

WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT
5320 Adams Avenue Parkway
Ogden, UT

Study Session
January 3, 2024

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 5:00 p.m. The following Board Members and Superintendency were present:

Paul Widdison	Board President
Jon Ritchie	Board Vice President
Doug Hurst	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

Board Member Janis Christensen was excused. Also attending, WEA President Jennifer Graviet and teachers Camille Lund and Jami Lang.

President Widdison welcomed everyone and went over a few announcements regarding the upcoming USBA Conference.

Superintendent Butters began by acknowledging the AAA Bond Rating Weber School District has received. A big thank you goes out to Business Administrator Dr. Robert Petersen, Assistant Business Administrator Seth Pilkington and everyone in the finance department.

Superintendent Butters updated the Board on the progress of student and employee safety with Audio Enhancement and the schools that currently have the systems. Eleven schools have been updated and most of the funding sources have come from ESSR funds and bond revenue will help fund the systems for new schools. Upcoming projects were shared that include another nine schools with Audio Enhancement equipment.

The USBE Teen Center Grants have been awarded and will help complete the Bonneville and Roy High Teen Centers. West Field High will have a center already embedded. This grant will partially fund Weber and Fremont High School Teen Centers. Shout out to Foundation Director Emily Oyler and our facilities department. It was noted ongoing fund raisers from Christmas Tree Jubilee will continue to fund the centers.

Superintendent Butters presented progress of the strategic plan and used a metaphor referring to the Wild Goats on Hawaii's Big Island and how they are always trying to get to higher ground. It was asked how can we ensure we are helping kids get to higher ground? The following quote was shared, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, and all the ways you can, and all the places you can, and all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can". Our strategic plan areas of focus include: Safety and positive school climates, teaching and learning, student behavior and mental health, Weber School District culture and expectations. A Board vision statement is needed and Board Members were asked to give their input on the following questions: What are the hopes, aspirations and dreams of our Board, and what skills and mindsets do young people need to succeed.

Legal Counsel Heidi Alder updated the Board on the policies for second reading:

- Revised Policy 4400 *Student Records* has not been revised since 2003. One change made since last meeting include, a provision if a parent or student requests their records, we have 45 days to comply.
- Revised Policy 4540 *Student Organizations* was presented two months ago and noted we needed to include format changes. Nothing substantive has changed just organized with general provisions and processes on how to create a group or club.
- Revised Policy 5200 *Student Discipline* had minor changes since last month to address inconsistency with practices and will still need an overhaul to be consistent with BEST practices and an administrative handbook will soon be created.

First readings include:

- Policy 3250 *Donations, Gifts and Naming of Schools/Facilities*- This policy has been combined with additional language about how we receive donations and will work closely with the Weber School Foundation. Board Member Kelly Larson suggested we add the mascot naming policy to the revision.
- Policy 4600 *Student Overnight Travel (Extended-Curricular Travel Activities)* has been amended and addresses any student organization traveling overnight for competition or activities. It addresses the processes for applying for travel. Possibly adding "any" organized group to the policy was suggested.
- Policy 8340 *Employee Social Media* is a new policy and was requested by teachers asking for guidance on parameters regarding social media with personal use or district use and explains thoroughly what is not allowed to be posted online.

Secondary Education Director Brock Mitchell and Elementary Education Director Mary Jo Williams updated the Board on enrollment numbers and noted they are very preliminary based on declarations that have been made. We have set a date for students who are grandfathered. Bonneville, Roy and Weber High were discussed along with Orion Jr. High being close to max capacity. It was noted the heavily impacted schools like Fremont High are experiencing a 36%

reduction also, Roy High and Rocky Mountain Jr. High are experiencing some reduction. It is anticipated boundary exception applications will begin to come in tomorrow. Elementary numbers were shared by Mary Jo Williams and noted tomorrow boundary exceptions will begin to be received. We have kindergarten registration in March and April that will impact the enrollment numbers. Dual immersion schools continue at higher percentages. Farr West is still at 90% capacity. Board Member Kelly Larson asked what the projected numbers are for the new elementary. It was noted 700 is the capacity but projections are 478 students.

Secondary Education Assistant Director Matt Williams updated the Board on NAL (National Academic League). It was noted our district provides a great experience, but at the beginning of the school year we were notified by NAL President, Donna Elmquist it will discontinue after this year. Retired counselor, Dan Barney has helped run it this year. A possible alternative would be needed for next year. We competed this season October through December and the championship was held at WIC with Roy Jr. High winning. They will now represent the district at the national tournament. Because of support from our district, the National NAL Tournament will continue this year. Next year is still undecided but possibly will have materials available to our district.

The Junior High Football Committee of eighteen people had a discussion in December. Main concerns are the numbers of those participating, cost of full program implementation with the new junior high, and safety as a major concern. A statement from our handbook of Board of Managers was shared with the Board. The outcome of the discussion was to collect more information and create a survey. Mr. Williams asked the Board who the survey should be sent out to and noted they would like to send it out as soon as possible and have a recommendation for the Board in February. It was decided to send the survey out to all stakeholders.

Student Services Director Jennifer Warren updated the Board on open enrollment and explained it has been delayed this year due to boundary adjustments. Slight changes include if indicated, we will only allow grades 1-5 during open enrollment if they were impacted by boundary adjustments. Kindergarten, because enrollment is unknown and won't be open until after kindergarten registration. Open enrollment will stay open a little longer than the state statute, opening tomorrow and closing on February 23rd. Also, elementary schools taking Roosevelt Elementary grade level classrooms will have open enrollment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.