

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

March 15-16, 2018

STATE BOARD MEETING – March 15, 2018

A regular meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held March 15, 2018 at the Utah State Board of Education Building, 250 East 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah. First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins presided.

Members Present:

First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins
Second Vice Chair Alisa Ellis
Member Laura Belnap
Member Michelle Boulter
Member Janet A. Cannon
Member Lisa Cummins
Member Jennifer Graviet

Member Linda B. Hansen
Member Carol Barlow Lear
Member Scott B. Neilson
Member Kathleen Riebe
Member Spencer F. Stokes
Member Terryl Warner
Member Joel Wright

Members Excused:

Chair Mark Huntsman

Executive Staff Present:

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

Minutes taken by:

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary

Others Present:

Terry Shoemaker—Utah School Boards Association/School Superintendents Association;
Boyd Tuttle—Digital Legend; Heather Okerlund—Wayne School District; Mark Barlow; Tami Pyfer—Governor’s Office; Vince Newmeyer; Heidi Matthews—Utah Education Association;
Richard Tolman—Utah Valley University; Frank Strickland; Emilie Wheeler, Tiffany Stanley,
Darin Nielsen, Leah Voorhies, Natalie Grange, Deborah Jacobsen, Jerry Record, Debbie Davis—USBE staff

Call to Order

First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Executive Session

MOTION was made by Member Belnap and seconded by Member Boulter that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

Upon voice vote of Members Belnap, Boulter, Cannon, B. Cummins, Ellis, Gravier, Hansen, Lear and Warner, the Board went into Executive Session at 8:10 a.m.

Those attending included the Board members above and Members Neilson, Riebe, Stokes and Wright, and Sydnee Dickson, Lorraine Austin, Bryan Quesenberry and David Thomas.

MOTION was made by Member Ellis and seconded that the Board come out of Executive Session.

Motion carried. The Board came out of closed session at 8:55 a.m.

Opening Business

The Board reconvened at 9:02 a.m. Chair Mark Huntsman was excused. Member Terry Warner led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member Message

Member Linda Hansen expressed gratitude for the hard work of staff that helped during the legislative session, and the Board applauded them. The session was very successful for public education.

Introduction of New Employees

The following new employees were introduced: Scott Schollmeyer, Branaugh Mackay, Chuma Uzoh, Chanelle Christensen, Quincy Roberts, Krystol Carfaro, Kevin Newsome, Barbara Fuentes.

Acknowledgment of Student Art Work

Cathy Jensen, Educational Specialist, informed the Board about the art work hanging in the Board Room from Lakeview Elementary School and Indian Hills Elementary Schools in Provo School District. She noted that a space has been procured in the Provo Towne Mall where student art work is shown.

Education Highlight

Robert Austin, Social Studies Specialist, talked about U.S. Senate Youth competition. He welcomed Elizabeth Weight from the Utah House of Representatives. Representative Weight introduced the two Senate Youth delegates from Utah—Kate De Groote, Skyline High School, and James Madsen, Bountiful High School. She informed that the impetus for the Senate Youth program is to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government and to learn the responsibilities of elected officials. The two youth senators from each state are provided transportation to Washington D.C. and a \$10,000 scholarship.

Kate De Groote and James Madsen both spoke about their experience in Washington, commenting that they were inspired by the other delegates and learned the importance of listening to varying points of view. They expressed gratitude for the experience.

Public Comment

Vince Newmeyer – stated that many educators believe students must have a core belief of what Darwin espoused, which runs flatly counter to science itself. Science is questioning, observation and evidence. Articles show that many educators want children's sole commitments to their own theories. He urged the Board to not adopt the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Lisa Nentl-Bloom, Utah Education Association – voiced that the legislative session was a banner year for many reasons, starting with great collaboration. She spoke about school safety and the student walk outs, commenting that she has been honored by the courage of our students in standing up for safe schools.

Richard Tolman – stated that the current science standards were written in the form they are now by Utah teachers. They represent good science which is driven by good data. He mentioned that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Presbyterian and Methodist churches, and two Catholic popes have stated they do not have a position on evolution. He also noted that standards are not curriculum. He recommended the book, *Language of God*, by Francis S. Collins.

