

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

February 27, 2020

A legislative meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held February 27, 2020 at the Utah State Capitol Complex, House Building, Room 30. Chair Mark Huntsman presided.

**Members Present:**

Chair Mark Huntsman	Member Jennifer Graviet
Vice Chair Brittney Cummins	Member Scott L. Hansen (by phone)
Member Laura Belnap (by phone)	Member Mike Haynes
Member Michelle Boulter (by phone)	Member Carol Barlow Lear
Member Janet A. Cannon	Member Mark R. Marsh
Member Cindy Davis	Member Laurieann Thorpe
Member Jennie Earl	

**Members Absent:**

Member Scott B. Neilson  
Member Shawn E. Newell

**Executive Staff Present:**

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent  
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent  
Patty Norman, Deputy Superintendent  
Angie Stallings, Deputy Superintendent

**Minutes taken by:**

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary

**Others Present:**

Terry Shoemaker—Utah School Boards Association/School Superintendents Association; Bryan Quesenberry—Assistant Attorney General; Anthony Sudweeks—Wallace Stegner Academy; Delanie Nixon, Susan Edwards—CSD; Karen Peterson—Governor’s Office; Royce Van Tassel—Utah Association of Public Charter Schools; Mark Peterson, Megan Russell, Jeff Van Hulten, Tiffany Stanely, Melissa Cano, Linda Hanks, McKay Jensen, Dale Frost, Patrick Lee, Jeff Greene, Deborah Jacobson, Robert Austin, David Sallay, Darin Nielsen—USB E staff

**Opening Business**

Vice Chair Brittney Cummins called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION** was made by Member Marsh and seconded that the Board approve the minutes of its February 20, 2020 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **FY21 USB E Budget Priorities**

Dale Frost, USB E Policy Analyst, reviewed the revenue available in the Education Fund and General Fund. He pointed out the challenge that the vast majority of the revenue growth is in the Education Fund, with very little in the General Fund.

Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones reviewed the comparison between the budget requests of the State Board of Education, Governor, and Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

### **Representative Judkins Discussion of Legislation**

Representative Marsha Judkins reviewed her bill, H.B. 205 Students with Disabilities Amendments. The bill amends a formula related to add-on weighted pupil units for students with disabilities.

### **FY21 USB E Budget Priorities - continued**

Deputy Superintendent Jones reported on the considerations for upgrades to the FINET state accounting system of which the Board is an active participant. State Finance is requesting the Board to support the appropriations request for the upgrades.

**MOTION** was made by Member Huntsman and seconded that the Board support the use of funds from the Education Fund for the upgrade of the FINET system limited to \$2,000,000 of one-time from carryforward balances and \$300,000 ongoing; and that there is no decrement to the current recommended amount of funding for public education by the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

Motion carried unanimously.

## Review of Legislation

Deputy Superintendent Angie Stallings and Policy Advisor Jeff Van Hulten reviewed the following bills:

- H.B. 420 Turnaround Program Amendments
- H.B. 392 Early Warning Program Amendments—Kay Jensen, Provo School Board Member, explained that the program the district uses for this pilot provides a dashboard for teachers, school administrators, and parents. Data is not passed from the vendor program to the state.
- S.B. 166 Student Data Privacy Amendments
- H.B. 391 School Textbook Fee Amendments
- H.B. 360 Interactive Reading Software Amendments
- H.B. 386 Online Education Program Amendments
- H.B. 376 Dropout Prevention Amendments
- H.B. 334 Civics Education Amendments – it was noted that the Board’s Student Advisory Council has provided a memo to the Board indicating the Council’s support of this bill.
- H.B. 384 Juvenile Justice Amendments
- 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute H.B. 332 Special Needs Scholarship Amendments – Terry Shoemaker from the Utah School Boards Association/Utah School Superintendents Association was invited to comment. He reported that the USBA/USSA opposes the bill as they see the tax credit as a form of a voucher.

## Action on Legislation

**MOTION** was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board oppose 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute H.B. 332 Special Needs Scholarship Amendments.

Member Lear spoke to her motion, stating her concerns that private schools have significantly less accountability than public schools and are not held to the same standards concerning anti-discrimination, that students other than those with disabilities are eligible, and that this would require additional work for Board staff.

Other concerns were expressed that services for special education students in private schools are not governed by the same standards as public schools.

Motion carried, with Member Earl opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Member Davis and seconded that the Board support H.B. 334 Civics Education Amendments.

Member Davis spoke to her motion, supporting the avenue of the option to pilot an alternative to the test.

Motion carried, with Member Lear opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Member Cannon and seconded that the Board support S.B. 166 Student Data Privacy Amendments, H.B. 391 School Textbook Fee Amendments, H.B. 384 Juvenile Justice Amendments, H.B. 376 Dropout Prevention Amendments, H.B. 420 Turnaround Program Amendments—with the caveat that support will stand unless identification criteria is added, H.B. 392 Early Warning Program Amendments, H.B. 416 Penalties for Misconduct with Students, H.B. 386 Online Education Program Amendments, H.B. 360 Interactive Reading Software Amendments, and H.B. 434 Funding for Necessarily Existent Small Schools and Rural Schools Amendments.

**MOTION** to amend was made by Member Gravier and seconded that H.B. 386 be removed from the motion. Without objection the bill was pulled.

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**MOTION** was made by Member Belnap and seconded that the Board support H.B. 386 Online Education Program Amendments.

Board members expressed concerns over equitable opportunities to participate in the Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP). Others spoke in support, indicating it would be especially helpful for rural school students.

Motion carried, with Members Boulter, Cannon, Cummins, Earl, Hansen, Haynes, Huntsman, Marsh and Thorpe in favor, Members Gravier and Lear opposed, and Member Davis abstaining; Member Belnap also abstained due to a conflict of interest.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

[For additional information on items from the meeting, see General Exhibit No. 20-06.]

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary  
Minutes approved March 5, 2020