

DUCHESNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

February 8, 2024

Duchesne Elementary, 168 West 200 North, Duchesne, Utah

**OFFICERS:** President Tony Smith presided with Board Members Mark Thacker, Brandon Bench, Don Busenbark, and Emilee Wells present, as well as Superintendent Jason Young and Business Administrator Dee E. Miles.

**VISITORS:**

Mike Ross	Jenny Einerson	Lesa Dixon	Sidney Thayne	Brent Bingham
Janalee Goodrich	Rebecca Christensen	Devin Peterson	Samantha Suter	Destiny Guffey
Michael Weldon	Lynn Sorensen	Dretyn Einerson	Annisia Maxfield	Kacy Hastings
Aubrey Harris	Glena Sorensen	Kyler Einerson	Dakota Smith	Stephanie Carter
Shelby Thayne	Sharon Smith	Kalen Caldwell	Jesse Smith	Caydance Carter
Brooke Wallace	Daron Gatherum	Brecken Caldwell	Theresa Clark	Cole Christensen
Mindy Larsen	Rauni Guffey	Quentin Eschler	Krishelle Clark	
Tiffany Larsen	Jane Bernston	Megan Eschler	LaNae Walker	
Shanae Bingham	Lucy Howes	Jessica Thayne	Elizabeth Anderson	

**WORK SESSION:** The Board discussed ways to encourage appropriate communication, staff surveys, and school schedules.

**REGULAR SESSION:** President Smith called the regular session to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Wells offered prayer. Mr. Thacker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**AGENDA, MINUTES:** Mr. Bench noted a visitor to add to the minutes and made a motion to approve, and Mr. Busenbark seconded to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held January 11, 2024 and the special meeting held January 22, 2024; voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

**RECOGNITION:** The Community Partner award was presented to Eagle Fitness, and the Extra Degree award to the Speech and Hearing staff across all the schools for their exceptional contributions to student success. Attendance Matters Poster Contest winners were announced.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** Aubrey Harris, Duchesne Elementary Principal, reported on aggressive goals from each grade level and progress so far at mid-year in academics and social skills. Mr. Busenbark reported on a good visits and observations at the Duchesne Schools.

**OPEN TIME:** At 7:43 p.m. President Smith opened the meeting for public comment. Shelby Thayne expressed support for the proposed changes to bereavement and maternity leave policies. He also supported the letter from Governor Cox to limit cell phones distractions in schools. President Smith closed open time at 7:47 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Schedules for Altamont Schools – Mr. Busenbark moved to table until next month, and Ms. Wells seconded. Mr. Bench voted nay noting that the Board might be able decide at this meeting. Mr. Busenbark withdrew his motion. Ms. Wells moved to approve the proposed seven period schedule with extended morning periods and shorter afternoon periods, Mr. Thacker seconded. Mr. Busenbark expressed concern for the difference in class times. Aye votes: Mr. Smith, Mr. Thacker, Ms. Wells, Mr. Bench; Nay votes: Mr. Busenbark. Motion passed. Mr. Thacker moved to approve Altamont Elementary to apply to the State Board with the High School to go to a four-day week next year. The Board noted that a majority of a survey of staff and parents were in favor of going to four-day to match the High School schedule, and that they had

- studied the research and considered a lot of input from parent emails and conversations. Mr. Busenbark seconded, motion passed unanimously.
2. Student Board Representative Position – Superintendent Young reviewed a proposal to have more student representation and reviewed several options for their participation. Mr. Bench moved to table for further discussion. Ms. Wells seconded; passed unanimously.
  3. Fee Schedule Hearing – Mr. Busenbark moved to open a public hearing; Mr. Bench seconded; passed unanimously. Superintendent Young reviewed the status of the proposed fees with spending plans and that the Legislature was considering funding some of the fees. The fees are mostly consistent across the schools with some individual circumstances. Mr. Busenbark clarified advanced placement and summer school rates. Lucy Howes asked about debate and FBLA fees. Shelby Thayne asked about making changes during the year. There being no further comments. Mr. Busenbark moved to approve the schedules and close the hearing, Mr. Bench seconded, motion passed unanimously.
  4. 2nd Reading Policy: 6.0200 Community Use of School Facilities – Superintendent Young noted the updates to comply with law, protect the District, and meet the needs of the community. A designated building supervisor must be at each event. Mr. Bench moved to approve and give the Superintendent and Principals the discretion to adjust rates up to 20% for individual situation accommodations. Mr. Busenbark seconded and noted appreciation for promoting more fairness in the use of buildings; passed unanimously.
  5. 2nd Reading Policy: 5.0413.08 Lice / Bed Bugs – Jamie Dean, School Nurse, noted the communicable disease portion would be moved to its own policy. Mr. Busenbark moved to approve. Mr. Bench seconded; passed unanimously.
  6. 2nd Reading Policy: 4.0411 Teacher-selected material selection and review – Superintendent Young noted the update to meet current statutes. Mr. Thacker moved to approve. Mr. Busenbark seconded; passed unanimously.
  7. 2nd Reading Policy: Title I Amendments 2.0120.11 – These are operational policies for Federal grant management. Mr. Bench moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.
  8. Travel Requests – The technology department requested to attend the ISC conference in April. Mr. Thacker moved to approve. Ms. Wells seconded; passed unanimously.
  9. Buildings – Mr. Busenbark noted that the Duchesne High project was progressing well. Michael Weldon reported it was on schedule for completion by the end of July. The Board set February 20 at 10:30 a.m. at Duchesne High to pre-qualify contractors for the Altamont High shops project, and March 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office to review final bids.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 3.0411.02 Sick Leave, Maternity, Paternity, and Bereavement Leave – Superintendent Young noted the administration team had developed the proposed policy to better meet the needs of employees.
2. Governor Cox Letter: Cellphones in Classrooms – Ms. Wells noted many districts across the country have enacted policies but it would need input from students, parents, and administrators. There is a need to reduce the distraction of cell phones and promote appropriate use.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT / FUTURE PLANNING:** Mr. Thacker moved to adjourn; Mr. Busenbark seconded. President Smith closed the meeting at 9:15 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the District Office, 1010 East 200 North, Roosevelt, Utah.