

WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT
5320 Adams Avenue Parkway
Ogden, UT

General Board Meeting
May 1, 2024

The Board of Education of Weber School District held a Board Meeting in the Board Room at 5320 Adams Avenue, Ogden, Utah. The meeting convened at 6:00 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
Gina Butters	Superintendent
Clyde Moore	Assistant Superintendent
Dave Hales	Assistant Superintendent
Robert Petersen	Business Administrator

Board Member Kelly Larson was excused.

Musical Performance: Mason Stevens, Sand Ridge Jr. High Student singing *Homeward Bound*, accompanied by Amanda Stevens.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Mason Stevens, Sand Ridge Jr. High Student
2. Consent Calendar
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Warrant Register
 - C. Budget Update
 - D. New Hires
 - E. Bid/Purchase Approvals
 - F. Leave of Absence Requests
 - G. Approval of LEA License and Endorsement Lists April 2024
 - H. Approval of Foreign Exchange Student Agencies 2024-2025
3. Recognitions
 - A. Christa Larsen, Farr West Elementary School - *WSD First Year Teacher Award*
 - B. Taylor Shinney, Snowcrest Jr. High School - *WSD First Year Teacher Award*
 - C. Sydnee Smith, Burch Creek Elementary School – *WSD First Year Teacher Award*
 - D. Jolyn Emerson, North Park Elementary School – *WSD Classified Employee of the Year 2024*

- E. Geoff Anderson, Fremont High School – *WSD Teacher of the Year 2024*
4. 10 Minute Recess
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion/Action Items
- A. Approval of English Language Arts Adoption Process in Response to SB127
 - B. Approval of Elementary and Secondary Early Out Schedule
 - C. Approve Recommendation for Naming the Roy High School Baseball Field
 - D. Approval of New Policy 4175 *Home and Hospital* – 2nd Reading
 - E. Approval of Revised Policy 4370 *Graduation* – 2nd Reading
 - F. Approval of New Policy 6150 *Media and Public Relations* – 2nd Reading
 - G. Approval of New Policy 4650 *Homeschool* – 1st Reading
 - H. Approval of New Policy 6450 *Memorial* – 1st Reading
 - I. Approval of Revised Policy 8350 *Student Electronic Device* – 1st Reading

AGENDUM ITEM #2 – Consent Calendar

A. Minutes

That the minutes for the Study Session dated April 10, 2024 and General Board Meeting dated April 10, 2024 be approved.

B. Warrant Register

That check numbers 00027703 through 00027950; and 00563506 through 00564319 totaling \$21,999,609.53 dated April 21, 2024, be approved.

C. Budget Update

That the budget update dated April 21, 2024, be approved.

D. New Hires

That the list of personnel changes and additions dated March 28, 2024 through April 23, 2024, be approved.

E. Bid/Purchase Approvals

That the Independent Auditing Services be approved.

That the Approval of the Continuous Improvement Expert for Country View Elementary be approved.

That the Approval of the Purchase of Technical Services Fleet Vehicles be Approved.

That the Approval of Palo Alto Network Firewall Upgrade be approved.

F. Leave of Absence Requests

There we no leave of absence requests.

G. Approval of LEA License and Endorsement Lists April 2024.

H. Approval of Foreign Exchange Student Agencies 2024-2025.

Board President, Paul Widdison, called for a motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Jan Burrell

That the above Consent Calendar be approved. Voting was unanimous in support of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #3 – Recognitions

A. Christa Larsen, Farr West Elementary School – *WSD First Year Teacher Award*

Elementary Education Assistant Director Kirt Swalberg introduced Christa Larsen, 6th grade teacher at Farr West Elementary and noted when you meet someone you get an impression. Christa has that “it” factor. Signs outside of her classroom state, “The future of the world is in this classroom. This class is going places.” Principal Kristi Hancock noted she has a high level of skill and style. She makes the room feel like a safe and engaging place to learn. Her passion for teaching is evident in everything she does. Parents commented she is kind and respectful to her students and expects the same in return. She is a positive and valuable 3rd grade addition to the staff at Farr West Elementary. Everyone needs a teacher like Mrs. Larsen. She makes students feel important, understands the student’s quirks and loves them for them. Student comments included she makes learning fun, always supports us, wants us to try our best, wants us to succeed, and she is always happy. She lets us eat snacks, she is chill and has good vibes. She is the most amazing teacher they have ever met!

