

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 22, 2009

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in closed, study, and regular sessions on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, beginning at 4:40 p.m. in the District Auxiliary Services Building, 7905 South Redwood Road, West Jordan, Utah.

MOTION: At 4:40 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Randy S. Brinkerhoff and seconded by Mr. Richard S. Osborn to go into closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Peggy Jo Kennett, Board President
Carmen R. Freeman, Board Vice President
Rick Bojak, Board Member
Randy S. Brinkerhoff, Board Member
J. Dale Christensen, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Leah Voorhies, Board Member
Barry L. Newbold, Superintendent of Schools
D. Burke Jolley, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services
Sherry Wasden, Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Services

Board President Peggy Jo Kennett presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss personnel, property, and potential litigation issues. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

At 5:35 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The Board returned to study session.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Peggy Jo Kennett, Board President
Carmen R. Freeman, Board Vice President
Rick Bojak, Board Member
Randy S. Brinkerhoff, Board Member
J. Dale Christensen, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Leah Voorhies, Board Member
Barry L. Newbold, Superintendent of Schools
D. Burke Jolley, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services
Sherry Wasden, Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Services
David G. Stoddard, Assistant Superintendent, Riverton K-12 Feeder System
John M. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, Auxiliary Services
Steven Hall, Director, Jordan Education Foundation
James Hinckle, Director, Transportation Services
Steve Dunham, Assistant, Communications
Robin Frodge, President, Jordan Education Association

Board President Peggy Jo Kennett presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following issues:

A. Revisions to Articles and Bylaws for Jordan Education Foundation

Mr. Steven Hall shared with the Board proposed changes to the Foundation's Articles and Bylaws. These revisions are necessary due to changes in the tax code. These changes will be considered for Board approval during the regular session Board meeting.

B. Student Transportation

Mr. James Hinckle reviewed for the Board the District-funded hazardous bus routes. The District has currently about 97 hazardous routes, at an annual cost of about \$1.06 million. Mr. Hinckle was seeking Board direction for 2010-11 regarding their intention to continuing funding hazardous routes, how many routes, and at what budget level. As part of this discussion, the Transportation Department sought Board direction on how many potential hazardous routes should be reviewed by an independent, third party to determine the relative hazard of each potential route. The Board plans to continue discussing this issue at a future study session.

At 6:40 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The regular session began at 7:03 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Peggy Jo Kennett, Board President
Carmen R. Freeman, Board Vice President
Rick Bojak, Board Member
Randy S. Brinkerhoff, Board Member
J. Dale Christensen, Board President
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Leah Voorhies, Board Member
Barry L. Newbold, Superintendent of Schools
D. Burke Jolley, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services
Sherry Wasden, Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Services
J. Calvin Evans, Assistant Superintendent, Compliance and Special Programs
Anthony A. Godfrey, Assistant Superintendent, Bingham K-12 Feeder System
June M. LeMaster, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Kerrie Naylor, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Staff Development
Frank W. Shaw, Assistant Superintendent, Copper Hills K-12 Feeder System
David G. Stoddard, Assistant Superintendent, Riverton K-12 Feeder System
John M. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, Auxiliary Services
Bevan J. Wasden, Assistant Superintendent, West Jordan K-12 Feeder System
Melinda R. Colton, Director, Communications
Steven Hall, Director, Jordan Education Foundation
Jeri Clayton, Administrative Secretary
Roxane Siggard, Administrative Secretary
Robin Frodge, President, Jordan Education Association
Alexandra Eframo

Board President Peggy Jo Kennett presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. The Heartland Elementary Student Council led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Michelle Whitchurch offered reverence.

Resolution of Appreciation

Board President Peggy Jo Kennett read a Resolution of Appreciation for Lewis Washburn, who recently passed away. Mr. Washburn was employed by Jordan School District from 1958 to 1990.