Frank Strickland – expressed concerns about using the NGSS as the primary guide for writing new science standards. There is some really good science in those standards and some very bad science, and they are not always current with new research. If the Board adopts the standards using NGSS as a guide, we are admitting that Utahans cannot come up with material on their own. A major national research group compared NGSS with Utah’s current standards and found that the current standards are better than NGSS.

Boyd Tuttle –expressed concern about using the Next Generation Science Standards because they are inadequate and will put Utah into a large basket of mediocrity. Utah should stand above others and be different. He reported that he owns a publishing company that recently published a science book which could be adopted by any school board in the country. It is data-based, and in place of theories are experimentation. It is time to reexamine some of the old dogmas. He strongly encouraged challenging the status quo.

General Consent Calendar

Member Hansen requested that item 4.6 Special Education Annual Performance Report be pulled off the Consent Calendar.

General Consent Calendar

4.1 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Board’s February 1, February 8, February 15 and February 22, 2018 meeting were approved. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-94.]

4.2 Contracts/agreements over \$100,000

The Board approved a contract with National Health Promotion Associates. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-95.]

4.3 Contracts/agreements under \$100,000

The Board was provided a list of contracts/agreements under \$100,000 with the following for information and review: The Gulf Coast Dietetic Internship Program; State Purchasing; Utah Education Policy Center (LIFT Program); Utah Education Policy Center (policies and procedures); Illuminate Evaluation Services; Education Direction; Utah Education Network; IHC Health Services, Inc. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-96.]

4.4 Requests for Temporary Authorizations

The Board approved temporary authorizations for educator licenses as submitted by the local education agencies (LEAs). [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-97.]

4.5 List of Licenses Processed

The Board was provided with a list of licenses processed in January 2018. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-98.]

4.6 Special Education Annual Performance Report

This report was pulled from the Consent Calendar.

4.7 Kindergarten Supplemental Enrichment Program Grantees

The Board awarded Kindergarten Supplemental Enrichment Program funds to schools as recommended by staff. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-99.]

4.8 Data-sharing Agreements

The Board approved data-sharing agreements with: 1) the University of Virginia, to evaluate the impact of its program on the school turnaround program, and 2) the U.S. Department of Education's MSIX system, to comply with ESEA reporting for migrant education. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-100.]

4.9 R277-725 *Electronic High School*

The Board approved the repeal of R277-725 *Electronic High School* on final reading. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-101.]

4.10 Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Conference Co-sponsorship

The Board was provided with information concerning USBE co-sponsorship with SHAPE Utah of the Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Conference. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-102.]

4.11 Hazardous Route Grant Recommendations

The Board awarded grants under the Hazardous Route Grant Program to Alpine and Duchesne School Districts. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-103.]

MOTION was made by Member Belnap and seconded that the Board approve the General Consent Calendar, as amended.

Motion carried.

Special Education Annual Performance Report

Member Hansen explained that she pulled this item from the Consent Calendar to hear information about her concerns that there were thirty targets Utah was supposed to meet, and only thirteen were hit.

Leah Voorhies, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support, addressed the decreases in performance that are of most concern. The first area is participation in assessments, and the number of students opting out of the test has increased dramatically. Another decrease shown is parental involvement, and an intensive analysis of the results of a survey on parental engagement is being performed. Also, technical assistance is being provided to those who did not reach the target.

The last indicator of concern is the decrease in compliant transition plans. The plans are required for students at age 14 to look ahead at the student's future once the students leaves high school. Two new positions have been created in the office to work specifically on compliance monitoring and mentoring with a priority focus on improvising transition plans.

MOTION was made by Member Hansen and seconded that the Board receive the Special Education Annual Report.

Motion carried. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-104.]

Monthly Budget Report

Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones presented the monthly budget report. USBE remains financially solvent and is able to meet all its obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-105.]

Finance Director Deborah Jacobsen reviewed the discretionary funds report and Assistant Superintendent Natalie Grange gave an update from the legislative session.

Audit Committee Report

Committee Chair Alisa Ellis reported on the following from the February Audit Committee meeting.

- A team from the State Auditor's office reviewed audits that were published shortly after the meeting.
- An update of required employee trainings was provided.
- The committee voted to review the school fees audit draft in March and bring to Board in April for possible public release.

Law and Licensing Committee Report/Recommendations

Committee Chair Michelle Boulter reported on the following items from the February 2, 2018 meeting. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-106.]