Christa introduced family in attendance and thanked the Board.

B. Taylor Shinney, Snowcrest Jr. High School – *WSD First Year Teacher Award*

Secondary Education Assistant Director Matt Williams introduced Taylor Shinney, and noted she teaches band, orchestra and choir. She has a love for music and teaching and is willing to take on anything for kids. Principal Don Morse noted it was evident she has a natural gift connecting with students and pushing them to be their best. She has doubled and tripled the number of students in her classes this year. Students say she takes our recommendations on what music to play, is the BEST teacher in our school, doesn’t yell at us a ton, and has a strong and

fun personality. She is a very good teacher; her class is fun! Taylor's favorite part of the job is working with kids and she loves her students. Principal Morse's nomination letter stated she has demonstrated exceptional dedication, creativity, and passion for music education. She has inspired students to discover the joy of creating music.

Taylor introduced family in attendance.

C. Sydnee Smith, Burch Creek Elementary School – *WSD First Year Teacher Award*

Special Education Assistant Director Jared Abney introduced Sydnee Smith, special education teacher at Burch Creek Elementary. She is also an assistant softball coach at Bonneville High School. Principal Katie Amsden said she is a natural, the students adore her, she collects data and does daily CICO (Check in Check Out) with her students. A story was shared how she helped model behavior for a student struggling with running down the halls. Students said she is nice and every time we are good, she gives us chocolate, lets us play Legos, and love how she is really sweet and nice. She bounces back and takes on challenging students with grit. Ms. Smith's "team" commented she helps us learn, is fun, thanks us, helps me learn how to read, how to be responsible and kind to others. Mr. Abney concluded with the quote, "If you fall, I will catch you. I will be waiting, time after time." (Cyndi Lauper.) This sums up everything about Sydnee!

Sydnee introduced friends and family in attendance and thanked everyone for all the support.

D. Jolyn Emerson, North Park Elementary School – *WSD Classified Employee of the Year 2024*

Assistant Superintendent Dave Hales introduced Jolyn Emerson, and explained her family is her foundation. She has been with Weber School District for 30 years. She noted it is humbling and very exciting! All the good that we enjoy always comes from a collection of the wonderful people around us. I feel so lucky to work with the people I do. The most rewarding part is sponsoring students in their reading and end of year activities. The goal is 1 million minutes of reading each a year. If the goal is met, she creates spectacular events such as a hot air balloon visit. A clip from KUTV News was shown of a helicopter dropping ping pong balls that were numbered and students could receive prizes. She has created different library themes each year such as a safari, reading railroad, space and many more. Students shared they get to sit on the bean bag if it's their birthday, and how nice she is. She makes me excited to come, always wants us to be happy, hardworking and tells us stuff we don't know. Colleagues shared she knows how to connect with students of all ages every time they come into the library. She teaches our Seven Habits lessons and provides a safe space for students to feel valued and included. Kids adore her! She goes above and beyond and is teaching students how to be better people every day.

Jolyn introduced family in attendance and thanked the Board.

E. Geoff Anderson, Fremont High School – *WSD Teacher of the Year 2024*

Assistant Superintendent Clyde Moore introduced Geoff Anderson, and noted he has 30 years of teaching at Fremont High School and has made an immeasurable impact. Geoff has been UMEA Choral Vice-President, UMEA State Choral Committee member, UMEA President, National Leadership Assembly, Choir Director for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, UHSAA Music Educator of the Year, Sorensen Legacy Award of Excellence in Art Education, earned 80 Region Superior Ratings, and 46 State Superior Ratings. Upon retiring, Geoff will become the conductor for the Bells Choir at Temple Square. Geoff pours himself into his work, and knows how to motivate and influence. There is hardly a Silverwolf graduate out there who doesn't know the very talented Mr. A. Colleagues share he demonstrates exceptional leadership and is an agent of change at Fremont High School. He is the heart of Fremont and devoted his life to Fremont. He has a passion for music and works with all students. He inspires greatness and kindness and has a way of helping people feel important. Students share he is unlike any other teacher, has an astonishing knowledge of music and has created a classroom that is a safe haven. It is an honor to be his student. He has also had a great impact on the community with the Dickens Holiday Feast. Assistant Superintendent Moore concluded with a wish from Mr. A, "I want students to know I am invested in them and hope for their success. The best payback is that they use the skills learned in my class to impact lives."

