The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study, closed, and regular sessions on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, beginning at 4:07 p.m. at the District Auxiliary Services Building, 7905 South Redwood Road, West Jordan, Utah.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:
- 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
- Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
- John Larsen, Business Administrator
- 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
- Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
- Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
- Clyde Mason, Director, Evaluation, Research and Accountability
- Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
- Carmen Freeman, Mayor, Herriman City

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. Ends Policies and Student Achievement

Laura Finlinson, administrator for Curriculum and Staff Development, and Clyde Mason, director of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability, reviewed District-wide student achievement data using the following assessments: CRT, SAGE, Explore, Plan, ACT, AP, PALS, DIBELS, Guided Reading (Fountas and Pinnell), Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI), WIDA, and graduation rates.

Mr. Mason compared Jordan District student data with student data from similar districts along the Central Wasatch Front. These included Alpine, Canyons, Granite, Salt Lake, and Davis. The data included multiple years to establish a trend. He noted that in most assessments there was a consistent trend for Jordan’s average scores to be above Granite and Salt Lake and slightly below Alpine, Canyons, and Davis. Mrs. Finlinson said it is important to note that Jordan students are gaining ground and administrators and teachers should always be looking for ways to improve student achievement.

Mr. Mason instructed Board members on how to access specific assessment data on the Utah State Office of Education website for districts, schools, and charter schools. He noted that in addition to test data, they can access data related to enrollment, ethnicity, gender, and the school report card letter grades.

Board members requested that Mrs. Finlinson and Mr. Mason collect data from Alpine, Canyons, and Davis Districts regarding the programs or activities that have led to higher test scores and to present suggestions at the next study session to the Board for incorporating these programs into Jordan District activities.
At 5:08 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

**MOTION:** At 5:17 p.m., it was moved by Richard S. Osborn and seconded by Jen Atwood to go into closed session. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Those recognized or signed-in as present:
- 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
- Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
- John Larsen, Business Administrator
- June M. LeMaster, Administrator of Human Resources
- Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
- Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss personnel and property. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

At 5:47 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The Board returned to study session.

**STUDY SESSION, Continued**

Those recognized or signed-in as present:
- 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
- Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
- John Larsen, 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
- Teri Timpson, Administrator of Schools
- Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
- Jason Skidmore, Director, Career & Technical Education
- Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
- Carmen Freeman, Mayor, Herriman City
- Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
- Jennifer Boehme, President, Jordan Education Association

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued the study session to discuss the following:

**B. Timeline for Potential Implementation of Modified Traditional Calendar Pilot**
Mike Anderson and Teri Timpson, administrators of schools, reviewed the timeline for implementation of the modified traditional calendar pilot programs at Riverside and Bluffdale Elementary Schools. They met with administrators, staff members, PTA groups, and School Community Councils from both schools to begin discussions about the modified traditional calendar model. They have also prepared an information flyer for Board review that will be sent to community members electronically and home with students. Board members asked for a disclaimer to be added to the flyer that the pilot program is subject to change.

Mr. Anderson said he and personnel from Bluffdale Elementary met with the principal and teachers of an Alpine District elementary school to gain a better understanding about the modified traditional schedule and to ask questions. Mrs. Timpson said she has a similar meeting planned with personnel from Riverside Elementary to visit an Alpine District elementary school that has a Dual Language Immersion program.

Mrs. Timpson said the timeline calls for open houses to be held at Bluffdale and Riverside to provide community members with information about how the pilot program will work and to answer questions. The timeline also calls for obtaining additional information regarding financial implications, impacts to employees, planning for professional development, etc. Mr. Anderson noted that a survey will be developed and implemented to obtain input from patrons. If the modified traditional calendar is adopted, the implementation date would be August 2016.

Board members asked to be provided dates and times of community meetings so they can attend and to also provide that information to city leaders. They asked Mrs. Timpson and Mr. Anderson to insure that patrons of each of these schools understand that this is a pilot program and what that means.

