

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

Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
Ruby's Inn, Bryce Canyon City, UT

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

Superintendent Ben Dalton, Business Administrator Patty Murphy, and District Maintenance Supervisor Damon Brinkerhoff were present as well as Jennifer Youngfield from USOE.

**BOARD MEETING**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order. The meeting did not begin until 6:32PM due to the interviews and presentations from four architectural firms.

**Welcome**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ken Platt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SWEAR IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

Superintendent Dalton led the swearing in of Business Administrator, Patty Murphy.

**2. Consent Agenda Items**

- A. Approve January 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**
- B. Approve January 2015 Financial Reports**
- C. Approve Hiring Recommendations**
- D. Letters of Resignation**
- E. Home School Affidavit**
- F. Letter of Recognition**

Mike Savage made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda with the stipulation that all applicants pass their submitted background checks. Cheryl Cox 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 President/Vice-President training at the USBA office.

Ken Platt attended the President/Vice-President training also. He suggested the Board use the statement that Box Elder School District reads before their public comment sections.

Melaney Draper had not report at this time.

Myron Cottam had no report at this time.

Mike Savage reported that the UHSAA finalized the re-alignments for the regions in the State.

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

##### **1. USOE "Opt Out Policy"**

The Utah State Office of Education presented an "Opt Out Policy" for State testing. Because SAGE Summative and Interim tests are required to be administered by all LEAs, UCA §53A-15-1403 (9) (a)'s opt out provision was determined to be applicable to these tests. Likewise, this opt out provision was determined to apply to the ACT and ASAVB tests because they are also required to be applied statewide. In addition, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exam was also subject to the opt-out provision because UCA §53A-15-1403 (9) (a) expressly includes this examination. (Chris Lacombe, Assistant Attorney General)  
The entire Policy was included on Board Docs.

##### **2. Math Grant**

Superintendent Dalton presented the information on the Math Grant that GCSD partnered with SEDC for professional development for the math teachers in the District. The districts and charter schools in the southwest region will offer the opportunity for middle and high school math teachers to receive professional development in "Statistics" using high quality math tasks to meet the standards of the Common Core. This will include instruction

from certified state approved instructors (Dr. Renae Seegmiller and Mr. Phillip Johnson) in how to teach these fundamentals and implement them with fidelity.

Twenty educators will meet for 24 hours to receive instruction and participate in a lesson study experience on the following dates: March 20, 1pm to 7pm, March 21, 8am to 2pm, March 27, 1pm to 7pm and March 28, 8am to 2pm. Teachers in the six districts from the southwest region are committed to participating in these trainings. This includes Iron, Washington, Millard, Kane, Beaver, and Garfield school districts along with secondary charter schools in the southwest Utah.

**3. GCSD Administrative Professional Development Training**

Superintendent Dalton reported that the first administrative training was held on February 11, 2015. Currently, six employees are participating in the trainings.

**4. Free Breakfast March 4th**

National School Breakfast week is March 2-6. To encourage students to try breakfast at school, every student eats breakfast for free on March 4, 2015. Breakfast is served from 7:30 – 8:00 a.m.

**5. Legislative Update**

Superintendent Dalton reported the Legislative updates that have a direct connection and effect on education. A list of the Bills was included on Board Docs.

**6. Reports from the Common Core Review**

On February 6th, Governor Herbert visited the State Board of Education and reported on the work that has been done over the past six months to review Utah's adoption of the Common Core Standards, and to conduct an expert analysis of the standards themselves.

Many local board members and superintendents have asked for copies of the Attorney General's report as well as the Standards Review Panel and Technical Work Group reports.

The reports and other information have been posted at this website, along with a short blog post summarizing the main findings of the review. <http://go.uen.org/2Tz>

**7. Garfield County Sheriff's Anonymous Tip Line**

The Sheriff's Office has an anonymous texting service that allows anyone to report areas of concern. The Sheriff's Office will be

presenting this information to students in our District during an assembly in the next few weeks. We are very excited the Sheriff's Office and Garfield County Dispatch have made this resource available to our students. Students will be able to anonymously report areas of concern such as threats, bullying, suicide concerns, weapons, vandalism, and abuse to list a few. The process is very simple; students and patrons send a text to 274637 and use the keyword "tipus" and then send your information. The student's cell phone number will be removed as it travels through a scrubbing service in Canada before it is delivered to Garfield County Dispatch. Dispatch will be able to send a reply back through the scrubbing service in Canada to inquire about additional information. I would personally like to thank the Garfield County Sheriff's Office for the time and effort they have put into making this resource available to our students. Please watch for the signs around our communities with additional information. Garfield School District has committed to partner with the Garfield County Sheriff's department by splitting the original startup cost of \$2,100 to make the services available to our students.

