

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY

Regular Board Meeting  
and  
Closed Executive Session

August 5, 2003

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City met in a Closed Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting at 5:08 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2003 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East First South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Clifford Higbee, Vice President Laurel H. Young, Kristi Deveraux Swett, Dr. Janice W. Clemmer, John deJong, Ila Rose Fife, and Dr. Douglas Nelson.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. McKell Withers; Kent G. Stephens, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; Dr. Charles Hausman, Assistant Superintendent Student & School Priorities; Rickie McCandless, Associate Superintendent; Richard Scott, Executive Director of Human Resources; Dr. Dorothy Cosgrove, Executive Director School Services; Kathleen Christy, East Area Director; Janet M. Roberts, Budget Director; Kelly Orton, Director of Child Nutrition and SLASA President; Daphne Williams, Supervisor of Community Involvement; Maria Farrington, Director Eccles/Annenberg and Supervisor Family Support & Outreach; Principals Sylvia Lesser, Wasatch Elementary, Shawna Wilde, Jackson Elementary, and Dahlia Cordova, Franklin Elementary; State Board of Education Member Tim Beagley, District 6; Elaine Tzourtouklis, President, Salt Lake Teachers Association; Cindy Fullmer, President Child Nutrition Employees Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; Beckie Sanchez, Business Administration Office; and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Meeting of August 5, 2003, five motions were made, including a motion to adopt a tax rate of .006018, which includes a Judgement Tax Rate of .000050. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

The meeting was called to order by President Higbee, who presided.

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:08 p.m. a motion was made, after which members excused the audience and remained in the board room:

\*(1) That the board meet in a Closed Executive Session to consider litigation, negotiations, personnel, and property items.

\*\* (Clemmer and Young)

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
CLEMMER	X		
DEJONG	X		
FIFE	X		
HIGBEE	X		
NELSON	X		
SWETT	X		
YOUNG	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

2. OPEN REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- Board President Cliff Higbee welcomed those in attendance including Elaine Tzourtzouklis, President, Salt Lake Teachers Association, and Kelly Orton, Director of Child Nutrition and SLASA President.
- Pledge of Allegiance. Boy Scout Lyndon Orton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Kelly Orton began the reverence saying his son Lyndon was with him to complete the last requirement for his community merit badge in Boy Scouts. He spoke about citizenship in the community, developing a character base, school improvement, and teaching morality.
- Recognitions. Board Vice President Laurel Young presented Sondra Snow, Indian Hills Special Ed teacher, a certificate of recognition for being named the Salt Lake City School District Teacher of the Year. Ms. Young said Ms. Snow has gone over and above the call of duty in her 33 year career. Daphne Williams presented Ms. Snow with a \$1,000 check from the Salt Lake Foundation and Elaine Tzourtzouklis presented her with flowers as special thanks for representing the teachers of the district. Ms. Snow thanked the board, staff, parents, and students.

Child Nutrition Director Kelly Orton, received a certificate of appreciation from Ms. Young for winning the Mountain Plains Region Best Practices Award. Laura Oscarson-Wilde, Director of Child Nutrition for the Utah State Office of Education, presented Mr. Orton with a plaque from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for Excellence in Administering the School Lunch Program. Mr. Orton introduced staff members present and said assuring nutritional support is a group effort and thanked his staff and the board for their support.

Board Vice President Laurel Young gave Roger Thompson, Eccles Salt Lake School Improvement Challenge Community Governing Board, recognition for the outgoing

members of the Eccles/Annenberg Challenge Governing Board. Dr. David Sperry, Dean of Education, University of Utah, who is also an outgoing board member, commended the other outgoing members who are Steve Sorensen, J. Howard Van Boerum, Rich Kendell, and Don Francom. Plaques were also presented to each outgoing board member. Superintendent Withers and board members thanked the outgoing members for their efforts to increase student achievement.

- Introductions. Superintendent Withers introduced Sylvia Lesser as the new principal at Wasatch Elementary. Ms. Lesser thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the students at Wasatch Elementary and said she is looking forward to being here in Utah.