C. **Student Fee Schedule for 2015-16**

Brad Sorensen, administrator of schools, discussed the following changes to the fee schedule:

- **Middle School Fee Schedule.** Paragraph II, Elective Fees and Charges: A $10 fee was added for two components of the World Language Test (AAPPL).
- **High School Fee Schedule.** Paragraph I, Required Fees: The Instructional Technology Support 10th Grade Language Arts fee of $10 was eliminated.
- **High School Fee Schedule.** Paragraph II, Elective Fees and Charges: A $20 fee was added for four components of the World Language Test (AAPPL).
- **High School Fee Schedule.** Paragraph III, Extracurricular Participation Fees: The fee for Color/Winter Guard was separated, and the Color Guard fee included with the Marching Band fee.
- **Fees were added for students participating in wrestling:** $5 fee for initial bioelectrical impedance assessment (body fat) and $10 fee for re-take of bioelectrical impedance assessment.

D. **Capital Projects Budget Discussion**

Mr. Young reported that the Finance Committee has made good progress in reviewing the Capital Projects budget and is preparing to make a formal presentation to the Board.

E. **Renaming Jordan Applied Technology Center**

Mr. Jason Skidmore, director of Career and Technical Education, recommended renaming the Jordan Applied Technology Center: Jordan Academy for Careers and Technology. This name will maintain the acronym “JATC.” The new facility in Riverton located at 12723 S. Park Avenue, Riverton, will be referred to as JATC South and the facility in West Jordan located at 9301 S. Wights Fort Road, West Jordan, will be referred to as JATC North. Board members expressed their support for this name change.

F. **Policy Governance Review**
1. **GP104 Board Officers**

   President Pulsipher invited questions or comments from Board members about the changes to policy GP104. No concerns were expressed. She noted that revisions were made to the policy to bring it in line with current practice for Board elections.

At 6:24 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The regular session started at 6:35 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Those recognized or signed-in as present:
- 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
- Patrice A. Johnson, Superintendent of Schools
- John Larsen, 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
- Heather Ellingson, Director, Accounting, Budgets and Audits
- Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
- David Rostrom, Director, Facility Services
- Jason Skidmore, Director, Career & Technical Education
- Pam Su’a, Consultant, Curriculum and Staff Development
- Jeri Clayton, Administrative Assistant
- Robert Conder, AV Maintenance
- Jennifer Boehme, President, Jordan Education Association
- Paul Van Komen, Burbidge & White
- Bryan Griffith, West Jordan Police Department
- Barbara Gentry, Consultant, Curriculum and Staff Development
- Janae Barron, Teacher, Midas Creek Elementary
- Heather Christopher, Teacher, Bingham High
- LaRue Edwards, Teacher, Herriman High
- Ruth Cheeseman, Teacher, Bluffdale Elementary

President Pulsipher presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. The Jordan Applied Technology Center Color Guard conducted a flag ceremony and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Amy Turcotte, JATC student.

**Celebrating Jordan Applied Technology Center**

Karena Gonzalez, a student attending classes at Jordan Applied Technology Center (JATC) as well as West Jordan High School, expressed her feelings about how the programs at the JATC have changed her life. She said the auto collision course was not a program she would have imagined for herself, but she started by taking an Introduction to Auto Mechanics course and continued with an Introduction to Auto Body/Collision Repair. She realized she enjoyed this type of hands-on work and specialized in auto refinishing. She competed in Skills USA competitions and took first place in the region competition and third place in the state competition. She also serves as an ambassador for the program and enjoys visiting middle schools to tell
students about the programs the JATC has to offer. Ms. Gonzalez expressed her appreciation to the Board for these technology programs which she said have changed her life in a positive way and have paved the way for her future career.

**Resolution of Appreciation**

President Pulsipher read a Resolution of Appreciation for each of the following former Jordan District employees who recently passed away:

- Barbara Berg – employed by Jordan District from 1970 to 1980
- Catherine Jean Burks – employed by Jordan District from 1974 to 1976
- Lucille Harris – employed by Jordan District from 1972 to 1990
- Randall Hobbs – employed by Jordan District from 1989 to 2010
- Christina Dee Murray Nygren – employed by Jordan District from 2010 to 2013

**Recognition of Utah CTE Administrator of the Year**

Laura Finlinson, administrator for Curriculum and Staff Development, recognized Jason Skidmore, director of Career and Technical Education, for being named Utah Career and Technical Education Administrator of the Year for the State of Utah.