**C. Business Administrator Report**

Patty Murphy presented a comprehensive comparison for the FY14 to FY16 school years preliminary per pupil funds. The worksheet also covered the FY15 mid-year financial report of the Utah State Supported Minimum School Program and the FY15 Legislative estimate along with a comparison of districts across the state.

**5. Board Action Items**

**A. Spring Sports Schedule**

Copies of the PHS and BVHS Track Schedules were presented, as well as the PHS Softball Schedule.

Myron Cottam made a motion to accept the sports schedules as presented. Melaney Draper seconded the motion. Ken Platt wanted the motion to be amended to have the schools reschedule events on Monday and Tuesdays, but then asked that the Superintendent make sure that all administrators be reminded that no events should be scheduled on Mondays and Tuesdays. No amendment to the motion stands. Mike Savage would like to see the Board put pressure on the XXX and push back to get them to keep sports from being scheduled on those nights. He stated that as a Board member that if you want to get it passed, a Tuesday game, you have to call him and talk to him.

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

**B. 150 Mile Contest**

A 150 Mile Contest request for travel was presented from PHS and BVHS. Both teams are requesting travel to Provo (BYU) for track. Cheryl Cox made a motion to accept the 150 Mile Contest requests. Mike Savage 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. Selection of an Architectural Firm**

Each Architectural Firm had the opportunity to present their information to the Board prior to Board meeting starting. The firms presenting were: Naylor, Wentworth, Lund Architects, VCBO Architecture, NJRA Architects, Inc., and MHTN Architects.

Cheryl Cox made a motion to postpone this agenda item to the end of the meeting after the closed meeting. 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.

**D. Mountain Alarm PES Fire Alarm System**

Cheryl Cox stated that the Board would move \$12,000 to cover the \$15,000 bill and then they will re-address the second phase in the new budget. Damon Brinkerhoff assured the Board that there is not safety concerns due to the repairs. 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. Superintendent Contract**

Melaney Draper made a motion to move this item to the end after the closed meeting portion of the meeting. 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. UEN Technology Evaluation**

The Board appreciated the evaluation and presentation that was given by UEN. Superintendent Dalton will meet with Technology Director Gerald Talbot to go over the evaluation and get back with the Board. They will go over the plans for the individual schools and plans for cyber core.

**2. Social Studies and General Financial Literacy Changes**

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) has approved the addition of .5 units of social studies to the high school graduation requirements for incoming freshmen. The graduating class of 2019 will be required to complete at least 3.0 units of social studies course work. The existing minimum course requirements have not changed. Local education agencies (LEA's) may use their discretion regarding the additional .5 unit that is now required. They may add an additional half-year to existing half-year course requirements, or provide an additional elective course to meet the graduation requirement.

In further action, the USBE decreed that General Financial Literacy is an independent course, not affiliated with any particular area. Therefore, General Financial Literacy, while still remaining as a graduation requirement, does not fulfill social studies graduation requirements.

**7. Board Business**

**A. Set March 2015 School Board Meeting**

The date of the March Board meeting will be March 19, 2015 and will begin at 4:00PM. The meeting will be held at Bryce Valley High School in Tropic, UT. A Board Work meeting will be held on March 17, 2015 beginning at 4:00PM over IVC.

**B. Future Board Items**

No items discussed at this time.

**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.**

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. 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.

Myron Cottam 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.

**C. Selection of an Architectural Firm**

This selection will begin the process of designing three elementary schools in the District. Myron Cottam made a motion to accept the Architectural Firm, VCBO. 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.

**D. Superintendent Contract**

Cheryl Cox made a motion to renew Superintendent Dalton's contract with a change to the pay amount to \$95,000. 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.

**10. Adjournment**

Melaney Draper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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.

**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.