



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thursday, May 17, 2012
Escalante High School

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead. Vice President Gregg Christensen was not present as he was out on a fire.

Superintendent Ben Dalton and Business Administrator Lark Reynolds were also present.

BOARD MEETING

Call Meeting to Order

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order. Members from Escalante and the surrounding communities were present for the meeting. An executive closed meeting was not held at 4:00PM and regular Board meeting started at 5:00PM.

Welcome

Board President Ken Platt extended a welcome to all who were present at the 5:00 start time.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cheryl Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Changes

There were no agenda changes.

1. Consent Agenda Items

A. Approve April 2012 Board Meeting Minutes

B. Approve April 2012 Financial Reports

There were some questions regarding items on the financial reports and those questions were answered in the meeting.

C. Item Specific Budget Changes

There were no item specific budget changes at this meeting.

D. Approve Hiring Recommendations

- i. Myron Cottam Bus Trainer.
- ii. Kim Brinkerhoff PHS Assistant Volleyball Coach.
- iii. Valynda Mooney - Volunteer Cheer. She will not be paid.
- iv. Natalie Schoppe – Panguitch Route Bus Driver.

E. Letters of Resignation

- i. Carlon Johnson – BVHS Assistant Baseball Coach
- ii. Heidi Noyes – EES ParaEducator
- iii. Lark Reynolds – Business Administrator

After some discussion, Kay Englestead proposed a motion to accept the consent agenda. This motion was then seconded by Cheryl Cox. Brian then asked for some further discussion on the matter. He asked if the District needed to hire the Bus Trainer position, and what would happen if this particular individual were elected to the School Board. Myron Cottam was in attendance and he said that if elected he would volunteer his time to be a bus trainer as he could not receive remuneration for that if he were elected to the School Board. Superintendent Dalton addressed why the position was advertised and hired. Following this discussion a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. Brian Bremner voted aye for all items except the Bus Trainer position. The motion passed 3.8-0.2.

2. School Reports Eugene King, Escalante High School

Eugene gave a short “blurb” about baseball and how hitting has evolved. He compared this to Escalante High and how it has evolved through the changes of the past year. He shared eight different ideas about change and how it is necessary. He shared the improvements on the students have had on test scores. Brian Bremner commented that he and also Superintendent Dalton and Gary Bennett attended the community meeting about the block schedule in Escalante and he was very impressed with the commitment and positive attitude of the faculty and the community and their willingness to do whatever is needed to tackle some difficult changes. Eugene stated that he felt it was a direct correlation to the faculty and staff that have been put together at the high school.

3. National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine-Rowdy Miller, PHS Student Rowdy

Miller will attend a 10 day camp on medicine in New York and would like to petition the board for a donation to help cover the cost. The trip will cost him \$2,800 plus the cost of his flight. His teacher, Mrs. Bennett, nominated him. He received the highest score on the Medical Anatomy test. Brian Bremner asked if this fit into the “national” competition requirements that the Board had previously set. Cheryl Cox also commented that this could be a benefit for the community in the future and that the Board needed to figure out how they would help fund these opportunities. Brian Bremner made a motion to allocate \$600 to help fund this trip. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed unanimously 4-0. Further discussion, Cheryl stated she wants to make sure the Board has a policy and source of funding in place because more of these opportunities may come to the Board. They asked Rowdy to come to the next Board meeting that will be held in Panguitch after he returns.

4. Block Schedule, Gary Bennett, Eric Jessen

Gary and Eric were asked in the last board meeting to develop a schedule for the 10 period block schedule. They made these schedules and presented them to the public. Eric Jessen was not present for the meeting as he was attending the State track meet as an assistant coach and bus driver. Therefore, he asked Gary Bennett to lead the discussion. He updated the board on what they have accomplished over the past month, but also informed the board that more work needed to be done on the scheduling. Brian Bremner commented that after he attend the community meeting in Panguitch he had parent after parent tell him to please have English taught every day.

Following Mr. Bennett's presentation, Superintendent Dalton discussed the community meetings that he attended and the feedback he received from each of the community meetings that he attended.

Beth Christensen commented on how the elementary staff and parents of the students need to be involved in this discussion as well. Superintendent Dalton said he recognizes their concern and would be willing to present to the communities again, if needed.

5. Preliminary Budget, Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator

Lark presented a preliminary budget to the Board as a starting point for discussion on the budget. The preliminary budget was emailed to the Board. A quick summary showed the areas which were over budget that would need to be changed. The projections show that there will be approximately \$500,000 surplus in the General Fund. A preliminary budget will be available to the public on June 1, 2012. There were several discussion items on the early retirement program, CTE programs, SRS monies, and tax projections.