**Recognition of Utah Outstanding Elementary Science Teacher**

Barbara Gentry, science consultant for Curriculum and Staff Development, recognized Janae Barron, a fifth grade teacher at Midas Creek Elementary, for being named Utah Outstanding Elementary Science Teacher by the Utah Science Teachers Association.

**Recognition of Recertification of National Board Certified Teachers**

Pam Su’a, consultant for Curriculum and Staff Development, recognized two District teachers who recently completed the requirements for recertification of their National Board Certification. These teachers are Heather Christopher, Bingham High School, and LaRue Edwards, Herriman High School.

**Recognition of Administrative Appointment**

Dr. June LeMaster, administrator for Human Resources, recognized the following individual who received an administrative appointment:

- Heather Ellingson, Internal Auditor/CPA for Accounting, Budgets and Audits, appointed director of Accounting, Budgets and Audits.

**Recognitions by Board Members**

Mrs. Atwood recognized the students in Ms. Rich’s class at Majestic Elementary for the Shakespeare play they performed. She expressed how proud she was of them for working hard and for the effort they put into their acting parts and the scenery. She also attended Westland Elementary School’s *Hooray for USA* patriotic program. She said all the students did a wonderful job and had specific praise for one of the students who performed a guitar solo. She said the students’ salute to the armed forces was touching. Mrs. Atwood thanked the administrations of both Westland and Majestic for inviting her to these programs.

Mrs. Voorhies attended an assembly at Fox Hollow Elementary School about The Leader in Me program and said it was a delightful experience to see children taking charge of their lives. She said the program included music and spoken word and was fun to watch. Last week, Mrs. Voorhies attended the Middle School Honors Choir, Band and Orchestra concert and said the music was so lovely it brought tears to her eyes. She expressed appreciation for the opportunity to attend this program.
Mrs. Whitelock attended the Elk Ridge Middle School production of Beauty and the Beast and said the Drama Department did an amazing job on this play and they have great community support. She said the play even kept the smallest children in attendance entertained. She expressed appreciation to the Elk Ridge staff and parents for the time they put into this production.

**Presentation by Mrs. Cheeseman’s Fourth Grade Class**

Mr. Young said the District is beginning a pilot program in 2016-17 for a modified traditional calendar schedule and one of the schools selected for this pilot program is Bluffdale Elementary. Mrs. Cheeseman’s fourth grade class at Bluffdale researched the differences between year-round and traditional schedules and sent their findings and suggestions about the pilot program to Mr. Young. He invited the students to present the data to the Board.

The students said instead of grumbling about having to participate in the pilot program they decided to be proactive and research the good things about traditional and year-round schedules and to design a win-win model. After brainstorming ideas they came up with a solution to make school better. Their recommended plan included starting school at the beginning of August to give students extra days to use throughout the year such as having week-long breaks at Labor Day, Fall Recess, Thanksgiving, President’s Day, and Spring Recess. The students also suggested having the school year end in June. They called their plan the Traditional Year-round Win-Win Model and said they hoped the Board would consider using it.

Mr. Young expressed appreciation to Mrs. Cheeseman for adapting a real-world experience to her students’ educational experience. He requested that the Calendar Committee review the students’ suggestions and invite a couple of Mrs. Cheeseman’s students to the Committee meeting on that day so they can experience how school calendars are developed.

**Patron Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items**

Alvin Merrill addressed the Board regarding his desire to have his daughter attend Copper Hills High. He said he lives west of Bacchus Highway and within one-half block of the Jordan District boundary line. When he moved to that location he was able to have his three children attend Jordan District schools on permit. His oldest son graduated from Copper Hills High and his second son is currently a senior. When his daughter, who is currently in the ninth grade, was unable to permit to Sunset Ridge because of overcrowding, she enrolled in Thomas Jefferson Jr. High and was moved with the ninth grade into Kearns High. Mr. Merrill requested permission for his daughter to be able to permit to Copper Hills High because the friends she goes to church with are in the Copper Hills boundaries and it would lessen scheduling conflicts. He said she would also like to be able to participate in try outs for the Copper Hills dance team and while he understands the rule about transferring high school athletes sitting out one year, special circumstances exist due to the ninth grade being moved to Kearns High and officials at UHSAA said he could fill out a Hardship Release if he is able to get her into Copper Hills. President Pulsipher asked Dr. Godfrey, administrator of schools, to discuss this matter with Mr. Merrill.