Dr. Withers also introduced Shawna Wilde as the new principal at Jackson Elementary. Ms. Wilde expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve as principal for the students at Jackson and noted she is very pleased to be working for the Salt Lake City School District.

Board President Higbee welcomed the new members of the Eccles Salt Lake School Improvement Challenge Community Governing Board. The new members are Mary Bangerter, Reed J. Beecher, Ray Timothy, PhD., Myra Renwick, and Peggy Stone. The new members briefly introduced themselves and said they welcomed the opportunity to serve the students of the district.

#### A. CONSENT AGENDA

\*(2) Approval was given to the five items included in the Consent Agenda. These items are listed below.

\*\*(Clemmer and DeJong)

1. The Purchasing/Accounting Report, which included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$10,000, increases to existing purchase orders, a report of overtime expenditures, a report of travel and professional expenditures, and a report of payment vouchers.
2. The Human Resource Department Report, including new contract employment for 26, changes for 14, and releases for 17 employees.
3. Minutes for the Board Meeting held on July 1, 2003.
4. 2003-04 Strategic Plan Outline.
5. Rules and Administrative Procedures for Board Policy Section BBBA.

#### B. TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING FOR JUDGEMENT LEVY

Kent G. Stephens, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, explained the purpose

of the hearing is to receive comment from the public regarding a judgement levy the board has indicated they would like to impose. He said every year the State Tax Commission grants refunds to businesses and taxpayers that have contested the amount of tax they have paid. He said the recommendation to impose this judgement levy is to collect approximately \$594,000 lost because of these refunds.

1. Public Comment on Proposed Judgement Levy.

There was no Public Comment on the Proposed Judgement Levy.

C. SPECIAL ACTION ITEM

1. Approval of Property Tax Rate.

\*(3) A motion was made that the board adopt a tax rate of .006018, which includes a judgement tax rate of .000050 to replace funds used to refund prior years taxes to multiple taxpayers.

\*\* (Young and Clemmer)

D. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

There were no Requests to Speak.

E. REPORTS

1. Highlights from School Improvement Efforts for Franklin Elementary.

Principal Dahlia Cordova thanked the board for the opportunity to present the School Improvement Plan for Franklin. She said the belief at Franklin is that together we can make a difference in the educational lives and experiences of our students. She said despite the numerous challenges and high risk factors the children face socially, linguistically, economically, and academically, we are committed to ensure that no child is left behind. Ms. Cordova noted the plan focuses attention to the four areas of increased proficiency in reading and math, professional development, parental involvement, and student advocacy. She said Franklin Elementary has come a long way from six years ago when a common vision for academic achievement didn't exist. She talked about the pride felt by everyone that students are making progress and attributed the success in reading and math through using the research based model Success for All. She reported high attendance at Franklin with 94% or more students attending school each day with CRT scores rising above 41%. She noted that teachers at Franklin are energetic and well trained with approximately 50% having Masters Degrees, and nearly 80% having their ESL endorsement. Board members were impressed by the accomplishments at the school and thanked Ms. Cordova and her teachers and staff for their hard work.

2. Weapons in Schools. Superintendent Withers distributed a handout to board members outlining changes that occurred during the last legislative session. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes. The handout included the current board policy, changes from Senate Bill 108, actions taken by Granite and Jordan districts, and options to consider. He said the district's current policy is now in conflict with state law because it prevents employees from carrying firearms and a change in state law allows concealed carry permit holders to carry their concealed weapon in schools. He outlined how Jordan and Granite districts have revised their policies to accommodate the new law. Dr. Withers asked the board for direction on possible options to consider, including a new board policy or a board resolution. The board directed the Superintendent and staff to develop a new policy to accommodate the new law but still focus on the safety of students. They also asked Dr. Withers to create a resolution stating their opposition to the new concealed carry permit law.

3. 2003-04 Action Steps for Strategic Plan. Dr. Charles Hausman, Assistant Superintendent of Student & School Priorities, distributed a handout on strategic action steps for 2003-04. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes. Dr. Hausman reviewed the handout with board members and noted the areas of focus for the near future are: professional development; new forms of assessment, including on-line testing; preventions and interventions, such as pre-K services and extended day programs; changes in policy and legislation at the state and federal level; and greater use of technology. He noted the focus on these areas will take place while the district uses this year to establish a closer link between the board's goals and priorities, the budget, and the new strategic plan. The handout also included a timeline for completion and adoption of the next comprehensive five-year Strategic Plan.