Patron Comments

Ms. Alexandra Eframo, a resident of West Jordan, addressed the Board. Ms. Eframo said she didn't know where to go to get a list of the administrative staff of the new Jordan District and their salaries and that she understands, through the grapevine, that all of the administrators carried over to the new Jordan. She asked why Canyons School District has a \$199 million budget and Jordan has a \$399 million budget. She said she is disappointed in Councilman Steve Allen [Jeff Allen] because she went to the Salt Lake County Council today and asked him if he saw her picture in the paper and his response was, "no, I don't read the newspapers and I don't watch TV." She said today in front of chambers Mr. Allen said he didn't say that, but he did, and he also said the newspaper has a lot of lies in it. Now she wants Mr. Allen to take a lie detector test but he won't do it. She asked how the public finds out what is going on in the new Jordan District because she is concerned about "lies and not lies" and needs to know how to find the truth. As a citizen and taxpayer she is troubled because she is on a fixed income, her taxes are going up, and now the newspaper said the District is going to raise her taxes again next year.

I. **General Business**

A. **Minutes**

Minutes for Board of Education meetings held September 8 and September 15, 2009, were presented for approval.

B. **Personnel – Licensed and Classified**

A list of the personnel changes that have taken place since the last Board of Education meeting is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 1)

C. **Recommendation to Approve Students for Home Instruction for the 2009-10 School Year**

It was recommended that the following students be approved for home instruction for the 2009-10 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Ballinger, Bryce	Rose Creek Elementary	3
Black, Robert	Jordan Ridge Elementary	6
Buckley, Asia	Bluffdale Elementary	4
Buckley, Cesilea	Riverton High	12
Buckley, Evan	Riverton High	11
Buckley, Jami	Bluffdale Elementary	1
Buckley, Jessica	South Hills Middle	8
Buckley, Leilani	South Hills Middle	9
Buckley, Nathan	Bluffdale Elementary	6
Coleman, Alexa	Bluffdale Elementary	4
Coleman, Julia	Not Available	N/A
Coleman, Melia	Riverton High	11
Coleman, Rachel	South Hills Middle	8
Coulter, Christopher	Riverton High	11
Cox, Kristen	West Hills Middle	8
DeMill, Rossi	Falcon Ridge Elementary	5
Gabbitas, Jessica	Copper Hills High	12
Gee, Tresa	Columbia Elementary	2
Hadfield, Emma	Butterfield Canyon Elementary	2
Hadfield, Jonathan	Butterfield Canyon Elementary	5
Hadfield, Tyler	Fort Herriman Middle	7
Mason, Hunter	Herriman Elementary	2
Mason, Megan	Herriman Elementary	5
Matthews, Cheyenne	Bingham High	10

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Nielsen, Aeryn	Not Available	N/A
Nielsen, Clayton	Not Available	N/A
Pearson, Seth	West Jordan High	12
Schiffman, Alex	Riverton High	11
Schiffman, Marissa	Oquirrh Hills Middle	9
Schooley, Tanner	South Jordan Elementary	5
Slighting, Grant	Southland Elementary	2
Slighting, Harrison	Southland Elementary	6
Slighting, Isaac	Southland Elementary	4
Smith, Jillian	Not Available	N/A
Smith, Molly	Not Available	N/A
Steagall, Brandon	Jordan Ridge Elementary	4
Steagall, Dustin	Jordan Ridge Elementary	2
Thomson, Daiman	West Jordan High	10
Williams, Caleb	South Jordan Elementary	1
Williams, Colt	South Jordan Middle	8
Williams, Hunter	Bingham High	10
Williams, Marshall	South Jordan Elementary	3
Williams, Priscilla	South Jordan Elementary	5

D. Recommendation to Approve Student Travel Requests

The following travel requests were submitted for approval:

<u>School/Group</u>	<u>Place/Dates</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Bingham High Softball Team	Huntington Beach, CA Mar. 23-28, 2010	Softball Tournament
Copper Hills High Cheerleaders	Anaheim, CA Mar. 25-29, 2010	Competition
Copper Hills High Dance Company	Anaheim, CA April 15-18, 2010	Disneyland Performance
Copper Hills High Swim Team	St. George, UT Nov. 6-7, 2009	Competition
Riverton High Baseball Team	Las Vegas, NV Mar. 31-Apr. 4, 2010	Tournament
Riverton High Swim Team	St. George, UT Nov. 6-7, 2009	Competition
Riverton High Cheer Team	Anaheim, CA March 26-29, 2010	Competition
Career & Technical Education HOSA	Park City, UT Nov. 2-3, 2009	Leadership Conference
Career & Technical Education DECA	Park City, UT Oct. 19-20, 2009	Leadership Conference
Career & Technical Education FBLA	Provo, UT Oct. 20-21, 2009	Leadership Conference

