REGULAR SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Jen Atwood, Board Member
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
(Richard S. Osborn, Board Member, excused)
Susan K. Pulsipher, Board Member
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member
Kayleene Whitelock, Board Member
Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
John Larsen, Interim Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Administrator of Schools
Laura Finlinson, Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development
Anthony A. Godfrey, Administrator of Schools
June M. LeMaster, Administrator of Human Resources
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
Robert Conder, AV Maintenance
Paul K. Jacobson, West Jordan Police Department
Jennifer Boehme, President, Jordan Education Association
Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
Sherrie Swensen, Salt Lake County Clerk

Board Vice President Susan K. Pulsipher presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. Brad Sorensen led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Teri Timpson.

Administration of the Oath of Office to New and Re-elected Board Members

Sherrie Swensen, Salt Lake County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to the following new and re-elected Board members:

- Jen Atwood Precinct 7 New member
- Susan K. Pulsipher Precinct 3 Re-elected
- Matthew Young Precinct 2 New member

Election of Board of Education Officers

Mr. Larsen reviewed the procedures used to elect Board officers to serve two-year terms of office for the years 2015 and 2016. He stated that with the absence of Board Member Osborn, four of six votes will constitute a two-thirds majority vote. He conducted elections for president, vice president, and secretary of the Jordan School District Board of Education.
Election of President

Mr. Larsen opened nominations for the office of president of the Jordan School District Board of Education to serve a two-year term.

Kayleen Whitelock nominated Susan K. Pulsipher
J. Lynn Crane nominated Janice L. Voorhies

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Larsen confirmed acceptance of the nomination by Mrs. Pulsipher and Mrs. Voorhies and called for a motion to close the nominations for the office of Board president.

MOTION: It was moved by Kayleen Whitelock and seconded by Susan K. Pulsipher to close the nominations for the office of Board president. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Larsen invited Board questions and/or comments.

Mr. Crane said he wanted to explain his nomination and stated that both nominated members would serve with distinction; however, he nominated Mrs. Voorhies because he has observed her service in the last two years and believes that she is a committed member of the Board of Education of Jordan School District without an agenda beyond that of serving the kids of the District and strengthening the educational process. He said not knowing whether she will have another term in office, he feels that this would be a good opportunity for her to have the experience of serving as president for the next two years.

Mrs. Whitelock stated that she agrees with Mr. Crane that either nominee would do a great job; however, the reason she nominated Mrs. Pulsipher was because of her work with elected officials. She said being a Board member is a political position and it is important to work as peers with the other elected officials in the communities and the state. She said Mrs. Pulsipher has done this during her first four years. Mrs. Whitelock said before her own election to the Board two years ago, she saw Mrs. Pulsipher at the Capitol and at other meetings. She also said school boards can no longer exist as separate entities; they need to be working with elected officials at state, county, and city levels or they may cease to be.

Mrs. Atwood said she put a great deal of thought into how to vote and felt compelled to remember what patrons have expressed. She said while she means no disrespect to those who currently hold these positions, she considered the following: 1) She is looking for those who are “drivers” to move the District forward as a Board and District; 2) it is important to have a group of people that can energize the Board, administration and staff for pursuing the community’s vision for children and schools; 3) she wants to elect those who seek for constant improvement in student performance, employee morale, teacher development, and public confidence and support; and 4) she is looking for those who have established and will continue to nurture relationships between the Board, cities, and members of the legislature. She said her votes will be for those individuals who she feels will be able to work together to accomplish these things.

Mr. Larsen conducted a vote on the nomination of Mrs. Pulsipher to the office of Board president by raise of hand. The result of the vote was four to two, with Board Members Atwood, Pulsipher, Whitelock, and Young voting in favor of electing Mrs. Pulsipher to serve as Board president. Mr. Larsen stated a vote of four to two constituted a majority vote; therefore, Susan K. Pulsipher was elected to serve a two-year term as president of the Jordan School District Board of Education.

Election of Vice President

Mr. Larsen opened nominations for the office of vice president of the Jordan School District Board of Education to serve a two-year term.

Jen Atwood nominated Janice L. Voorhies
Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Larsen confirmed acceptance of the nomination by Mrs. Voorhies and called for a motion to close the nominations for the office of Board vice president.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Kayleen Whitelock and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to close the nominations for the office of Board vice president. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Larsen conducted a vote on the nomination of Mrs. Voorhies to the office of Board vice president by raise of hand. Mr. Larsen stated that by unanimous vote, Janice L. Voorhies was elected to serve a two-year term as vice president of the Jordan School District Board of Education.

**Election of Secretary**

Mr. Larsen opened nominations for the office of secretary of the Jordan School District Board of Education to serve a two-year term.