Charter School Applications

The applications were approved by the Board in its February 16 legislative meeting.

R277-501 Educator Licensing and R277-502 Educator Licensing Revisions

The Committee received information about the initial stakeholder feedback on R277-501 and R277-502. The Committee approved R277-502 Draft 2 on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve R277-502 *Educator Licensing Revisions* Draft 2 on second and final reading.

Motion carried; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-107.]

R277-508 Substitute Teachers

The Committee approved and continued R277-508 Draft 2 on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve and continue R277-508 *Substitute Teachers* Draft 2 on second and final reading.

Motion carried; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-108.]

Member Lear pointed out that the last line of the rule addresses substitutes and there is no definition of “student aide.” She asked for written clarification of whether these are students or aides that work with students directly.

[This rule was reconsidered and amended later in the meeting.]

R277-532 Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees

The Committee approved and continued R277-532 Draft 1 on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve and continue R277-532 *Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees* Draft 1 on second and final reading.

Motion carried. Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-109.]

R277-751 Special Education Extended School Year

The Committee approved and continued R277-751 Draft 1 on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve and continue R277-751 *Special Education Extended School Year* Draft 1 on second and final reading.

Motion carried; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-110.]

R277-609 Standards for LEA Discipline Plans and Emergency Safety Interventions

The Committee approved and continued R277-609 Draft 1, with additional amendments (Draft 2), on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve and continue R277-609 *Standards for LEA Discipline Plans and Emergency Safety Interventions* Draft 2 on second and final reading.

Motion carried; Members Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-111.]

R277-484 Data Standards

The Committee did not discuss this item.

R277-613 LEA Bullying, Cyber-bullying, Hazing, and Harassment Policies and Training

Since action was taken on R277-613 in the Board's February meeting, the Committee did not discuss the rule further.

Board Policy 1002 Rulemaking Procedures

The Committee reviewed and made additional amendments to Board Policy 1002.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve Board Policy 1002 Rulemaking Procedures, as amended.

Motion carried, with Member Stokes opposed. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-112.]

UDOH Office of the Medical Examiner Data Sharing Agreement (student-level)

As legislation on issues contained in the agreement was pending in February, the Committee directed that the agreement be held until the March Committee meeting. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-113.]

Finance Committee Report/Recommendations

Committee Chair Joel Wright reported on the following items from the February 2, 2018 meeting. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-114.]

Board Policy 2001, Board Member Salary

The Committee is reviewing the policy and will make recommendations on assignments for which Board members would receive per diem meeting pay. Chair Wright invited Board members to give input. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-115.]

To/From Pupil Transportation

The Committee directed staff to work with school business officials to create a consistent to/from transportation formula to measure the reimbursement percentage and bring the information back to the Finance Committee in August.

Necessarily Existent Small Schools Formula

A group including representatives of the Regional Services Centers, local education agencies that receive NESS funding, and USBE staff formerly met to discuss NESS funding application and implementation concerns. The Committee directed staff to reconvene the group in November 2018 to look at the NESS formula and make recommendations for changes, and report back to the Committee in December 2018.

LEA Non-compliance

Staff reported to the Committee that the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind did not meet the statutory requirement for submitting accurate financial reports to the USBE for the school's October 1 and December 1 student data collections. In addition, the calculations for the distribution of USDB Special Education funding that comes through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the School Trust allocations are not accurate.

It was reported that USDB has addressed the problems.

USBE Staff Assignments/Appointments to Committee

The Committee is reviewing the responsibilities and time commitments of executive staff serving on external committees. More information will come to the Committee in April. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-116.]

Stakeholder Group Participation and Input at Future Meetings

The Committee discussed hearing from stakeholder groups about specific issues that are of concern to the stakeholders.

USBE Board Budget Carry Forward Spend Plan Development

Staff reviewed with the Committee the current remaining carryover balance in the Board's budget.

[For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-117.]

Reconsideration of R277-508

Motion was made by Member Lear and was seconded that the Board reconsider its action on R277-508 to approve R277-508 Draft 2.

Motion to reconsider carried.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board approve R277-508 Draft 2, with the following amendment on line 88: Strike the words "or" and "student aide."

Motion carried; Members Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-108.]

Standards and Assessment Committee Report/Recommendations

Committee Chair Janet Cannon reported on the following items from the February 2, 2018 meeting. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-118.]