E. Recommendation to Approve Insurance Advisory Committee Membership

Terms of service for the following members of the District Insurance Advisory Committee either expired or the individual no longer works for Jordan School District:

- Duane Devey, Energy Services (representing administrative employees)
- Floyd Stensrud, Indian Hills Middle (representing administrative employees)
- Brenda McCann, Hillcrest High (representing licensed employees)

Patty Whittaker, Majestic Elementary (representing classified employees)

It was recommended that the following individuals be appointed for three-year terms (unless otherwise noted):

Duane Devey, Energy Services (representing administrative employees)
Kim Baker, West Hills Middle (1 year term-representing administrative employees)
Lanny Sorenson, Sunset Ridge Middle (representing licensed employees.
Janet Tufts, West Jordan Middle (representing classified employees)

F. Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Jordan Education Foundation Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

Revisions to the Foundation's Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws were necessary due to changes in the tax code.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Randy S. Brinkerhoff and seconded by Mr. Richard S. Osborn to approve General Business item A and items C through F, as recommended, and to approve item B with a correction to the personnel changes. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Bid Recommendations

None.

III. Special Business

A. Approval of Gifted/Talented Middle School Task Force Committee and Identification Task Force Committee Recommendations

Dr. Kerrie Naylor, assistant superintendent for Curriculum and Staff Development, stated that Ms. Teri Mattson, gifted/talented consultant for Curriculum and Staff Development, presented the historical foundations of the ALPS program and the recommendations of the Gifted/Talented Middle School Task Force and the Identification Task Force at both the August 11, 2009, study session and the September 8, 2009, Board of Education meeting. Dr. Naylor invited Ms. Teri Mattson to briefly review with the Board the recommendations of both task force committees. [See minutes of September 8, 2009, for a detailed review of the committees' recommendations.] Dr. Naylor said these recommendations have the support of the District Gifted/Talented Advisory Committee and requested that the Board approve the recommendations.

Board Questions and Comment

President Kennett referred to an e-mail she received from a parent asking what will happen to current ALPS students who no longer qualify under the new testing criteria. She asked that Dr. Naylor or Ms. Mattson provide a response to this parent's question.

Dr. Christensen asked what process is being used to educate parents about the program and the testing requirements. Ms. Mattson responded that a Web site is being created to provide information regarding the program and that one component will be a question and answer section. Dr. Christensen asked what "testing all students" means. Ms. Mattson responded that testing will occur for all students who are currently in the ALPS program and for new applicants. Dr. Christensen asked about the summative evaluations and whether they invite feedback from parents, teachers, and students. Dr. Naylor responded that the identification tools are four-fold and student and parent input is invited. Dr. Christensen asked about the purpose for a permanent middle school committee. Ms. Mattson stated that this committee, comprised of teachers, administrators, and parents, will be able to provide resources and support for the middle school

gifted/talented program. Dr. Christensen commended Dr. Naylor, Ms. Mattson and the committee members for their hard work and for thoroughly addressing these complex issues.

Mr. Carmen R. Freeman expressed his gratitude to Dr. Naylor, Ms. Mattson, and the committee members for their efforts in making more people aware of what this great program can do for students. Mr. Freeman asked what steps will be taken to consider the feelings and desires of the students and if there will be measures taken to respect the rights and choices of the student. Dr. Naylor responded that Ms. Mattson and the other gifted/talented consultants are very good at cultivating good working relationships and trust with parents. This open communication makes it possible to provide expert advice or recommendations to parents when it is needed and to remain focused on what is best for the student.

Mrs. Peggy Jo Kennett expressed a concern she received from one parent about the cost of testing for low income families. Dr. Naylor said they would be eligible for fee waivers based on the free and reduced lunch standard. Mrs. Kennett relayed another parent's question about the quantitative cut-off for the ALPS program being the top 10 percent. Ms. Mattson responded that the patron comment may be directed towards a composite score that was generated as a compilation of all assessments and IBRIC setting the cut-off score at 50. Dr. Naylor stated that the score fluctuates each year based on IBRIC's analysis of the testing data and their assigned ranking. When the scores are listed, a cut-off is chosen at a natural break around the 50 composite score. Dr. Naylor said a consultation would take place with parents of students whose scores fell at slightly below the cut-off point and a decision made about what is best for the child.

