

MINUTES

October 6, 2006

Minutes of the meeting of the State Board of Education held October 6, 2006, at the Utah State Office of Education, Salt Lake City, Utah. Meeting commenced at 10:40 a.m. At the request of Chairman Kim R. Burningham, Vice Chairman Janet A. Cannon presided.

Members present were:

Chairman Kim R. Burningham
Vice Chairman Janet A. Cannon
Member Dixie L. Allen
Member Tim Beagley
Member Laurel O. Brown
Member Bill Colbert
Member Edward A. Dalton
Member Thomas Gregory
Member Randall Mackey
Member Cyndee Miya
Member Denis R. Morrill
Member Josh M. Reid
Member Debra G. Roberts
Member Richard Sadler
Member Marlon O. Snow
Member Teresa L. Theurer

Members Mark Cluff and Greg W. Haws were excused.

Also present were:

Superintendent Patti Harrington
Associate Superintendent Myron Cottam
Associate Superintendent Patrick Ogden
Executive Director, USOR, Don Uchida
Public Affairs Director Mark Peterson
Board Secretary Twila B. Affleck

Deputy Superintendent Raymond Timothy was excused

Members of the Press:

Jennifer Toomer-Cook, Deseret Morning News
Lynze Wardle, Standard Examiner
Kris Fawson, USILC & LCPA
Sue Carey, Utah PTA

Utah State Office of Education Staff:

Marlies Burns, Law, Legislation and Educational Services

Welcome

Vice Chairman Cannon shared some focus point on our ultimate goal of student-centered education.

Vice Chairman Cannon excused Board Members Mark Cluff and Greg Haws.

Board Member Richard Sadler lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member Dixie L. Allen offered opening remarks reading from “Teacher Man” by Frank McCourt.

She also quoted William Glasser from the book “The War Against America’s Public Schools” by Gerald W. Bracey: “[Many of] those personal qualities that we hold dear – resilience and courage in the face of stress, a sense of craft in our work, a commitment to justice and caring in our social relationships, a dedication to advancing the public good in our communal life—are exceedingly difficult to assess. And so, unfortunately, we are apt to measure what we can, and eventually come to value what is measured over what is left unmeasured. The shift is subtle and occurs gradually.”

Release of Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS), Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), and Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) Accountability Reports, and Time on Task as it Relates to Testing

Judy Park, Assessment Director, reported that for the first time in 2006, the Utah State Office of Education released all accountability reports to the public at the same time. These reports include: U-PASS school reports, AYP school reports, AYP district reports, and AMAO district reports. Due to the complexity of preparing all of the reports at the same time, the reports were released to the schools on August 16, 2006, one day after the planned release date.

Ms. Park continued that school districts and charter schools were then allowed a 30-day review period to determine if they would appeal the report (as allowed by the No Child Left Behind Act). The school district/charter school public release of these reports was scheduled for September 16, with the reports scheduled to be posted to the USOE website on September 17. Due to several programming errors and the time involved to correct the errors and reports, it was necessary to extend the appeal deadline to September 22 with the district/charter school public release delayed to September 28. All reports were posted to the USOE website on September 29.

Ms. Park reviewed the results of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) adequate yearly progress reports and the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS) school reports that were released in late September.

(For complete details of the report see General Exhibit No. 10013.)

Following comments and questions by Board Members, motion was made by Member Richard Sadler and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to receive the report. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Park shared information regarding the concern that has been raised in regard to the amount of time testing takes away from academic instruction and the discussion around the timing of the CRT testing window.

Meeting the Needs of Utah's Secondary
Students in Career and Technical Education

Mary Shumway, Director of Career and Technical Education reported that the Utah State Board of Education is required to provide a report to the Governor and to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee by October 31 of each year detailing how the needs of secondary students are being met and what access they have to programs offered at the Utah College of Applied Technology(UCAT).

Ms. Shumway presented a report relative to the school district Career and Technical Education programs. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10014.)

Robert O. Brems, President of the Utah College of Applied Technology presented information on membership history of both secondary and post secondary. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10015.)