Jennifer Boehme, president of the Jordan Education Association, congratulated Ms. Christopher and Ms. Edwards for having recertified their National Board Certification. Ms. Boehme said teachers are expressing frustration with testing, specifically timing of testing. She shared some teacher comments with the Board: “I have lost my professional discretion and test according to the calendar and not when students are ready.” “All we do is test; there is no time to teach.” “Every time students go to the computer lab they take a test or practice test and think that is all the computer lab is used for.” “Assessments should be used to guide instruction—the results are now being used to compare teachers and schools—this isn’t right.” “Social Studies, Art, Music and P.E. have been squeezed out by tested subjects.” “When the testing coordinator came into my classroom to give me the testing schedule, the energy of my students visibly left the room.” “I understand the District wants us to use MasteryConnect because they invested a lot of money in it. I’m sure it can provide valuable information, but we haven’t been trained on how to find that information from the assessments we give.” Ms. Boehme explained her own frustration during the last three weeks with State and District mandated testing that interfered with math and science unit tests she wanted to give her students in order to prepare for parent-teacher conferences. Ms. Boehme said her solution was to test on February 5, 11,
12, 13 (in between celebrating Valentine’s Day), and 17. She stressed that these students are eleven years old. She also said some coordination needs to take place at the District-level so multiple assessments are not due in the same week. When a couple of her students dropped from a fifth grade level to second grade on the SRI, she asked them independent of each other for the reason. They both responded, “I didn’t try on the SRI, I don’t care.” Ms. Boehme said students are becoming overwhelmed with the constant testing. During the past three weeks her class averages lowered as the number of tests increased. Ms. Boehme said she felt she needed to share this experience with Board members.

I. **General Business**

A. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Minutes**

Minutes for the Board of Education meetings held January 27, February 3, and February 10, 2015, were provided to the Board of Education.

2. **Updates to Board Governance Policies**

   a. GP105 Board President
   b. GP107 Board Secretary
   c. GP108 Meeting Planning
   d. GP110 Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings
   e. GP111 Types of Meetings
   f. GP112 Closed Sessions of the Board
   g. GP113 Board Committee Principles

   Copies of the above-listed policies are attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 1)

3. **Sabbatical and Educational Leaves for 2015-16**

   Applications for sabbatical and educational leaves were received and reviewed by the Local Professional Improvement Committee (LPIC). The LPIC recommended approval of the following leaves:

   **Sabbatical Leave:**
   
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School/Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ann Barnes</td>
<td>Curriculum and Staff Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shauna Worthington</td>
<td>Herriman Elementary/UVU Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candie Checketts</td>
<td>Midas Creek Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Jackson</td>
<td>South Jordan/Daybreak Elementary Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **School Starting and Ending Times for 2015-16**

   The recommended school starting and ending times for 2015-16 were provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 2).

**MOTION:** It was moved by Janice L. Voorhies and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to approve General Business items A1 through A4, as recommended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

B. **Motion to Accept Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Expenditures**

   Expenditures for the month of January 2015 were provided to the Board of Education.
2. **Financial Statement**

   The financial statement through January 31, 2015, was provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 3)

3. **Personnel – Licensed and Classified**

   Personnel changes for the month of January 2015 were provided to the Board of Education.

4. **Recommendation to Issue Certificates for Home Instruction**

   It was recommended that the students whose parents have filed affidavits pursuant to Utah Code 53A-11-102 shall be issued certificates excusing them from attending public school.

   **MOTION:** It was moved by Kayleen Whitelock and seconded by Richard S. Osborn to accept General Business items B1 through B4, as recommended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

II. **Bid Recommendations**

   A. **School or Department**

      **Facility Services**

      Midas Creek Elementary

      | Bidders                          | Items for Bid          | Amount of Bid |
      |---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
      | Absolute Constructors, Inc.     | Retaining Wall Repair  | $132,500.00  |
      | Chad Husband Construction, Inc. |                        |              |
      | Concrete Concrete, Inc.         |                        |              |
      | England Construction            |                        |              |
      | Gerber Construction, Inc.       |                        |              |
      | ZPSCO Contractors, Inc.         |                        |              |

      **Purpose:** To repair the retaining wall at Midas Creek Elementary

      **Recommendation:** It was recommended awarding the contract to the most responsive, responsible and acceptable bidder, Gerber Construction, Inc. They complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents.

