

WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT
5320 Adams Avenue Parkway
Ogden, UT

General Board Meeting
August 2, 2023

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
Kelly Larson	Board Member
Gina Butters	Superintendent
Clyde Moore	Assistant Superintendent
Dave Hales	Assistant Superintendent
Robert Petersen	Business Administrator

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Assistant Superintendent Clyde Moore
2. Consent Calendar
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Warrant Register
 - C. Budget Update
 - D. New Hires
 - E. Bid/Purchase Approvals
 - F. Leave of Absence Request
 - G. Approval of Weber School District Early Learning Plan for 2023-2024
 - H. Approval of LEA License and Endorsement Lists August 2023
 - I. Approval of Updated Policy 5220 Student Dress and Grooming Standards
 - J. Approval of Revised Policy 4200 School Fee & Fee Waiver
3. Truth in Taxation Public Hearing
 - A. Truth and Taxation Presentation
 - B. Public Comment on Proposed Tax Rate Adjustment
 - C. Discussion of Proposed Tax Year 2023 Tax Rate

4. Action Item
 - A. Approval of Tax Year 2023 Tax Rate
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion/Action Items
 - A. Approval of Revised Policy 5300 *School Search and Seizure* – 1st Reading
7. Closed Session

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

 - A. This meeting is a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

AGENDUM ITEM #2 – Consent Calendar

. Minutes

That the minutes for the Study Session dated June 14, 2023, General Board Meeting dated June 14, 2023, Local Building Authority Organizational Meeting dated June 14, 2023 and Special Study Session dated June 16, 2023 be approved.

B. Warrant Register

That check numbers 00024929 through 00025276; and 00554063 through 00554247 totaling \$8,677,804.88 dated July 26, 2023, be approved.

C. Budget Update

That the budget update dated July 27, 2023, be approved.

D. New Hires

That the list of personnel changes and additions dated June 9, 2023 through July 27, 2023, be approved.

E. Bid/Purchase Approvals

That the Approval of the School Bus Purchases be approved.

That the Approval of the Custodial Supervisor Vehicle Purchase be approved.

That the Approval of Chromebook Replacement Parts be approved.

That the Approval of Cisco Support Contract Renewal be approved.

That the Approval of Sanitation Services for Child Nutrition Program be approved.

That the Approval of the Purchase of a New Playground at Valley View Elementary be approved.

F. Leave of Absence Requests

There was no leave of absence requests

G. Approval of Weber School District Early Learning Plan for 2023-2024

H. Approval of LEA License and Endorsement Lists August 2023

I. Approval of Updated Policy 5220 *Student Dress and Grooming Standards*

J. Approval of Revised Policy 4200 *School Fee & Fee Waiver*

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

Motion: Doug Hurst

Seconded: Janis Christensen

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

AGENDUM ITEM #3 – Truth in Taxation Public Hearing

A. Truth in Taxation Presentation

Business Administrator Dr. Robert Petersen began his presentation by distributing handouts to those in attendance and noted this process began over two years ago. Two years ago, a bond was passed by the public for the building of three new schools and one school rebuild. Best estimates were conducted by MHTN Architects and Hogan Construction. Dr. Petersen highlighted the following:

Complete Voter Approved Bond Projects - > \$4,253,659/Year

Reduce the Debt Service Levy - > (\$4,253,659)

Staffing and Operation Costs of New Schools - \$6,024,217

One Time Judgement Levy - > \$453,436

TOTAL PROPOSAL

Adjust Capital Levy for Revenue Bonds to Complete Roosevelt Elem.	\$4,253,659
Reduce Current Debt Service Levy for Existing Bonds	-\$4,253,659
Adjust Local Levy to Operate and Staff New Schools	\$6,024,217
Enact Judgement Levy to Avoid Loss Due to Tax Commission Ruling	\$453,436
Total	\$6,477,653

Tax Rates:

Annual Cost on a \$520,000 home *without* Debt Service Levy Decrease: \$142.14 annual
\$11.85 monthly

Annual Cost on a \$520,000 home *with* Debt Service Levy Decrease: \$85.80 annual
\$7.15monthly

Dr. Petersen concluded his presentation by recommending the Board set the Weber School District Tax Rate to 0.004130 and set the overall State & Local Tax Rate to 0.005585. Funds raised with this recommendation is \$6,477,653 allowing the replacement of Roosevelt Elementary without a tax rate increase, staff and operate new schools as promised in the bond campaign and avoid \$453,436 loss in funds.

B. Public Comment on Proposed Tax Rate Adjustment

Board President Paul Widdison opened the meeting to public comment and reviewed the rules.

- Brittany Ryan – Her children attend Bonneville and South Ogden Jr. High and she is a teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. She shared crucial needs at the school including no air conditioning, and how difficult teaching and learning are during the hot temperatures.
- Erika Munns – Children attend Roosevelt Elementary. For the rebuilding of Roosevelt Elementary.
- Mike Martini - Principal at West Field High School. For increase in tax rate to support staffing at new schools.
- Gilda Hansen - Teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. Loves the students and families at Roosevelt. She is for tax increase to rebuild Roosevelt Elementary.
- Shelly Naeff - Principal at Roosevelt Elementary. She is for the tax increase and also echoed the poor conditions at Roosevelt.
- Justyn Zook - Teacher at Roosevelt Elementary. He is for the tax increase and spoke of poor conditions at Roosevelt including water, heat and restrooms.
- Matt Patterson - Principal at Mt. View Jr High. He is for the tax increase and support for additional funding to staff new schools.
- Jim McHugh - Ogden Valley resident. Concerned about revenue generation as a senior citizen on a fixed income. Referred to articles in the Standard Examiner for tax relief.
- Roy Purkiss - Resident of Riverdale. Appreciation for teachers and students and what they experience in the schools. Asked to change way of thinking for funding schools and as a tax payer has not seen what tax increases the last 20 years has done.