6. Public Comments

Melanie Torgersen, a mother of six children and a volunteer, commented that she has witnessed over 18 years that the teachers will do anything that they are asked to do. She is not opposed to the 10 hour block, but she has concerns about how it will work and how it will affect the elementary schedule. She also knows that the teachers will do anything to make it work, but she knows that everyone has a breaking point. She stated that she does not have a solution, but hopes that the Board will recognize these concerns.

Tabor Dahl stated concerns about the schedule and messing with the elementary schedule. He also asked about the hiring of the Boulder Elementary teacher and how it was going. Superintendent Dalton stated that he expects to have a teacher in place within the first couple of weeks of June.

Kelleen Owens expressed concerns of the cuts being made in the Escalante schools. She has four boys in the school system. She is also concerned about math being a half-time position in the high school. Superintendent Dalton addressed some of her concerns about the schedule.

Jill Chidester commented that the elementary schools need to be informed of the high school scheduling changes. She would appreciate the elementary being a part of the discussions so that they know what is going on and why.

7. School Board Proposals—Comments---Reports

Brian Bremner reported about the comments he has received after attending the community meetings. He commented how we need to improve teachers throughout the District, based on comments he received from parents. One person also made him promise to say that when developing the new schedule next year please have "English every day." Superintendent explained how students will receive more minutes in these classes on the 10 Hour Block Schedule. He also suggested broadcasting Board meetings to other locations. He would like to have more messages sent to parents by Parent Link. He also asked if the interview committee

has been set up for teacher interviews. Superintendent also explained which classes would be streamed across the District and how it will happen with software that will store classes to view at a later time if needed. Increase of 62.4 hours of English for 7th and 8th grades and 28.8 hours decrease for 9-12 grades with a total increase of 38.4 hours for the five years of 7-12 grade students.

Kay Englestead talked about some concerns he heard from parents that felt teacher/student time would be shortened on the Block Schedule. He also publicly thanked Garfield County and Ruby's Inn for helping to repair Panguitch High School's track prior to the Region Track Meet. He mentioned that in the future the tracks will have to be refurbished.

Cheryl Cox attended the SWATC Board Meeting. She said the District needs to look into increasing the course offerings through SWATC to see what they could do and which offerings the District could use. She reported on a What Counts meeting that was held in Boulder last month. She stated that it was a very positive meeting and gave the parents the opportunity to brainstorm ideas for their school. Parent/community involvement was the number one item that they felt was important to their school.

Ken Platt reported on how he is a member of the USBA Board of Directors, and as part of that Board he was assigned to a Utah Rural Schools Board as well. He discussed that the District is not paying him to attend these meetings, but rather the USBA is paying for his travel related expenses. He also reported that he attended the Five County Steering Committee meeting. He reported that Escalante Mayor is going to Maryland to look at a District that is combining public education with private education.

8. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dalton thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to work in the District and for their support. He feels like the hard decisions that have been made are starting to reflect in the budget. He also thanked Lark for doing an excellent job and his honesty and integrity. He thanked the teachers for their hard work.

A. NESS Funding

The District received approximately an additional \$100,000 in NESS funding for this fiscal year, this will be ongoing money. The District is still expecting an additional \$200,000 for the new fiscal year. The money is intended to increase class offerings.

B. Negotiations Update

Superintendent has been meeting with the GEA monthly to discuss their concerns. He would like to start negotiations in June. Built into the new budget will be a coverage of the 1.9% increase in retirement, a 6.5% increase in insurance costs, and also steps and lanes (\$86,200).

C. Rehiring Personnel

The District has advertised for a part-time administrator part-time teacher at Escalante High School and also advertised for three elementary teachers to be at Panguitch Elementary, Escalante Elementary and Boulder. Superintendent contacted Richard Stowell at USBA to advertise for the Business Administrator position.

D. Smart Board Update-Boulder Elem

The Board directed the District to provide Boulder with a Smart Board. The Smart Board and projector from the District Office were installed at Boulder.

E. Southwest ATC FY 2013 High School Fee Schedule

Cheryl forwarded the fee schedule for ATC classes. There will be no increase for next year and we currently use this schedule to pay for Nick Frandsen to teach shop at PHS.

F. High School Principal/AD accounting training by USOE

All of the High School principals and Superintendent Dalton attended training at USOE on accounting practices in high school checking accounts. There are some issues that need to be addressed to be in compliance with the USOE.

G. Committee Reports

There are currently committees in place and meeting on the Math Text Book Adoption, Teacher Evaluation and Health Education. Several teachers, administrators and parents are on these committees. It has been very successful to have input from parents and community members.

