

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Thursday, January 15, 2015  
Escalante High School, Escalante, UT

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Vice President, Cheryl Cox, Melaney Draper, Myron Cottam, and Mike Savage.

Superintendent Ben Dalton was present as well.

**BOARD MEETING**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order.

**Welcome**

Board President Ken Platt extended a welcome to all who were present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Cheryl Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Consent Agenda Items**

- A. Approve December 2014 Board Meeting Minutes**
- B. Approve December 2014 Financial Reports**
- C. Approve Hiring Recommendations**
- D. Letters of Resignation**
- E. Letter of Recognition (no letters at this time)**

Superintendent Dalton reported that LaRee Bybee will be the BVHS Substitute Counselor for the remainder of the year. The position will be advertised in February for the FY16 school year. Cheryl Cox made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Melaney Draper seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Mike Savage, and Melaney Draper voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**3. Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

**4. Reports**

- A. Board Reports**

Cheryl Cox attended the USBA Conference. She commented it was really fun to receive positive response from so many people regarding the newly hired Business Administrator, Patty Murphy. She also participated in the SWATC meeting. They are currently building a new building. She hopes that more classes will be coming to Garfield County.

Ken Platt also attended the USBA Conference. He commented that he received a lot of unsolicited praise for Patty Murphy.

Melaney Draper attended the USBA Conference. She attended the SAGE testing session. She expressed that it was great to meet Patty and spend time with her. With other districts advertising for the position, it was great to hire Patty at this time. Melaney also received several positive comments about Patty. She commented that she is glad we pushed forward as a District and completed the SAGE Interim assessments. Many districts that did not participate in the Interim will have to face many problems when the year-end assessments begin. She also met with the SUU Board of Regents.

Myron Cottam attended the USBA Conference. He attended two legal sessions and felt they were very beneficial. He also attended sessions regarding common core and one stressing the benefit of using PLC's in the district.

Mike Savage attended the USBA Conference and felt it was a really good conference.

## **B. Superintendent's Report**

### **1. UEN Funding Request**

The Utah Education Network presented their funding request that will be used in future meetings with legislators and be posted on their website. A copy of the FY16 UEN Funding request was also included on Board Docs. UEN will report on the Technology Evaluation that was held in the District.

### **2. Digital Teaching and Learning Draft 2015 General Session**

Superintendent Dalton presented the Board with the proposed legislation for the digital teaching and learning program funding. A copy of the draft bill was included on Board Docs.

### **3. PD Training with the Garfield County Sheriff's Office**

Superintendent Dalton attended a professional development meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Garfield County Sheriff's Office.

He presented information on bullying and hazing policies in the District.

**4. Utah State School Board**

The Utah State Office of Education is reviewing the science standards. A copy of the review was included on Board Docs. In the 2014 general legislative session, H.B. 342 Powers and Duties of the State Board of Education was passed. It requires standard review committees for various subject areas, including science. Since then, USOE staff has been working to meet that requirement while working on improving and revising the science standards.

**5. HB 286**

HB 286 requires districts to provide training to all of their employees and parents on child sexual abuse prevention beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

**6. School Board Responsibilities Relating to School Community Councils**

The locally elected school board acts as the board of directors for the school district. School board members are responsible to their community and its values and have the final authority in school governance issues consistent with State Law and State Board of Education rules. They should establish a vision and directions for improving student achievement, and align policies, budgets, staff, and other resources to that vision. While board members should take an active role in creation the vision and ensuring accountability within the district, they should rely on the expertise of the districts and school administrators to carry out the day to day operations of the district. Local school boards review and approve required plans where school community councils hold responsibility.

**5. Board Action Items**

**A. Elections for Board President and Vice President**

Myron Cottam nominated Ken Platt for the position of Board President. Melaney Draper seconded the motion although a second was not required. Myron then motioned to suspend the rules and put Ken in by acclamation. Melaney Draper seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox,

Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Myron Cottam nominated Cheryl Cox for the Vice President. Myron Cottam motioned to suspend the rules and put Cheryl in by acclamation. Mike Savage seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**B. GCSD Wellness Policy**

The GCSD Wellness policy was drafted by Leniece Fischer to be compliant with the new changes in the food service program. The policy has been available for review by the public. No public comments have been received on the policy. A copy of the Wellness Policy was also included on Board Docs.

Melaney Draper made a motion to approve the Garfield County School District Wellness Policy. Myron Cottam seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Mike Savage, and Melaney Draper voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**C. PES Fire Alarm Upgrade 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase**

District Maintenance Director, Damon Brinkerhoff, recommended completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase after completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase upgrades did not fix the problems with the alarms at the elementary.

Myron Cottam made a motion to accept the proposal for the upgrade of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the fire alarm system at Panguitch Elementary due to the safety concerns. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**D. Real Estate Purchase Contract**

The District made a proposal for property located at 202 W 200 S in Panguitch adjacent near the elementary building. The seller accepted the proposal amount of \$16,500 and the contract would be final after the Board approval.

Melaney Draper made a motion to accept the contract for the purchase of the property. Myron Cottam seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**E. Business Administrator Contract**

Two contracts were presented. One contract would cover the time period of January 26, 2015 to June 30, 2015. The other contract would begin July 1, 2015 and go through June 30, 2017.

The Board discussed several options with dates and fiscal years. Mike Savage made a motion to accept both contracts as written. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion.

A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

## **6. Board Discussion Items**

### **1. Board Compensation**

The Board reviewed the report of board compensation across the State. The Board feels that they are in line with other Districts of similar size.

### **2. Accountability Reports**

The GCSD received the Utah Education PACE report cards for the 2013-2014 school year. Each school and their information regarding graduation rates, college credit earned, ACT scores, school demographics, and academic performance was presented. A copy of each report was included on Board Docs.

### **3. BVHS Counseling Position Update**

A letter from Mr. Brinkerhoff, Bryce Valley High School Administrator, was included on Board Docs to explain the reason the school chose to finish the year with the proposed action.

### **4. UEN Technology Evaluation**

The Superintendent discussed this item in his report item #1.

### **5. Panguitch City Dugouts**

Panguitch City approached the District about helping put roofs on the dugouts at the ballpark. The City will pay for the concrete and the woods and metal class at Panguitch High School may help with the construction. The Board gave Superintendent approved to move forward with the project.

## **7. Board Business**

### **A. Set February 2015 School Board Meeting**

The date of the February Board meeting will be February 17, 2015 and will begin at 4:00PM. The meeting will be held at Ruby's Inn in Bryce Canyon

City. A Board Work meeting and retreat will be held on February 17, 2015 from 10:00-4:00PM.

Myron Cottam made a motion to accept this change of place and date. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**B. Future Board Items**

The Board requested the following items be added to the Board Retreat Work Meeting: PLC's, Master Board plan, community council goals, student data, and elementary building plans.

The Board made a decision to recess the meeting at this time. Melaney Draper made a motion to recess for a dinner break. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**8. Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

**9. Executive Session**

**A. Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.**

**B. Strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.**

**C. Strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.**

Myron Cottam made a motion to go into an Executive Session for Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Melaney Draper seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Mike Savage made a motion to come out of the Executive Session. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

## **10. Adjournment**

Cheryl Cox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melaney Draper seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, Myron Cottam, Melaney Draper, and Mike Savage voted Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

### **NOTICE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS**

In compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and service) during this meeting should notify LyNese Miller at 676-8821 at least three days prior to the meeting.