President Kennett thanked Dr. Naylor, Ms. Mattson, and the committee members for their excellent work and the time they put into developing their recommendations.

MOTION: It was moved by Dr. Leah Voorhies and seconded by Mr. Carmen R. Freeman to approve the recommendations of the Gifted/Talented Middle School Task Force Committee and Identification Task Force Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Recommendation to Approve Policies

AS60 *Student Accounting Procedures*
AS61 *Student Records*
AS63 *Student Eligibility for Schools*
AS87 *Immunization*
D207 *Calendar Development*

Mrs. Sherry Devenberg, director for Planning and Student Services, reported that action taken by the Utah State Legislature during the 2009 legislative session necessitated language changes to the above-listed policies. Copies of policies AS60, AS61, AS63, AS87, and D207 are attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachments 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6)

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Carmen R. Freeman and seconded by Mr. Randy S. Brinkerhoff to approve policies AS60, AS61, AS63, AS87, and D207. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Information Items

A. Superintendent's Input

1. Customer Service Training

Superintendent Barry L. Newbold reported that the Office of Communications developed a "Service That Shines!" customer service training for employees. Training sessions were presented September 16 and 18, with a future session planned for September 30, 2009. Approximately 140 employees have attended the first two sessions with an additional 80

expected to attend the final session. The training focuses on reshaping the image of Jordan School District and included information about phone etiquette, face-to-face communications, office/department climate, public and media relations, handling difficult customers, and becoming familiar with school/department/district Web sites. Superintendent Newbold noted that while customer service has been good, the public is paying more for education which means their expectations will be even greater. Based on attendance and feedback, the training may be conducted every two years.

V. **Discussion Items**

A. **Board Member Comments**

Mr. Carmen R. Freeman reported that he recently attended a Fort Herriman Middle School Community Council meeting. He said every now and then he hears of someone being upset about the Friday morning collaborative time provided to teachers. At this community council meeting he was impressed when he heard a report about how the teachers are using this time to not only share ideas, but to also address the needs of specific students. He said at Fort Herriman the teachers are doing a wonderful job of utilizing this time provided to them and, in fact, they said they wished they had more time because they are achieving great results. Mr. Freeman responded to those who have expressed concern about the collaborative time by saying that from his perspective, this time is being used admirably. He expressed appreciation to the teachers for doing what they are in the business of doing and that is helping students.

Mr. Randy S. Brinkerhoff said Mr. Freeman's remarks brought a question to mind and he asked whether there is an upcoming School Community Council training. Dr. Anthony Godfrey responded that training is scheduled for October 7 and 15, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at Bingham High. Mr. Brinkerhoff recommended to the new members of the Board to attend one of these training sessions because it provides a better understanding of the responsibilities of the School Community Councils. He also said School Community Council members have been very grateful for the training. Mr. Brinkerhoff said he received a letter from Eastlake Elementary School regarding trust land funds and said he assumes other Board members received the same letter. He noted some of the interesting things in the letter such as the Eastlake Elementary School Community Council said they would like to thank the Board for its continued support of any and all legislation that secures the distribution of trust land revenue for the use of public schools. The letter also elaborated that Eastlake uses their trust land funds to improve reading skills. He said in the fall of 2008, 176 students received Tier One intervention for reading by paraprofessionals and by winter 2009 only 88 students remained in need of Tier Two intervention. Also, over the course of the 2008-09 school year, they observed an increase in students reading at grade level from 75 percent to 87 percent due to excellent Tier One instruction from teachers and Tier Two paraprofessionals and volunteers. Mr. Brinkerhoff said the key here is the last paragraph, "we understand that the trust land revenue is considerable and that there are many other worthy causes that could use additional funding. However, we feel that there may be no better use for the funds than investing them in educating the children of our great state." Mr. Brinkerhoff said this was pointed out to him very strongly once by Ms. Margaret Bird of the Utah State Office of Education. The tendency of other states to use trust land funds for things other than what they were designed and set aside for is very great and in fact, he thought Ms. Bird mentioned to him that trust land funds were no longer available east of the Mississippi because eastern states had given up their trust land funds to be used for legislative purposes other than the education of children. Mr. Brinkerhoff noted that there are other states that have looked at the possibility of pulling money from those funds or putting caps on them and even Utah's legislators a few years ago considered putting a cap on them so public education couldn't receive those funds. Mr. Brinkerhoff said letters like the one from Eastlake Elementary reinforce how important trust land funds are in helping young people and improving education. He thanked Ms. Alicia Larsen, the Eastlake Council chair, and Principal Jan Tanner for their letter and said for them to keep up the good work.