Matthew Young nominated Kayleen Whitelock

Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Larsen confirmed acceptance of the nomination by Mrs. Whitelock and called for a motion to close the nominations for the office of Board secretary.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Susan K. Pulsipher and seconded by Matthew Young to close the nominations for the office of Board secretary. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Larsen conducted a vote on the nomination of Mrs. Whitelock to the office of Board secretary by raise of hand. Mr. Larsen stated that by unanimous vote, Kayleen Whitelock was elected to serve a two-year term as secretary of the Jordan School District Board of Education.

The Jordan School District Board of Education officers and members as now constituted are:

Susan K. Pulsipher, Board President
Janice L. Voorhies, Board Vice President
Kayleen Whitelock, Board Secretary
Jen Atwood, Board Member
J. Lynn Crane, Board Member
Richard S. Osborn, Board Member
Matthew Young, Board Member

Board President Susan K. Pulsipher presided and conducted the remainder of the meeting. She said she wanted to share her thoughts and feelings and invited Mr. Young and Mrs. Atwood to do the same after her remarks. Mrs. Pulsipher said she is humbled by this opportunity and holds all members of the Board in the highest regard. She said they represent enormous talent and ability and she looks forward with joy to serving with them. Mrs. Pulsipher said Jordan School District has a heritage of excellence in education and is a wonderful place to live and to work. She shared three goals for the coming year:

1) Increase unity and respect within the Board, District, and the District’s communities. She said each month the Board and administration attends a lunch meeting with student body presidents. During November, a wise and insightful Board president said, “we need a spirit of unity for our District to be successful.” Each Board member brings a unique view born of different life experiences on issues. Board members must treat each other with respect and value differences. She said elementary students are learning the importance of “seeking first to understand.” The best decisions are those that are fully vetted using information obtained from a variety of sources and perspectives. She said Board members must “first seek to listen and value the opinion of the students, parents, employees, city leaders, and members of the community.”

2) Use Policy Governance as a frame to develop high expectations, provide accountability, and define each other’s responsibilities. She said goals that are articulated with clarity and monitored with
fidelity will provide the experienced and talented administration the ability to be more effective. She said Dr. Johnson has often reminded them, "We need to know the target we are shooting for."

3) Focus on student achievement in every decision at every meeting. She said Jordan District exists to provide a high quality education for students and this is accomplished by having excellent teachers empowered with the necessary power and tools. She said she has observed that it is easy to get distracted by the many issues that come before the Board and every decision should be made after asking how it will impact the teacher and child in the classroom. She said high expectations that challenge every child to reach his/her potential should be the goal and focus of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Pulsipher said she looks forward to the future with optimism and is confident that the District will continue to provide an excellent education for Every Child, Every Day.

Mr. Young said before beginning his public comments, he wanted to thank his wife and son for their support throughout the campaign and for their future support. He expressed appreciation to his parents and siblings for their support and said both his parents are educators and a large part of what led him to this point. Mr. Young said he is excited about the opportunities in Jordan District and there are great individuals at every level. He expressed appreciation to Mike Anderson, the administrator of schools over the Riverton area, who he said has been a tremendous help to him and thanked the other area administrators for fielding his phone calls and helping him to get up to speed so he could hit the ground running. Mr. Young said he looks forward to working with a Board that has so many wonderful individuals and with administrators who provide strong sound leadership as the Board seeks to effect vision and policy that reflects the communities they serve. He expressed his excitement and pledged his willingness to roll up his sleeves and go to work. Mr. Young said he read an interesting comment that said, "Most boards are incompetent organizations made up of very competent individuals." He said he took that to mean that while a board or organization can always seek to improve, that doesn’t lessen the caliber of the individuals that make up that organization. He feels strongly that there are high-caliber individuals on the Board and he looks forward to working with them, the administration, employees, and the public.

Mrs. Atwood said there are many who have helped her in this journey and expressed appreciation to her husband, extended family, and friends. She thanked District personnel for answering her many questions and Teri Timpson for her patience in allowing her to go with her to visit schools and share in the achievements with principals and staff members. Mrs. Atwood said she believes in "Every Child, Every Day" and will do her best to honor that Jordan District motto. She is humbled to have an opportunity to work with the other Board members to make sure the children in the District have the best education possible. She said equality for students is what she has been working for and she will continue to work for that. She has confidence that her fellow Board members and District personnel will work alongside her to help the children of Jordan District.

President Pulsipher thanked all the family and friends of the Board members and District personnel for attending the meeting.

**MOTION:** At 7:07 p.m., it was moved by Kayleen Whitelock and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

/jc
Attachments

[Minutes approved 1-27-15]