Motion was made by Member Dixie L. Allen and seconded by Member Edward A. Dalton to receive the report with minor corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Participation/Comment

Rhonda Rose, State PTA Legislative Vice President expressed appreciation to the Board Members who participated in their legislative conference yesterday. She reported that the Board's resolution on the graduation requirements passed by a two-thirds vote at that conference. Mrs. Rose also expressed appreciation for the Board allowing the PTA to participate in the many study committees of the Board.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Denis R. Morrill and seconded by Member Thomas Gregory to move into an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present [Member Randall Mackey absent] the Board moved into an executive session following lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Member Dixie L. Allen and seconded by Member Richard Sadler to reconvene into open meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The Board reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Advisory Council

Motion was made by Member Laurel O. Brown and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to appoint Bill Peterson, Lori Quigley, and to reappoint Linda Collins to the Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Advisory Council. Terms to expire June 2009. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Members Gregory, Mackey and Morrill absent.

Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Council

Motion was made by Member Laurel O. Brown and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to appoint Diane Larsen and Davis Mason to the Division of Services to the Deaf and hard of Hearing Advisory Council. Terms to

expire June 2009. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Members Gregory, Mackey and Morrill absent.

Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission Recommendations

Motion was made by Member Laurel O. Brown and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to accept the Commissions recommendation in Case No. 02-621, in concurrence with the hearing panel following a hearing for reinstatement of a license that the education license of a former educator in the Granite School District be reinstated. The suspension of the license resulted from sexual misconduct with a student approximately 30 years ago. It was noted that the hearing report was reviewed in Executive Session. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Members Mackey and Morrill absent.

Motion was made by Member Laurel O. Brown and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to accept the Commissions recommendation in Case No. 04-706 and accept a stipulated agreement, including conditions of the agreement, whereby a former teacher in the Emery School District voluntarily surrenders her educator license in lieu of a hearing for purposes of revocation for 10 years from the date of formal action by the State Board of Education. The revocation results from becoming sexually involved with a student resulting in a charge of second degree felony sexual abuse. The educator is also currently under the terms of a prior Stipulated Agreement for Letter of Reprimand and Probation for unrelated misconduct. The educator's current misconduct is in violation of the express terms of that Agreement. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Motion was made by Member Laurel O. Brown and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to accept the Commissions recommendation in Case No. 05-757 and concurrent of the hearing panel following a hearing that the Level 2 Secondary Education License of a former educator in the Jordan School District, be suspended for two years and the Administrative/Supervisory License Area be revoked for five years. The recommendation results from the educator seeking prescription drugs from staff members for personal use. It was noted that the hearing report was reviewed in Executive Session. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

(For complete details of the recommendations see General Exhibit No. 10016.)

Utah's Mathematics Core Curriculum Report

During the 2006 legislative session, questions were raised regarding Utah's Mathematics Core Curriculum in comparison to mathematics curricula in other states. Discussion on the issue was held during the Public Education Appropriations Committee, and Senator Evans recommended the topic be referred to the Education Interim Committee.

Since the legislative session, the Utah State Office of Education has formed a Mathematics Core Review Committee. The committee is comprised of mathematicians and math educators from each university in Utah, district mathematics coordinators, district curriculum directors, Board members, and Utah State Office of Education curriculum staff.

The Mathematics Core Review Committee was formed to provide guidance for mathematics education in Utah. During the first meeting, the committee developed questions for an external review of Utah's Mathematics Core Curriculum. Several external evaluators were contacted regarding the availability for reviewing Utah's Mathematics Core, and WestEd was selected.

WestEd has now completed the review on Utah's Mathematics Core Curriculum. Dr. Paul Kohler and Dr. Steve Schneider of WestEd presented a report of the findings. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10017.)

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member Dixie L. Allen to receive the report on the findings. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Board Standing Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Member Tim Beagley, Chairman of the Finance Committee presented the following recommendations from the Committee:

Oversight of School Inspections, R277-471

Amendments to R2770-471, Oversight of School Inspections, were discussed in last month's Finance Committee. The rule was passed on first reading with section 7 deleted.

The Committee discussed whether there should be additional changes and determined it was appropriate as presented, and approved it on second reading. Motion from the Committee that the Board approve R277-471 on third and final reading. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10018.) Member Beagley noted that the Finance Committee will continue to review the rule after the next legislative session. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts and Sadler voting in favor; Members Mackey and Theurer absent.

USOR/USDB Budget Requests and Board Budget Initiatives

The Finance Committee continued the development of the FY 2008 budget request to the Governor and Legislature. They heard and adopted the budget requests of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation and Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind budget requests. The Committee also reviewed several budget initiatives which will be presented to the Board next month. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10019.)

Motion from the Committee that the Board approve the budget requests of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation and the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Motion from the Committee that the wpu request be increased to 10 percent. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value - Child Nutrition Programs

In June of 2006, the Center for Science in the Public Interest gave Utah (along with 21 other states) a failing grade with regard to its policies for food and beverages sold out of vending machines, school stores, and other venues outside of school meals. The grade was based on the fact that Utah has no more stringent policies than those required by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Committee discussed the possibility of developing principles guiding the development of a rule regarding food and beverages sold out of vending machines, school stores, and other venues outside of school meals. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10020.)

Staff will come back with a draft rule for the committee to look at relative to how vending machines should be stocked.

Strategic Planning Goals

The Finance Committee developed current goals and objectives to determine what needs to be completed to meet legislative mandates, etc. The Committee reviewed and approved the current strategic plan goals and objectives and included them on the Agenda and Strategic Plan Calendar for future action. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10021.)

Legislative Audit of Vending Machine Receipts

The Legislative Auditor recently completed a review of the use of vending machines in Utah's public schools. The Auditor estimates that secondary schools earned between \$3.25 and \$3.75 million in vending machine receipts in FY 2005; found that receipts varied widely among schools; and suggested that contracting procedures and financial controls could be improved.

The Audit recommended: 1) that school districts provide their schools with written guidelines on how vending machine receipts should be spent; 2) schools have written contracts with vendors with terms and conditions specifically detailed; 3) schools obtain multiple bids, whenever possible; and 4) (school districts require schools to maintain clear, detailed accounting records for their discretionary funds. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10022.)

Staff was directed to report back on possible wording of a rule.

Other Post Employment Retirement Benefits (OPEB)

In a 2005 audit report, the Legislative Auditor General recommended that:

1. “the Legislature require districts and the USBE to assess their full liability by having actuarial studies completed by June 2006 on all post-retirement benefits including stipends, insurance to age 65, and insurance after age 65.”
2. “the Legislature require districts and the USBE to modify or eliminate post-retirement benefits to a level that is affordable, sustainable, and more comparable with the state’s costs.”
3. “the Legislature require districts and the USBE to develop plans to fund post-retirement obligations by modifying or eliminating benefits instead of requesting additional funding from the Uniform School Fund or local taxpayers and without negatively impacting educational services. These plans should be reported to the Legislature during the 2007 General Session.”

In August the Committee heard the results of an actuarial study on OPEB commissioned by USOE. The study revealed that districts have net annual OPEB liability ranging from less than zero to \$11.5 million. The study fulfilled the first recommendation of the Auditor’s report.

The Committee reviewed the latest information on the OPEB issue and will continue to study this.

Law and Policy Committee

Member Debra G. Roberts, Chairman of the Law and Policy Committee presented the following recommendations from the Committee:

Westminster College Teacher Education Program Granted Accreditation by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) - Approval

The Utah State Board of Education requires that all Utah teacher preparation programs be nationally accredited by either 1) National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) 2) Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) or that they be 3) Regionally accredited and competency based. Westminster College Teacher Education Program was granted Initial accreditation by the Accreditation Committee of TEAC at its April 30, 2006 meeting. The evidence presented in the *Inquiry Brief*, as verified by the on-site audit held in December 2005, was evaluated by the Accreditation Panel who determined that the teacher education program “merits Initial Accreditation status.” The TEAC Accreditation continues for a five year period; Westminster College will then submit an Inquire Brief to TEAC and prepare for the on-site audit in 2010.

The Law & Policy Committee reviewed the letter from TEAC and recognized the TEAC Accreditation for Westminster College Teacher Education Program. (For complete details see General Exhibit No.10023.) Motion

carried Randall absent.

Motion from the Committee that the Board approve the Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Program at Westminster College. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Highly Qualified Teacher Grants, R277-511
to Implement HB 285 “Appropriation for
Highly Qualified Teachers”

HB 285 “Appropriation for Highly Qualified Teachers” (2006 General Session) created a grant program to minimize out-of-pocket expenses for licensed teachers to obtain National Board Certification or to take tests to meet federal highly qualified teacher standards. Included in the program is a non-lapsing appropriation of \$500,000 for the fiscal year 2006-2007.

The statute requires that the Board adopt a formula, after consultation with school districts and charter schools, that allocates the funding in a fair and equitable manner. Additionally, the statute requires the Board to make rules to administer this section.

The following amendments were made by the Committee: R277-511-4 E. To read: Grant recipients shall satisfy all requirements for funding under Section 53A-6-112 and R277-511-3. Add G. Grant recipients shall report annually by August 1 for the previous school year the following: (1) names of teacher participants; (2) increased number of highly qualified teachers in the district or charter school; and (3) increased number of teachers with National Board Certification. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10024.)

The Law and Policy Committee reviewed R277-511 Highly Qualified Teacher Grants and approved the rule on first reading as amended above . Motion from the Committee that the Board approve R277-511, Highly Qualified Teacher Grants as amended on second reading. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

On-Line Licensure Procedures Demonstration

The Education Quality Services section of the Utah State Office of Education is in the process of developing and implementing on-line licensing. Utah Interactive is under state contract to provide web services to state agencies and has previously developed on-line licensure for other state agencies. There will be a phased transition from the traditional paper application and renewal process to a web-based process. The first phase of the on-line process to be deployed will be license renewal for active educators. This phase will be active as of January 1, 2007. It is anticipated that this change will result in a substantially streamlines process that reduces frustration and increases the overall efficiency of licensing.

The Committee viewed a demonstration of the on-line licensure procedures. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10025.)

The Committee received the report as information.

On-Line Licensure, R277-512

The Educator Quality Services Section of the Utah State Office of Education is in the process of developing and implementing on-line licensing. There will be a phased transition from the traditional paper application and renewal process to a web-based process. It is anticipated that this change will result in a substantially streamlined process that reduces frustration and increases the overall efficiency of licensing.

Board Rule R277-512, On-Line Licensure will ensure clarity in the on-line licensure process for both Educator Quality Services and for licensure and renewal applicants. The proposed rule clarified the definition of a license, sets standards for the on-line procedures, and authorizes the eventual full transition of a licensing transactions to on-line processes. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10026.)

The Committee made the following amendments to the rule: R277-512-1 F. Delete [at utah.gov] and add USOE. F. "Online license transaction" means those license transactions that take place via the process maintained by the USOE contracted provider.

Delete R277-512-3 B, causing lettering changes through the end of that section and changing E to read: No later than July 1, 2008, USOE licensing transactions shall take place electronically.

R277-512-6 B. delete (1) thru (3); (4) becomes C. "The USOE Licensing Section shall maintain accurate records and documentation of fees assessed and costs of online licensing and any USOE review responsibilities."

The Law and Policy Committee approved R277-517, On-Line Licensure on first reading as amended and moves that the Board approve the rule on second reading. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent. Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP

Committee Update

At the August Law and Policy Committee meeting it was requested that a Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP) Committee be formed to address SLP critical shortages and that a preliminary progress report be provided to the Law and Policy Committee at the October Board Meeting.

The Law and Policy Committee received a progress report regarding SLP critical shortages. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10027.)

State Board of Education Bylaw Amendments

The State Board of Education has taken action which requires changes to the Board Bylaws, i.e., adding an additional Board member representing CMAC. The Law & Policy Committee has also been reviewing Board advisory committees and their roles and responsibilities, which should be reflected in the Bylaws. Board members have also given suggestions for additional changes.

The Law and Policy Committee reviewed the suggested changes to the Board Bylaws and made further changes. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10028.)

Motion from the Committee that the Board adopt the revised Bylaws as presented. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

General Consent Calendar

Motion was made by Member Teresa L. Theurer and seconded by Member Dixie L. Allen to approve the General Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Meetings of the State Board of Education held September 8, 2006.

2. Contracts

(1) Davis County Schools Warehouse. \$150,000. 10/1/06-9/30/07. - Amend.

Receipt and storage of USDA Commodities.

(2) Utah Department of Workforce Services. \$70,000. 7/1/06-6/30/07 - RECEIVABLE

To provide funding for a Pre-K-To-Kindergarten Literacy Specialist to perform the tasks identified in the Scope of Work and to assist the Utah Department of Workforce Services in improving the quality of education in Utah.

(For complete details of the Contracts see General Exhibit No. 10029.)

3. Secondary School Completion and Diplomas, R277-705

Secondary School Completion and Diplomas, R277-705 is amended to change the requirements for adult students in regard to the Utah Basic Skills Competency Test (UBSCT).

Annually, approximately 30,000 students participate in adult education program located in 40 school districts and 13 community-based organizations. Typically, adults have chosen not to complete their secondary education with the “traditional” opportunities afforded to K-12 students due to constraints that extend beyond education. The adult student population tends to have issues with literacy and employability skills, and are frequently transient due to living arrangements, employment opportunities, and family obligations. Requiring students enrolled in adult secondary school completion programs to participate in the UBSCT places adults in very difficult situations. It could keep them from ever completing their education and from becoming productive citizens. The adult student can meet with success given the structure and support that adult education programs provide. The UBSCT requirement, given the unavailability of funding for non-traditional students, presents a significant obstacle to adult education students seeing further opportunities. R277-705 was approved by the Board on section reading at the September 8, 2006 meeting. There have been no substantive changes to the rule since that time. The Board approved R277-705, Secondary School Completion and Diplomas on third and final reading. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10030.)

4. Secondary Career and Technical Education, R277-911

Secondary Career and Technical Education is being amended to update language, definitions, pupil accounting, and funding and disbursement of funds procedures to bring the rule up to date with current regulations and practices. The Board approved R277-911 on second reading at the September 8, 2006 meeting. There have been no substantive changes to the rule since that time. The Board approved R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education on third and final reading. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10031.)

5. Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program, R277-701

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program is to provide Utah eligibility requirements and application procedures and time lines for the Robert C. Byrd Honor Scholarship Program. USOE staff met with the Administrative Rules Review Committee requesting formal procedures to be set in place by the Board. This will be a great resource for any applicant, recipient, parents, administrators, and staff looking into the scholarship. This will also set a standard for those administering the scholarship program. The Board approved R277-701 on second reading at the September 8, 2006 meeting. There have been no substantive changes made to the rule since that time. The Board approved, R277-701, Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program on third and final reading. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10032.)

6. Sevier School District Revolving Loan Fund Request

Sevier School District is applying for \$1,000,000 from the revolving loan fund to supplement district funds to speed up some school construction, additions and renovation projects identified in their 10 Year Capital Outlay plan submitted last year. After a district makes their December 2006 payment, we will have sufficient funds to cover the request. Sevier School District is a low assessed valuation per student district and has been funding all projects for the last several years on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. They would repay the funds by January 2011. There is a chance they would repay the principal early if a large donation were received in the interim.

The revolving loan committee met and approved forwarding the request on to the Board for approval, with anticipation of a formal legal agreement to be approved in January 2007. The Board approved the request with anticipation of a formal legal agreement to be approved in January 2007. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10033.)

7. USBE Annual Calendar

The Utah State Board of Education Annual Calendar for 2006-2007 was provided for information to the Board. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10034.)

8. Monthly Budget Report

The Monthly Budget Report provides information to the Board in meeting its fiduciary responsibilities toward the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation and the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10035.)

9. Ratification of Employment

Travis Rawlings was ratified as an Educational Specialist, Career & Technical Education in the Student Achievement and School Success Division.

Ellen Nicholson Walker was ratified as an Educational Specialist, Electronic High School, in the Law, Legislation and Educational Services Division.

Carl Lyman was ratified as an Educational Specialist, Career & Technical Education in the Student Achievement and School Success Division.

Kimberly N. Loveland was ratified as a Child Nutrition Specialist in the Data and Business Services Division.

Janet Goble was ratified as an Educational Specialist, Career & Technical Education in the Student Achievement and School Success Division.

10. Advisory Committees - Notice of Vacancies

The Board was notified of the following vacancy on the Instructional Materials Commission:

Lay Citizen

11. List of Applicants for Licenses

The list of applicants for initial and renewal licenses was approved by the Board. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10036.)

12. Visually Handicapped Trust Fund Expenditures

The Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Council unanimously approved grants in the amount of \$36,000 to be paid out of the Visually Handicapped Trust Fund interest. The Board subsequently approved the following:

Utah Council of the Blind: Braille Literacy Project - \$8,000.00 - To make Braille materials specifically requested by individuals available and increase literacy among the blind.

Utah Council of the Blind: Subsidized Cab Coupon Program - \$6,000.00

To provide low-cost transportation to blind and visually impaired individuals throughout the state (exclusive of the Ogden area).

Utah Council of the Blind: Ceramics Classes - \$1,250.00 - To provide ceramics classes in the Salt Lake City area to assist blind and visually impaired individuals increase their dexterity and skill in using their hands and their self-confidence and self-esteem.

Utah Foundation for the Blind – Adult Goalball Program - \$1,500.00

To help with the expanded adult goalball program.

The Braille Resource & Literacy Center - \$4,500.00 - To produce a wide variety of items in Braille and make them available to any interested blind person in Utah.

Palisade Pals - \$1,250.00 – To provide day camps for disabled individuals where they gain social skills and gain confidence by participating in various activities.

Ogden Association of the Blind: The Ride - \$2,350.00 – To provide transportation for blind and visually impaired individuals to all activities sponsored by the OAB.

NFB of Utah Science Camp - \$5,850 --To instill confidence and teach blind students alternative techniques to participate in science classes and how to succeed in those classes.

NFB of Utah Student Division - \$750.00 – To provide a seminar on the vocational rehabilitation program for the blind and visually impaired.

NFB Social Security Awareness for the Blind - \$3,800.00 – To conduct a SSDI and SSI seminar to provide participants with current and correct information in numerous areas.

NFB Utah Parents of Blind Children - \$750.00 – Provide opportunities for blind and visually impaired teens to gain necessary skills and attitudes that will further their individual educational or employment goals.

13. Claims Report

The Claims Report for June 30, 2006 in the amount of \$50,086,486.31, and August 31, 2006 in the amount of \$193,786,814.25 were approved by the Board. (For complete details see General Exhibit No. 10037.)

Executive Officer Report

Superintendent Patti Harrington presented the following items of information:

She has attended the USBA Regional meetings during the past month. They are reading a book to prepare for the USBA Conference in January “Failure Is Not An Option.”

Reviewed Visits/Speaking Assignments and Information Items.

Dr. Harrington reported that we are being drawn in on the small district feasibility study. She and Associate Superintendent Ogden have indicated to Bruce Parker who wanted to interview them that they were spectators in the stands and like that position. None the less we are being drawn in to give data and provide data.

Member Denis Morrill commented that he felt we should be drawn in more because one of the particular things he has seen is some of the proposed divisions put all the money on one side and all the people on the other and this is a formula for failure. They need to figure a way to divide them so the money goes where the students are. He noted in particular the proposed division of the Granite School District which he felt was way one sided.

Discussion Items:

Dr. Harrington reported that we are actively looking internally relative to diplomas and language. Operating from the belief they wanted a value added diploma sequence. Also looking at UBSCT and an alternate way of determining proficiency. Proceed forward on these items.

Family Literacy Centers and Parent Education Resource Centers (PERC) Kindergarten initiative precipitating these one stop shop areas.

(For complete details of the Executive Officer Report see General Exhibit No. 10038.)

The Utah Public Education Coalition has prepared proposed legislative priorities and have asked that each group take action relative to these priorities.

Member Laurel Brown who represents the Board on the Public Education Coalition presented the priorities proposed:

- Increase WPU by 8 percent
- Ongoing class size reduction
- Full-day kindergarten for at risk students
- Early childhood education
- Increase funding for block grant programs and regional service centers
- Increase transportation funding
- Fund ProEXCEL

The Board has already voted earlier to increase the WPU to 10 percent.

Member Brown questioned whether the Board would like her to take the priorities already identified by the Board.

Chairman Burningham suggested that the Coalition agree on two or three top items.

Superintendent Harrington reviewed the Board's top priorities: Under Academic Initiatives (1) Class Size Reduction/Literacy Math achievement; (2) ProEXCEL; (3) All day optional kindergarten; (4) English Language Learner Achievement Program and (5) 21st Century Teaching and Learning (technology).

Member Tim Beagley suggested that there was no inconsistency with pushing forward our very carefully prioritized list with dollar figures, but simultaneously support the Coalition's priorities.

It was agreed that Member Brown would take the Board's priorities.

Member Brown reported that the Coalition also discussed the potential for Citizen's Initiative which was quite favorable with the Utah School Boards Association.

Board Chairman Report

Chairman Burningham commented that in regard to funding of the wpu, the Board has as a very high priority for us the ProEXCEL Product and it is his belief that the only way that can ever be successful if there is simultaneously an increase in the base salary of all teachers and that requires the wpu. When we are seeking the wpu increase it is part of the ProExcel emphasis.

Chairman Burningham noted that many board members will be attending the NASBE annual conference in Louisville next week. He noted that forms for participation on NASBE Study Groups need to be turned in soon if anyone is interested in participating on a committee. He asked that if anyone was interested in participation on a study group to let NASBE know as soon as possible as well as Twila.

Chairman Burningham noted the terrible violent episodes that have occurred across the nation in schools. He suggested that we need to address adequately issues of safety in our own schools; largely this should be taken by local

districts. He reported that he and Superintendent Harrington have discussed the fact that we need to make sure we are taking adequate precautions at our schools so they are safe. They are advocating the establishment within the office of a task force to look at these issues.

Superintendent Harrington reported that the Board has two rules that govern this area: One is the requirement that there be emergency response plans in all of our districts and intervention and regular training. The second rule is one that requires districts to have training and policies on harassment and bullying. There is also the safe and drug-free statutes. She indicated it would be well for the Board to review these and to give a list of items of things that might be put into place to make our campus' more safe. She suggested the possibility of a letter penned by she and Chairman Burningham to each of the principals, celebrating "Principals Week" and asking their careful review of these things in their schools.

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member Edward A. Dalton to instruct the office to prepare a letter to all principals celebrating "Principals Week" indicating our appreciation for the work they are doing. Further, that the Superintendent appoint a task force to work with district superintendents relative to having the above referenced policies reviewed in their schools with a report back to the Board as to what is already being done in their schools. Motion carried with Members Allen, Beagley, Brown, Burningham, Colbert, Dalton, Gregory, Morrill, Roberts, Sadler and Theurer voting in favor; Member Mackey absent.

Chairman Burningham reminded the board the election is just around the corner good time to make initial contacts with new legislators. He would like board members to establish a liaison with those legislators as we have done in the past. Mark Peterson was asked to update the list of legislators with board members as soon as the election was concluded.

Chairman Burningham reminded the board of the November 30 board social for new and old board members and spouses.

Chairman Burningham distributed a calendar of upcoming events.

Motion was made by Member Richard Sadler to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.