Health Standards Revision

The Committee directed staff to provide regular reports of standards revisions to the Board and invite all Board members to standards revision meetings to observe the discussions.

MOTION from Committee that the Board receive the Health Standards Review Committee report and its recommendations and direct staff to move forward with a Health Writing Committee.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Belnap that the Writing Committee also address changes made in the 2018 legislative session.

Motion to amend carried.

Motion, as amended, carried; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-119.]

Driver Education Standards

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve the revised Utah Core Standards for Driver Education.

Motion carried unanimously; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-120.]

R277-746 Drivers Education Program

The Committee reviewed proposed changes to R277-746, including updates to the Drivers Education Manual. The Committee amended and continued R277-746 Draft 1 on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve and continue R277-746 *Drivers Education Program* Draft 1 on second and final reading.

Motion carried unanimously; Member Stokes absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-121.]

K-5 and 9-12 Science Standards Revision

The Committee heard a report and recommendations from the Science Standards Review Committee. The Committee approved forwarding the following recommendations to the Board:

- Integrate technology and engineering into science standards from grades K-12.
- Ensure standards that foster curiosity, encourage investigation, and promote healthy risk-taking to develop a love and understanding of science.
- Add to the standards introduction a statement to encourage hands-on, project-based learning that allows students to work both individually and collaboratively.
- Use current research on science education, with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as primary resource.
- Mirror the three-dimensional format (crosscutting concepts, science and engineering practices, and disciplinary core ideas) of the 6-8 SEED Standards.
- Incorporate vertical scaffolding/progressions from grades K to 12.

- Add to the standards an introduction statement to encourage cross-curricular integration with other content areas.

[For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-122.]

MOTION from Committee that the Board receive the report from the Science Standards Review Committee and move forward with the creation of the writing committees using all approved recommendations from the Standards Review Committee.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member L. Cummins and seconded that a crosswalk be provided with the first report of the writing committee between the current state K-5 science standards and the current published NGSS science standards.

Member L. Cummins clarified that she is requesting the crosswalk early in the process so the areas lacking can be identified up front.

Motion to amend carried; with Member Belnap opposed.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Ellis and seconded that the last four recommendations from the committee be stricken.

Member Ellis spoke to the motion, reminding the Board that it has constitutional authority over the standards and does not have to adopt anything wholesale. She is opposed to nationalized and standardized education and indicated the last three bullets are part of the national movement.

Motion to amend to strike the last four bullets failed, with Members Boulter, L. Cummins, Ellis and Wright in favor, and all others opposed.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Belnap and seconded that the fourth bullet be changed to read, "Use current research on science education standards," and strike the wording, "with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as a primary resource."

It was clarified that NGSS could still be used as a resource, along with other resources.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT was made by Member Ellis and seconded that the word "current" be changed to "effective."

Motion to amend the amendment failed, with Members L. Cummins, Ellis, Neilson and Wright in favor and all others opposed.

Amendment to strike NGSS as a primary resource and change the wording to, "Use current research on science education standards," carried, with Members Belnap, Boulter, Cannon, B. Cummins, L. Cummins, Graviet, Hansen, Neilson, Riebe, Warner and Wright in favor, and Members Ellis and Lear opposed.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Ellis and seconded that the Board postpone creating the writing committee until the crosswalk is complete and reported to the Board, and that the Board receive input as to what is lacking in our current standards from all interested parties, including the members of the review committee as well as the public, through a 30-day public notice.

Without objection, the motion was split.

Amendment to postpone the creation of the writing committee until the crosswalk is complete and reported to the Board was considered.

Motion to amend failed, with Members Boulter, L. Cummins, Ellis, Nielson, Warner and Wright in favor, and all others opposed.

The amendment to postpone the creation of the committee until input is received on what is lacking in the standards from a 30-day public comment period failed, with Members Boulter, L. Cummins, Ellis, Neilson, Warner and Wright in favor and all others opposed.

Motion as amended—*that the Board receive the report from the Science Standards Review Committee and move forward with the creation of the writing committee using all approved recommendations from the Standards Review Committee, with a revision to the fourth recommendation that the words, "with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as a primary resource," be struck and the recommendation read, "Use current research on science education standards," and that a crosswalk be provided with the first report of the writing committee between the current state K-5 science standards and the current published NGSS science standards*—failed, with Members Belnap, Cannon, B. Cummins, Graviet, Hansen, Lear and Riebe in favor, and Members Boulter, L. Cummins, Ellis, Neilson, Warner and Wright opposed; Member Stokes absent.