#### F. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Graduation Requirements/Standards and Competency. Dr. Hausman began the discussion by displaying a PowerPoint presentation outlining the state's proposal regarding graduation requirements and competency as was approved by the Utah State Board of Education last week. He said the intent of the proposal is to "raise the bar" so that all students will graduate with core curriculum competency, focus on core academics, and increase parental involvement. He noted the implementation of this plan depends upon significant additional funding for diagnostic assessment, critical intervention, and training of educators. The plan also affects competency requirements for students in the elementary and middle level schools. He informed the board the Governor will be holding a series of meetings with educators throughout the state to discuss the new plan. The Salt Lake City meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2003 and the district is allowed to invite ten people to that summit. It was the general consensus of the board that board leadership will work with the Superintendent and staff to select the ten team members. A copy of the slide presentation has been added to the official minutes.

2. Annual Student Population Review Process. Superintendent Withers distributed a handout on a proposal for establishing an annual student population review process in the

district. A copy of the handout has been added to the official minutes. The proposed timeline in the process would utilize a point person who would gather concerns and projections about student populations. These items would then be reviewed and a study list would be developed in April and May. During June through August, the study list would be used to generate a list of viable options for board review. In September, the board would establish recommended options for boundary changes. Public comment would be gathered in October on the recommended options and the board would then review the recommendations for action in November. School choice options would be set in December. The handout also included a list of options criteria, options procedures, and how the community will be involved. Dr. Withers gave the board a sample problem that could be handled through this annual review process. It involves a proposal to change a boundary line near St. Mary's Drive and he suggested this simple boundary change could be used to test the proposed process. The board agreed and directed staff to begin working on the process.

3. Policy Revisions. Rickie McCandless, Associate Superintendent, presented to the board proposed changes in Policy Section A. She recommended elimination of the following policies because they are redundant, unnecessary, or currently covered under other policies and documents:

- a. Policy AA, Legal Status
- b. Policy ABA, Staff/Community Involvement in Site Decisions Under Shared Governance
- c. Policy AC, Nondiscrimination
- d. Policy AD, Salt Lake City School District Educational Philosophy Statement
- e. Policy ADA, Philosophy Statement – Salt Lake City School District High Schools
- f. Policy ADD, Philosophy Statement – Salt Lake City School District Media Program
- g. Policy AE, School District Goals and Objectives

It was the general consensus of the board to vote on the proposed revisions at the next Regular Board Meeting.

#### 4. Other Discussion Items.

There were no Other Discussion Items.

### G. ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. Policy JECC, Admission of Students to Non-Resident Schools.

\*(4) A motion was made to approve Policy JECC, Admission of Students to Non-Resident Schools as outlined in Exhibit G1.

\*\* (Clemmer and Young)

2. School Improvement Plans for Franklin Elementary and Hillside Middle School.

\*(5) A motion was made to approve the School Improvement Plans for Franklin Elementary and Hillside Middle School.

\*\* (Young and Clemmer)

3. Other Action Items.

There were no Other Action Items.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Student Board Member Update. Dr. Withers informed the board he has received a proposal to bring in a new Student Board Member this fall along with the new procedures. He asked the board for consensus to implement the procedures and find a new Student Board Member from Highland High. The board agreed the Superintendent should move forward.

2. Other Superintendent Items. Dr. Withers addressed the issue of bussing for Lowell students to Ensign which would require a slight adjustment of the start time for Ensign.

Superintendent Withers told board members he would have updated information for them on students that have registered for the Academy of Math, Engineering, and Science (AMES) located at Cottonwood High School and the student transportation details.

I. OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Vice President Laurel Young suggested possible dates for the board retreat and asked other board members to review their calendars.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Ms Young, seconded by Ms. Swett, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Kent. G. Stephens  
Business Administrator