      **MOTION:** It was moved by Kayleen Whitelock and seconded by Janice L. Voorhies to approve the bid for retaining wall repair at Midas Creek Elementary, as recommended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

   B. **School or Department**

      **Facility Services**

      Mountain Shadows Elementary

      | Bidders                          | Items for Bid          | Amount of Bid |
      |---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
      | Briskey Mechanical              | Boiler Replacement     | $226,832.00  |
      | Combustion and Control Service, LLC |                      |              |
      | Commercial Mechanical           |                        |              |
      | KHI Mechanical                  |                        |              |
      | Mechanical Service & Systems    |                        |              |
      | Pro Industrial                  |                        |              |

      **Purpose:** To replace the boiler at Mountain Shadows.
Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to the most responsive, responsible and acceptable bidder, Briskey Mechanical. They complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents.

MOTION: It was moved by Richard S. Osborn and seconded by Janice L. Voorhies to approve the bid for boiler replacement at Mountain Shadows, as recommended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

C. School or Department
Transportation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidders</th>
<th>Items for Bid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bryson Sales and Service</td>
<td>Four T3RE Bluebird Buses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Contract MA812</td>
<td>$500,824.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Purpose: Replacement buses.

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the orders with the state contract vendor, Bryson Sales and Service.

Mrs. Whitelock explained that she would abstain from voting for items C and D because she would like to receive more data to support the bus purchases. She requested to know the size of the District fleet, age of each bus, and to receive input from the mechanics about the need for replacement.

The Board requested to receive a written summary outlining the justification for future bus purchases.

MOTION: It was moved by Richard S. Osborn and seconded by Janice L. Voorhies to approve the bid for four buses, as recommended. Motion passed with six votes in the affirmative. Mrs. Whitelock abstained.

D. School or Department
Transportation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bidders</th>
<th>Items for Bid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rush Truck Center</td>
<td>Three Integrated CE S Buses with Air Ride Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Contract MA610</td>
<td>$304,272.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Purpose: Replacement buses.

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the orders with the state contract vendor, Rush Truck Center-Salt Lake City.

MOTION: It was moved by Janice L. Voorhies and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to approve the bid for three buses, as recommended. Motion passed with six votes in the affirmative. Mrs. Whitelock abstained.

III. Special Business

A. Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Board Policy GP104 Board Officers

It was recommended that the Board approve revisions to policy GP104. A copy of policy GP104 is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 4)
Mr. Osborn requested to have language included about the number of times one Board member may be elected to a two-year term. President Pulsipher asked the Board secretary, Mrs. Whitelock, to note Mr. Osborn’s request and address his concerns when the policy is up for its yearly review.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Matthew Young and seconded by Jen Atwood to approve revisions to policy GP104 Board Officers. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**B. Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Board Policy GP109 Construction of the Agenda**

It was recommended that the Board approve revisions to policy GP109. A copy of policy GP109 is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 5)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Richard S. Osborn and seconded by J. Lynn Crane to approve revisions to policy GP109 Construction of the Agenda. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**C. Recommendation to Adopt the Schedule of School Fees for 2015-16**

Mr. Brad Sorensen, administrator of schools, stated that revisions to the proposed Schedule of School Fees for the 2015-16 school year were discussed in detail during the prior study session. A copy of the Schedule of School Fees for 2015-16 is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 6)

**MOTION:** It was moved by J. Lynn Crane and seconded by Richard S. Osborn to adopt the Schedule of School Fees for 2015-16 school year. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**D. Recommendation to Approve Purchase and Sales Agreement for Property Located at Approximately 12723 S. Park Avenue, Riverton, Utah**