Geoff introduced family in attendance.

AGENDUM ITEM # 4 – 10 Minute Recess

AGENDUM ITEM #5 – Public Comment

- Jenny Graviet - Teacher for 29 years in Weber School District. For the proposed early out schedule. Teachers need more time to innovate, collaborate and plan activities for students. Consistent quality time is needed.
- Brandon Richards- Resident of South Ogden. In favor of schedule adjustment and concerned about the mental health toll on teachers and how this will allow additional preparation time.

AGENDUM ITEM #6 – Discussion/Action Item

A. Approval of English Language Arts Adoption Process in Response to SB127

Curriculum Director Heather Neilson explained the ELA K-5 instructional materials adoption process. During the 2022 Legislative Session SB127 *Early Literacy Outcome Improvements* was passed. It requires USBE statewide support, and requires LEA's to adopt a curriculum aligning with guidelines by next school year. Our current Journeys curriculum does

not meet these requirements. An RFP (Request for Proposal) was released on January 22, 2024. Four companies responded; *CKLA-Amplify*, *Into Reading-Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*, *Super Kids Foundational Skills – Zaner Bloser* and *Wonders – McGraw Hill*. A material review must meet the minimum mandatory requirements. Timeline was shared from March 5, 2024 through April 18, 2024 with the rubric completion. Public open houses were also held in person and virtually on March 20th and April 17th. Points from rubrics were shared along with cost comparisons. Recommendation to the Board, McGraw Hill - *Wonders* as the approved primary core instructional materials for elementary literacy.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Jan Burrell

That the Approval of English Language Arts Adoption Process in Response to SB127 be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Approval of Elementary and Secondary Early Out Schedule

Elementary Education Director Mary Jo Williams and Secondary Education Director Brock Mitchell explained the recommendation on the proposed early out schedule for next school year with input and adjustments received since discussion last month. Teachers are looking for enhanced collaborating efforts and learning from each other. Secondary currently has two early outs but requested to have a weekly early out on Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. The potential loss of instructional time has been researched and noted they would gain instructional face to face instruction time. We would also still be in compliance with the state required 990 hours. Mary Jo noted for elementary, it will help educators to prepare and work smarter not harder. It allows administrators to provide help and support along with district support. It is proposed to dismiss elementary schools at 12:20 p.m. every Wednesday and secondary schools at 1:15 p.m. each Wednesday.

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of Elementary and Secondary Early Out Schedule be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Approve Recommendation for Naming the Roy High School Baseball Field

Secondary Education Director Brock Mitchell explained to the Board last month Roy High community members requested the naming of Roy High Baseball field. A committee was formed and discussed the impact former coach Fred Thompson has made in the community. After three suggestions were discussed, the committee is recommending to the Board the Roy High Baseball Field be named *Fred Thompson Field*.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Jon Ritchie

That the Recommendation for Naming the Roy High School Baseball Field be approved.

D. Approval of New Policy 4175 *Home and Hospital* – 2nd Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted this policy is new for students receiving home and hospital instruction. Changes made include students on instruction must abide by Weber School District policies. Instructors may tutor on the current work. It is recommended the Board approve New Policy 4175 *Home and Hospital* on a second reading.

Motion: Janis Christensen

Seconded: Doug Hurst

That the Approval of New Policy 4175 *Home and Hospital* be approved on a second reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. Approval of Revised Policy 4370 *Graduation Requirements* – 2nd Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted a section was added discussing the credit evaluation committee to address how credits will be awarded. It is recommended the Board approve Revised Policy 4370 *Graduation Requirements* on a second reading.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of Revised Policy 4370 *Graduation Requirements* be approved on a second reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

F. Approval of New Policy 6150 *Media and Public Relations* – 2nd Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted this policy addresses media and third-party inquiries to film photograph and interview students. No changes have been made since the first reading. It is recommended the Board approve New Policy 6150 *Media and Public Relations* on a second reading.