- Steve Huntsman - North Ogden Resident. Concerned about poor conditions at Roosevelt. He commented the Board should be focused on the right use of funds and money management.
- Steve Thompson - North Ogden Resident. Concerned about where inflation rate was when the bond passed.
- Brent Strate - South Ogden City resident. Observed need to be in Board meeting prior to issues coming up. He is satisfied with the work that has been done from the district.
- Lee Ann Bowes - Ogden Valley resident. Concerned about being taxed out of her home. Sensitive to seniors on a fixed income.
- Pam Nicholls - Students attend Roosevelt Elementary. Concerned about poor conditions at Roosevelt Elementary. Expressed thanks to the great teachers.
- Reed Miller - North Ogden resident. Concerned about conditions at Roosevelt Elementary and why something hasn't been done before now. Expressed concern on management of funds.
- Linda Sanchez - Resident of Weber County. Wants resources to help schools.
- Cal McCrary - Washington Terrace resident. Was concerned about inflation costs of new buildings. Would like to build more economically.
- Brice Lythgoe -Resident of Taylor. Concerned about money and how it is used.
- Chris Hadley - Resident of Roy. Works for Ogden School District. Concerned about inflation and suggested more competition.
- Brandon Baca - Resident of Washington Terrace. Has taught in Weber School District for 20 years. In favor of tax increase to rebuild Roosevelt.
- Heidi Gross - Huntsville resident. Encouraged others to attend Board meetings. Supports tax increase because she understands where money is going.
- Lonnie Crockett - Huntsville resident. Concerned about how tax increases never seem to end. Concerned about people being taxed out of their homes.
- Dustin Harper - Uintah resident. Most points he mentioned have already been made. Would like the district to stick to a budget.
- Suzzette Liu - Property taxes shared from last few years.

C. Discussion of Proposed Tax Year 2023 Tax Rate

President Widdison asked Business Administrator Dr. Robert Petersen to review the proposed tax rate and asked Board Members for any comments. Board Member Doug Hurst commented budgets are tight and we need to do the best we can. Board Member Janis Christensen noted she feels the responsibility about following up on promises the Board made with the passing of the 2021 bond. Board Member Jan Burrell asked Dr. Petersen to clarify on inflation addressed during project bids. It was noted by Dr. Petersen that prices are leveling and we will go out for an early bid in October for Roosevelt Elementary rebuild. Board Vice President Jon Ritchie noted we are prioritizing buildings that need to be replaced and also areas with growth. We are trying to maintain the lowest impact on tax payers. Board Member Kelly Larson noted last year was the first year we have increased our maintenance budget in over ten years. Board Member Bruce Jardine addressed the bid process and how it was value based and selected the best architects and contractors. It was also noted we have done repeated builds with school designs to help with costs.

AGENDUM ITEM #4 – Action Item

A. Approval of Tax Year 2023 Tax Rate 0.004130

Motion: Bruce Jardine

Seconded: Jan Burrell

Approve the State and Local Rate to 0.005585

Motion: Jan Burrell

Seconded: Kelly Larson

That the Approval of Tax Year 2023 Tax Rate 0.004130 and State and Local Rate 0.005585 be approved. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Widdison called for a motion to close the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing.

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Doug Hurst

That the Truth in Taxation Hearing be adjourned. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #5 – Public Comment

- Edie Purkiss - Resident of Riverdale. Relayed story of moving here and how taxes have been raised each year.
- Linda Sanchez - Credit card use in district from Transparent Utah.

AGENDUM ITEM #6 – Discussion/Action Items

A. Approval of Revised Policy 5300 *School Search and Seizure* – 1st Reading

Legal Counsel Heidi Alder presented revisions and noted the primary changes made are the articulations to what are already taking place. Revisions include detail on procedures and divides types of searches for personal property, jackets, lockers, vehicles, electronic devices, and as canine units are brought in on rare occasions, administrators will work with local law enforcement. This policy will prohibit wandering or pat downs. The final change is a requirement for administrators to document searches and share with parents and students. It is recommended the Board approve revised Policy 5300 *School Search and Seizure* on a first reading.

Motion: Jon Ritchie

Seconded: Bruce Jardine

That the Approval of Revised Policy 5300 *School Search and Seizure* be approved on a first reading. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

AGENDUM ITEM #7 – Closed Session

Closed meeting according to provisions of Utah Code 52-4-204,205
(This meeting is a strategy session to discuss pending of reasonably imminent litigation.)

After determining no further business need be conducted, President Widdison called to adjourn the general session of Board Meeting and move into Closed Session requesting Dr. Robert Petersen conduct a roll call vote.

Board Member Kelly Larson – aye
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 8:28 p.m.

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

Motion: Jon Ritchie Seconded: Bruce Jardine

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 9:16 p.m.

General Session reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the General Session of Board Meeting

Motion: Jan Burrell Seconded: Janis Christensen

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

General Board Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.