It was recommended that the Board approve the sale of three acres of property located at approximately 12723 S. Park Avenue in Riverton. President Pulsipher noted that this parcel is part of the 9.5 acres (plus existing building) the District purchased to be used as the new JATC South facility. The proceeds of the sale will be used to help pay for the remodel of the building for District uses.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Janice L. Voorhies and seconded by Matthew Young to approve the sale of three acres of property located at approximately 12723 S. Park Avenue, Riverton, Utah. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**IV. Information Items – Superintendent’s Input**

Superintendent Johnson expressed appreciation for the exemplary young people who made presentations to the Board earlier in the meeting and to staff members for the excellent presentations made during study session prior to the regular meeting. She expressed appreciation to the District’s professional educators and those that support the work that goes on in District schools and said it is a pleasure to sit among professionals and an honor to stand on the shoulders of giants. Dr. Johnson invited Wendy Harmon to present information about MasteryConnect.

**A. MasteryConnect**

Wendy Harmon, consultant for Curriculum and Staff Development, reviewed the MasteryConnect program currently being utilized by District schools. This program assists teachers to effectively assess curriculum standards, monitor student performance, and report mastery to parents and administrators. The assessments allow teachers to quickly see which students need remediation and which students are at or near mastery level. She noted that scores in MasteryConnect can be transferred to Skyward, eliminating the need to enter data twice. Teachers are able to customize
the program to meet their individual classroom needs and to “pin” resources or “follow” teachers and easily connect to materials developed by other educators. Ms. Harmon invited two principals to share their experiences using MasteryConnect.

Rodney Shaw, principal of Fort Herriman Middle School, said his school is in its second year of a site license for the MasteryConnect program and used a free trial version for one year prior to receiving the site license. This year his teachers have performed over 45,000 assessments and this tool, from his perspective as an education leader, is wonderful because the tracker allows him to see the mastery level of each of the students in his school and teachers have instant data regarding individual student understanding of content areas. Mr. Shaw noted that Fort Herriman students’ science scores were among the highest in the State and the teachers in the Science Department have the highest use of MasteryConnect in his school. Mr. Shaw asked Board members to budget for ongoing training for teachers and principals in the use of MasteryConnect.

In response to a question from Mr. Young, Mr. Shaw explained that his school is six to seven years into the PLC (Professional Learning Communities) process and the largest hurdle to targeted intervention has been the time it takes to analyze data. His teachers embraced the MasteryConnect program for its ability to quickly provide them with data.

Todd Theobald, principal of Majestic Elementary, said one of the requirements for participation in the Turnaround program was for his school to have an assessment tool and MasteryConnect has helped his teachers identify student levels of understanding/mastery relative to the core standards and it helps them target students for specific interventions and instructional strategies. The goal at Majestic is to use the data to help students increase in achievement levels. Mr. Theobald said his teachers run an after-school program for struggling students and for one hour every Tuesday and Thursday these students are given specific help based on the assessments. At the end of the hour, the students are given a quick three-question assessment to analyze what was learned. Mr. Theobald said his teachers are motivated by the excitement of seeing student achievement goals met or exceeded. The tools in MasteryConnect have given the teachers and students the ability to have data available to them immediately and make course corrections sooner than later. He also said it is important for school principals to fully understand MasteryConnect so they can help their teachers.

Board members invited teachers in the audience to speak about their experiences with MasteryConnect.

Jennifer Black, a second grade teacher at Majestic Elementary, said MasteryConnect is a great tool to identify specific areas for which her students may need additional help. She shared one concern she has that it is not very easy to import the scores from MasteryConnect to Skyward and perhaps more training would help. She indicated that she received only one-half hour of training at the beginning of the year before having to use MasteryConnect and suggested having more training or buy-in from principals so they have an excitement for using the tool and can get their teachers excited about using it.

Carl McKenzie, secondary teacher, said there are differences in secondary schools that made MasteryConnect more challenging. Teachers have to be willing to use the data to change instruction and many secondary teachers are not as willing to change what they are doing. He said MasteryConnect is a great tool, but most secondary teachers don’t feel they have been given enough instruction in its use and it is difficult enough just keeping up with changes in state standards.