MOTION was made by Member L. Cummins and seconded that the Board direct staff to create a crosswalk of the current science standards with the NGSS standards and report back to the Board what the Standards Review Committee felt was missing from the standards.

Without objection, the motion was divided.

Motion to direct staff to create a crosswalk between the current science standards and NGSS standards carried, with Members Belnap, Boulter, Cannon, B. Cummins, L. Cummins, Ellis, Hansen, Neilson, Riebe, Warner and Wright in favor, and Members Gravier and Lear opposed; Member Stokes absent.

The motion to request a report from the standards review committee members on what they saw was missing from the current standards was considered.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Ellis and seconded that a 30-day public comment period to get input on what is missing from the standards be added.

Motion to amend failed, with Members Boulter and Ellis in favor and all others opposed.

Motion to request a report from the Standards Review Committee failed, with members Boulter and L. Cummins in favor, and all others opposed; Member Stokes absent.

Executive Session

MOTION was made by Member Belnap and seconded that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, and physical or mental health of individuals.

Upon voice vote of Members Belnap, Boulter, Cannon, B. Cummins, L. Cummins, Gravier, Hansen, Lear, Neilson, Riebe and Warner, the Board went into Executive Session at 1:43 p.m.

Those attending included the Board members above, and Member Spencer Stokes, Sydnee Dickson, Ben Rasmussen, Emilie Wheeler and Lorraine Austin.

MOTION was made by Member Riebe that the Board come out of Executive Session.

Motion carried. The Board reconvened in open meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Executive Session Action ItemsAction on Educator Licenses

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board deny clearance of the background check in Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission (UPPAC) Case No. 18-17.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the UPPAC recommendation in Case No. 16-1379 to issue a letter of reprimand and three years' probation in accordance with the Consent to Discipline.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the UPPAC recommendation in Case No. 17-1402 and issue a letter of reprimand in accordance with the Consent to Discipline.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the UPPAC recommendation in Case No. 17-1404 and revoke the individual's Level 1 Secondary Education License.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the UPPAC recommendation in Case No. 17-1412 to suspend the educator's Level 2 Secondary Education License for a period of not less than one year consistent with the Consent to Discipline.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the UPPAC recommendation in Case No. 17-1423 and revoke the individual's Level 2 Administrative/ Supervisory, Special Education, and Secondary Education licenses.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board accept the individual's surrender of license in UPPAC Case No. 17-1457.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

MOTION was made by Member Lear and seconded that the Board approve the UPPAC Consent Calendar.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent.

[For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-123.]

Appointments

Motion made by Member Hansen and seconded that the Board appoint the following to the Utah Special Education Advisory Panel (USEAP): Erin Hough, representing the Disability Law Center, for a three-year term; and Michelle Murphey, representing the Utah Parent Center.

Motion carried.

School Fees Task Force

MOTION was made by Member Belnap and seconded that the Board: (1) create a School Fees Task Force to report directly to this Board that will discuss and then provide to the Board proposals related to school fees; (2) invite and reach out to stakeholders interested in being involved with the task force to apply to Chair Huntsman; and (3) that the task force be formed and staff report back to the Board in its May meeting with a recommended scope of work and timeline for final recommendations.

Motion carried unanimously; Member Wright absent.

Standards and Assessment Committee Report - continued

Digital Teaching and Learning Qualified Grant Report

The Committee received an update on the grant. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-124.]

R277-521 National Board Certification

Staff reviewed proposed amendments to R277-521 Draft 2 with the Committee. The Committee approved the rule on first reading.

MOTION from Committee that the Board approve R277-521 *National Board Certification* Draft 2 on second and final reading.

Motion carried; Member Wright absent. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-125.]

R277-523 Teacher Salary Supplement Program

The Committee reviewed the new rule and directed staff to make requested changes. Also, Member Lear will work with staff on an additional changes to streamline the appeal process. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-126.]

Alternative Education Support Workgroup

The Committee heard an update on the work of this group.

Assessment to Achievement (A2A) Program

Staff presented information about the A2A Program. