

**UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS MINUTES**

February 25, 2016

A legislative meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held February 25, 2016 in Room E210 of the Senate Building at the Utah State Capitol Complex, 350 North State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chair David Crandall presided.

Board Members Present:

Chair David L. Crandall	Member Brittney Cummins
1 st Vice Chair David L. Thomas	Member Linda B. Hansen
2 nd Vice Chair Jennifer A. Johnson	Member Stan Lockhart
Member Laura Belnap	Member Jefferson Moss
Member Leslie B. Castle	Member Terryl Warner
Member Barbara W. Corry (by phone)	

Members Excused:

Member Dixie L. Allen	Member Spencer F. Stokes
Member Mark Huntsman	Member Joel Wright

Executive and Board Staff Present:

Sydnee Dickson, Interim State Supt.	Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary
Scott Jones, Deputy Supt.	Emilie Wheeler, Board Communications Specialist
Angie Stallings, Associate Supt.	
Joel Coleman, USDB Supt.	

Others Present:

Jill Curry, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; Cheri Rieben, Susan McRay, Diana Suddreth, Natalie Grange, Mark Peterson, Roxana Orellana, Paula Plant, Aaron Brough, Brent Page—Utah State Office of Education; Andrea Rorrer, Utah Education Policy Center; Tami Pyfer, Karen Peterson—Governor’s Office; Christy Cushing, UPEA; Dawn Davies, Utah PTA; Todd Hauber, Park City School District; Ryan Anderson; Dane Van Langeveld; Sarah Jones, Utah Education Association; Brad Asay, American Federation of Teachers—Utah; Ben Dalton, Garfield School District; Nick Varney, USOE Intern; Sam Jenkins

Call to Order

Chair David Crandall called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION was made by Vice Chair Thomas and seconded by Member Moss that the Board approve the minutes of the Board's meetings held January 28, 2016, February 11, 2016, February 15, 2016, and February 18, 2016.

Motion carried.

Overview of Bills and Discussion with Legislators

Associate Superintendent Angie Stallings, Utah State Office of Education (USOE), distributed a list of bills and reviewed them with the Board. Information was also distributed and discussed on proposed amendments for Senator Howard Stephenson's Charter School Amendments bill file.

The Board discussed the details of S.B. 176 1st Substitute *Office of the State Board of Education Employment Amendments*. The bill addresses the circumstances under which the Board or State Superintendent may promote certain employees, and allows the Board to develop incentives to encourage certain employees to voluntarily convert to exempt status. Some Board members expressed concern over employees not being able to be promoted if they do not convert.

State Auditor John Dougall was invited to give comment on the bill. He shared the experience of his office where everyone has converted to career exempt status. Because of the change, they are now able to compete with salaries outside of government.

Representative Steve Eliason was welcomed to the meeting. He discussed S.B. 38 1st Substitute *School Funding Amendments*, and indicated a second substitute will be released shortly. Interim Superintendent Sydnee Dickson acknowledged the work Representative Eliason has done on the bill and thanked him for how he has engaged with others.

The district superintendents present were asked to give comment on H.B. 165 *Public Education Appointment and Hiring*. Superintendent Ben Dalton, Garfield, expressed that teachers don't only work for a school, but also for the school district. The district places teachers where it will benefit students the most, and this bill could compromise that. Superintendent Cade Douglas, Sevier School District, echoed that the district needs the

autonomy to move teachers where they are needed. His district does include principals in the process, but ultimately it is the decision of the district.

Senator Howard Stephenson was welcomed to the meeting. He indicated that a visionary principal is the most important thing, and when principals can hire who they want they can do amazing things. The intent of H.B. 165 is to facilitate the vision of those principals.

Senator Stephenson also discussed the concept of an equity pupil unit, and distributed a handout on the voted and board local levy programs state guarantee. He also answered questions on S.B. 176 *Office of the State Board of Education Employment Amendments*, and S.B. 224 *Student Assessments*. Appreciation was expressed to Senator Stephenson for working with the Board on legislation.

Adjournment

MOTION was made by Vice Chair Johnson and seconded by Vice Chair Thomas that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary
Minutes approved April 15, 2016