Motion: Janis Christensen

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of New Policy 6150 *Media and Public Relations* be approved on a second reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. Approval of New Policy 4650 *Homeschool* – 1st Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted this policy outlines requirements for parents with students on home school instruction. It also defines services provided for students on homeschool instruction. It is recommended the Board approve New Policy 4650 *Homeschool* on a first reading.

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Doug Hurst

That the Approval of New Policy 4650 *Homeschool* be approved on a first reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

H. Approval of New Policy 6450 *Memorial* – 1st Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted the policy outlines acceptable and unacceptable memorials in the event of a student or staff death. Prohibits promotions, sponsorship or support of memorials but outlines acceptable and unacceptable forms of honoring the deceased. It is recommended the Board approve New Policy 6450 *Memorial* on a first reading.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Janis Christensen

That the Approval of New Policy 6450 *Memorial* be approved on a first reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

I. Approval of New Policy 8350 *Student Electronic Device* – 1st Reading

Compliance Officer Heather Hardy noted this policy has been renamed and addresses prohibited use during instructional time and school activities. Students must keep devices on silent mode and out of sight during prohibited use. Elementary students may keep devices in backpacks. Feedback has been received from administrators and teachers. It is recommended the Board approve New Policy 8350 *Student Electronic Device* on a first reading. Board Member Bruce Jardine expressed concern about defining emergencies and asked to take under advisement and reevaluate the emergency use statement in the policy. Vice President Jon Ritchie was also concerned about this statement.

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Jon Ritchie

That the Approval of New Policy 8350 *Student Electronic Device* be approved on a first reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #7 – Adjourn as Weber School District Board of Education

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Janis Christensen

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #8 – Convene as Board of Trustees of the Local Building Authority of Weber School District

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Doug Hurst

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A. Approve minutes of the Local Building Authority Meeting on February 7, 2024

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #9 – Public Hearing

There were no public comments.

Close Public Hearing:

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #10 – Statement

The Local Building Authority of Weber School District intends to issue lease revenue Bonds in the estimated amount of not to exceed \$60,000,000 for the purpose of (a) financing certain costs of acquiring, constructing and improving (i) the Roosevelt Elementary replacement in Washington Terrace, Utah, and (ii) a portion of the new elementary to be located in West Haven, Utah, (b) if desired, providing capitalized interest to pay the portion of the interest accruing on the bonds during the acquisition, construction and improvement of the project and (c) paying costs relating to the issuance and sale of the bonds.

AGENDUM ITEM #11 – Public Hearing on June 12, 2024

Consideration of a resolution setting a public hearing on June 12, 2024 after 6:00 p.m. with respect to the proposed \$60,000,000 maximum principal of lease revenue bonds and providing for related matters.

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #12 – Adjourn as The Local Building Authority of Weber School District

Motion: Janis Christensen

Seconded: Jan Burrell

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #13 – Reconvene as The Weber School District Board of Education

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Jan Burrell

Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #14 – Closed Session

Closed meeting according to provisions of Utah Code 52-4-204,205

A. This is a strategy session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

Motion: Janis Christensen

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

Roll Call Vote:

Board Member Jan Burrell – aye

Board Member Bruce Jardine – aye

Board Member Janis Christensen – aye

Board Member Douglas Hurst – aye

Board Vice President Jon Ritchie – aye

Board President Paul Widdison – aye

That the General Session of Board Meeting be adjourned and move into Closed Session. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Closed Session convened at 8:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene into General Session.

Motion: Bruce Jardine

Seconded: Doug Hurst

That the Closed Session be adjourned and reconvene into General Session of Board Meeting. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Closed Session adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

General Session reconvened at 9:28 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the General Session of Board Meeting

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Doug Hurst

That the General Session of Board Meeting be adjourned. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

General Board Meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.