H. SEDC Legislative Steak Fry

The annual SEDC Steak Fry is scheduled for June 6, 2012 on Cedar Mountain.

9. Capital Projects

A. Escalante Well, Lenza Wilson

The motor on the Escalante well has burned up. This motor was replaced about a year and half ago. Lenza gave suggestions on what needs to be done to fix the well. Damon and Lenza will find someone to pull the well. The cost to pull the well will be about \$2,700. Escalante City has been working with the schools on the water supply, but currently they are watering the grass with culinary water. Kay Englestead made a motion to have Lenza make the changes and repairs to the well. Also, Lenza will help the District list the parts that can be sold. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0. Brian Bremner then made a motion to have Superintendent Dalton contact Sunrise Engineering with the report and tell them because of the engineering flaw we would be willing to settle this issue by selling them the variable speed drive for \$12,000. Ken Platt seconded the motion. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

B. Current RFP's

1. PES-Installation of Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter

A bid proposal was included in the Board packet: Legendary Home Builders \$26,584 and Bryce Valley Builders \$16,030. The cost of the project could be cut if we did not install a gutter and just installed the 5ft side walk. Brian Bremner proposed a motion to accept the bid from Bryce Valley Builders except drop the fencing and the drain on the West. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, and Cheryl Cox voted aye. Kay Englestead voted nay. The motion passed 3-1. Kay asked if there will be a safety issue without the fence in place.

2. BVES Feasibility Study

A bid proposal was included in the Board packet: CTA Architects Engineers \$34,123, Engineering System Solutions \$14,920 and VBFA \$15,210. The Board discussed options with each bid. Cheryl Cox pointed out that the feasibility study would show the differences in each system. The Board also expressed concerns about the bid from CTA being so high and so close to the grant amount of \$35,000. Carl Higginson recommended VBFA because he has worked with them in the past. Cheryl Cox made a motion to accept the bid of VBFA with the qualifier that it must be completed in 45 days. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

3. Crack Seal Resurface Parking Lot Bids

The packet included the following bids from Spencer Asphalt: BVHS Gym Parking Lot \$67,271.80, BVHS North & East Parking Lot \$4,586.70, BVE \$2,874.56, EES \$6,181.46, EHS \$15,391.96, PHS \$690.00 PES Playground \$4,646.88, District Office \$3,673.70. Brian Bremner made a motion and asked the Board to direct Damon to go and get formal RFP's for repairs to the parking lots broken out by each parking lot and itemized amounts. Brian stated he would provide other company names to Damon. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

4. EHS Door Bids

The Board left the meeting to go and personally look at the doors located in the High School. The doors were never properly installed or fixed when the school was added on to. The glass is about ready to fall out and the door frames are broken. Two bids are included: one from Imperial Windows for \$11,046 and one from Jones Paint and glass for \$14,700. Brian Bremner made a motion to accept the bid from Imperial Windows to replace the doors in EHS. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

10. Discussion and Action Items

A. Security Cameras

Bryce Valley High School asked if they could install security cameras in the school. They are willing to cash out their CD to pay for the cameras. EHS and PHS would also be interested in cameras. The cost for the server would be about \$1,000 and each camera would be about \$300. The principals are willing to purchase the cameras for their schools if the District purchased the server. All schools can connect to one server. SEDC will install the cameras at no cost. Brian Bremner made a motion to direct the Superintendent and Lark to put a line item in the budget for the server and have the schools to come with proposals to use their money to pay for cameras. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

B. USOE Audit Responses, Lark Reynolds

Larks prepared the responses to USOE on the audit findings which were included in the Board packet. Cheryl Cox commented that she wants to make sure that the purchasing procedures and more accountability with school budgets will be taken care of so they will

not be on the next audit report. Cheryl Cox made a motion to accept the responses that were prepared. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted Aye. Brian Bremner voted nay. The motion passed 3-1.

C. RIF – Reduction in Force

Annie Eldredge's District Office Position. Brian Bremner made a motion to eliminate the Transportation Director/Executive Assistant position at the District Office due to District/personnel needs. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0. Brian Bremner then made a motion to accept the voluntary transfer request from the transportation Director/Executive assistant and be submitted within 10 days to serve as the Bryce Valley Elementary Secretary on the elementary secretary salary schedule recognizing her years of service. Ken Platt then read a letter from Layne LeFevre expressing his appreciation and Annie's service to Bryce Valley Elementary. Cheryl Cox asked if the email that Annie had sent could be used as her formal acceptance of this voluntary transfer. Brian Bremner commented that he felt she should formalize the request. Superintendent said he felt the email said she would accept this transfer. Cheryl Cox made a substitute motion that they would accept the email that Annie had specified that she would accept this transfer. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

D. BoardDocs

BoardDocs is a cloud-based electronic board document management system. The Board packet included a formal proposal and a more detailed overview. There is a one-time startup fee of \$1,000.00 and then a yearly fee of \$2,700.00. Board packets would no longer have to be emailed and would be accessible anywhere you have an internet connection. It is also compatible with IPADS. The cost would be \$225.00 per month. Ken Platt commented that USBA used a similar program called Board Book. He stated that it is very easy to use and download. Kay Englestead made a motion to accept the system. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion stating she would appreciate a more accessible packet and the fact that it becomes more transparent for the public. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. Brian Bremner voted nay. The motion passed 3-1.

