m., at the Independent Life Skills Center, 960 S Main St, Brigham City, Utah.

APPROVED: _____

ATTESTED: _____
School Business Administrator

President, Board of Education