Dr. Leah Voorhies thanked the District Administration for providing new Board member orientation/training for the four new Board members. She said that during the past 15 months one or two training sessions per month have been held where District directors and assistant superintendents have been introducing them to the various departments and staff members. She said the training sessions have been very informative and helpful. Dr. Voorhies said she attended the most amazing elementary school fair at Oakcrest Elementary last week. The entire school was filled with activities and children were having a wonderful time. She said the PTA did an incredible job and had so many ideas for involving the community. Dr. Voorhies said she attended a Jordan Education Association barbeque last night with her family members who are members of JEA and said it was a very nice event and she appreciated being able to attend.

Mr. Rick Bojak said he had the honor of going to Riverside Elementary today for their "Vehicle Day." They had a Lifeline helicopter, police dogs, Fire Department trucks, etc., at the school to show the kids how their parents' tax dollars are keeping them safe, happy, and healthy. He said it was awesome for the students to see all the vehicles and to see a police dog demonstration. Mr. Bojak expressed his thanks to all the School Community Councils for keeping Board members informed about council meetings through e-mails, phone calls, and letters. He also thanked them for sending bulletins and newsletters and hoped schools would continue to keep Board members informed. Mr. Bojak expressed appreciation to the many principals who have sent thank you cards expressing the great things the Board does for the School District. Mr. Bojak thanked three restaurants: Riley's (Redwood Road), Taco Time (West Jordan), and Chick-fil-A (Jordan Landing) for starting off the school year by donating meals to kids, teachers, custodians, and others.

Mrs. Peggy Jo Kennett said last Wednesday she attended an Education Interim Committee meeting and that it is always interesting to hear legislators talk about education and to see their presentations. One of the presentations was on adaptive testing and Mrs. Kennett asked Superintendent Newbold what Jordan District is doing to move to districtwide computer adaptive testing since it sounds like that is the direction the legislature is suggesting. Superintendent Newbold responded that the State Board of Education is also directing districts to move in that direction and that it is likely that the majority of testing will be online from this point forward and that the District is required to determine schedules to make that happen. He said the testing window will need to change in order for reports to be completed in time to meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind. Dr. Newbold said one concern the District has that seems to not be of importance to the federal government is including data for the year-round elementary schools because testing for them takes place later in the year, after the deadline for submitting data. He said he didn't know how the State could present accurate reports by omitting 28 elementary schools and that they are working with the State Office to make sure these issues are known. They are also looking at how the testing dates can be adjusted so the District can be compliant with state and federal testing requirements, while at the same time making the move to adaptive testing. Dr. Newbold said one of the concerns with adaptive testing has been the technical problems that don't originate with the District or its equipment, but that originate with downloading of tests, taking online tests, having tests freeze and not being able to unfreeze them, time limits, etc., but he said all districts are dealing with these issues. Mrs. Kennett thanked Superintendent Newbold for his report because she could tell from the information received in the Committee meeting that adaptive testing is the direction the District needed to be going. Mrs. Kennett said last Friday morning she had an opportunity to attend the customer service training provided by the Office of Communications. She said it was an excellent training session and she received some good information that she would like to have had prior to the Truth-in-Taxation hearing. She recommended the training to other Board members and noted that another session will be held September 30, 2009, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

MOTION: At 7:50 p.m., it was moved by Dr. Leah Voorhies and seconded by Mr. Randy S. Brinkerhoff to adjourn the meeting and return to study session. Motion carried unanimously.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Peggy Jo Kennett, Board President
Carmen R. Freeman, Board Vice President
Rick Bojak, Board Member
Randy S. Brinkerhoff, Board Member
J. Dale Christensen, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Leah Voorhies, Board Member
Barry L. Newbold, Superintendent of Schools
D. Burke Jolley, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services
Sherry Wasden, Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Services

Board President Peggy Jo Kennett presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued the study session to discuss the following issues:

C. Board Issues and Concerns

Board Members discussed various issues and concerns.

At 8:35 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

/jc

Attachments