Chris Lyon, music teacher at Elk Ridge Middle School, said he attended the MasteryConnect training at the first of the year and was excited—then the school year started and all of his time and efforts were used to prepare lessons and work one-on-one with his students. He likes what MasteryConnect has to offer, but he feels he needs more time, support, and training about how to use the program. He also said synching with Skyward is a challenging process as well.
Glen Richins, Utah Studies and AP Human Geography teacher at Oquirrh Hills Middle School, said he loves MasteryConnect and uses it extensively. He started using it prior to its school-wide use and also used the MasteryConnect program called Socrative. The assessments provide him with student data quickly and he can adjust his teaching based on the questions the students missed. A second assessment can then be given at the end of the 45-minute class period to see if the students understand the concepts. He said teachers received training at the beginning of the year, with follow-up training to resolve problems, and the school’s Technology Committee has offered mini-classes which teachers have appreciated. Mr. Richins said the MasteryConnect personnel have also been good to work with and invite input from teachers for ways to make the software better.

Mrs. Finlinson responded to a question from the Board about the cost of the program by stating that MasteryConnect was purchased using the RFP process and under the current three-year contract the District pays $4 per student per year. She also stated that part of the original plan included hiring an administrator on special assignment for two years to help with implementation and one-time money two years ago was used to help with professional development costs. For the upcoming school year a budget request was made to pay for additional MasteryConnect training.

V. Discussion Items

A. Board Member Committee Reports and Comments

Mrs. Pulsipher updated the Board regarding two legislative bills initiated by Senator Harper. The first is a bill to define the end of the county-wide equalization. The bill was heard by the Senate Committee and passed through with a favorable recommendation. The bill was scheduled to be heard by the House Tax and Revenue Committee today but was rescheduled to tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. The bill will likely state that when the five years expires, Jordan’s rates will go up and other District’s rates will go down; however, an amendment is likely to require that an explanation be included with property tax notices as a compromise to requiring that Jordan hold a truth-in-taxation hearing. The second bill was created to define municipality participation in Board of Education closed meetings based on current practice which has been to allow mayors or designees, when invited, to attend closed sessions related to property matters or superintendent/business administrator discussions. The bill passed through the Senate Committee and Senate without much difficulty. There was some misunderstanding on the part of USBA that the bill was giving municipalities more access and they opposed it. These issues were resolved and the bill passed the House Committee and will be heard on the House floor. Modifications to the bill included changing the wording from “shall” to “may” attend closed sessions for property issues.

Mrs. Pulsipher made a recommendation to the Board that when possible, they attend City Council meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. She said two cities offered to include Board members on the agenda so they could spend a few minutes speaking about District issues. She recommended working together to decide who will attend and the subjects upon which to speak.

Mrs. Voorhies has been attending meetings of the Western Growth Coalition every Saturday morning and said it has been interesting to hear from legislators and the meetings have been useful in terms of building relationships and understanding.

Mrs. Whitelock said serving on the Board’s Legislative Committee has been a delight. This week she attended the first meeting of the Board’s Facilities Committee and said she will have more to report later. Mrs. Whitelock said she went through all of her folders and notes today and pulled a form about the energy conservation RFP comparison from about one year ago. She requested to have an update on whether the District is saving energy.
Mrs. Atwood said some of her Committee members have been heavily involved in legislative matters and she has been waiting to schedule a Committee meeting until after the Legislature has finished its session.

Mr. Young said the Board Finance Committee has been meeting regularly and he is excited about the direction of the Committee. The Committee is in the middle of solidifying the 2015-16 capital projects budget and a large portion of the last meeting was spent discussing the revenue side of the budget. The Committee came to a sound understanding of how that portion of the budget is generated and will finalize the budget in its upcoming meetings in preparation for presentation to the full Board for discussion and recommendation. Mr. Young expressed appreciation to Mr. Larsen for his work and preparation for the Finance Committee meetings. Mr. Young said the Southland Elementary staff and community will be celebrating Southland’s fortieth birthday on Thursday night, February 26, 2015, at an open house beginning at 5:30 p.m. Southland is currently the oldest school in Riverton and he anticipates having Mayor Applegarth and other city leaders in attendance as well as community members. He invited all those who may be interested to attend this celebration.

**MOTION:** At 8:57 p.m., Mrs. Whitelock moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

/jc
Attachments

[Minutes approved 3-31-15]