E. Tenure Recommendation

Mr. Chad Reeder PHS/PMS Science Teacher has completed his EYE requirements and we have letter from Mr. Quarnberg requesting his advancement to Level 2. Superintendent Dalton stated that he has completed two praxis tests to get additional endorsements for the District. Kay Englestead made a motion to grant Mr. Reeder tenure. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. Brian commented that he worries about giving teachers tenure when other teachers without tenure were let go. Superintendent Dalton stated that the content area in a secondary school would cause them to have to replace a core teacher. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. Brian Bremner voted nay. The motion passed 3-1.

F. Acceptable Use Policy for Students-BYOD (Bring your own device)-2nd Reading

With the changes in the electronic policy we have a need to change the AUP policy the students sign to use our internet and school computers. This is the second reading on this policy. We need the policy in place before school starts next year. Brian Bremner made a motion to accept the second reading of the BYOD Policy. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

G. What Counts Work Meetings

A date and time to develop the Board goals based on the What Counts meetings was discussed. The Board decided to set the date for May 24, 2012 at 5:00PM at the District Office. This meeting will be advertised as a work meeting and no motions will be made.

11. Personnel

Ken Platt suggested that the Board make a decision of Lark's transition. The Board suggested that he complete the budget and after the June 14th meeting, take the time that he needed to finalize his responsibilities at the District. Lark commented that the new person would be coming into a mess being that the District is in the middle of training for the new FIS system. He offered his help in training the new person for compensation. Brian Bremner commented that our Chief Accountant is working for us, but with obvious interests elsewhere. He has concerns with the fact that this person manages the finances. He stated that the District was in this situation three years ago and that there were problems. He also stated that he felt \$50-60,000 was not a cheap wage especially in this area. He stated that Lark signed a contract with no intention of fulfilling it is an example of best interests not being in the District. Brian stated that we were in a worse mess three years ago. Our books weren't as good, our Superintendent wasn't as good and we didn't have as savvy as a Board as we have right now and we survived. He also expressed concern with the fact that Lark asked for pay to come back and help. Lark stated that when he signed the contract he did not have a job elsewhere; he had only applied. Lark stated that he was offended that Brian would imply that he would cheat the District. He also stated that the burden would be placed on the Superintendent and two ladies in the District who have the responsibilities. He stated that it is a big job and who is going to fill those shoes. Brian asked why there wasn't a budget already in place. Cheryl Cox commented that no goals have been provided from the Board for the budget. She stated that no matter when you leave there will always be people left in a lurch. She stated that she appreciates Lark's willingness to help the District get through the transition. She recognizes that decisions have to be made that are best for a person's family. Ken Platt stated that the Board does not question Lark's integrity. He stated that if Lark could stay until the end of June it would be terrific. He would like Lark to stay at the District exclusively until after the June 14th Board meeting. Lark reminded the Board that there would be three payrolls coming up in June also and stated that Lucinda has not completed a payroll from start to finish by herself. There will be one more payroll to do this training. Superintendent asked the Board for direction on the advertisement of the position. Ken suggested the deadline be two weeks out. Kay Englestead suggested not putting a dollar amount on the position to allow the Board to

look at all applications. Cheryl Cox and Ken Platt suggested that experience be a preference.

12. Board Business

A. Set June 2012 School Board Meeting time, date, and location

The regular Board meeting schedule showed that the June meeting would be on June 21, 2012, but Superintendent Dalton will be in Midway to Superintendent Meetings. Also, June 20, 2012 is the date that a budget must be approved with the time needed for advertisement of the public hearings. Kay Englestead suggested that the meeting be moved to June 14, 2012. This meeting would be regular Board meeting and budget hearings for the closing, opening and approval of the FY 13 budget. The location will be in Bryce Valley at the High School beginning at 5:00PM. Brian Bremner made a motion to accept this date change. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

13. Public Comments

14. Executive Session (If needed)

15. Adjournment

Brian Bremner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead voted aye. The motion passed 4-0.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS DURING PUBLIC MEETING

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify LyNese Miller at 676-8821 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.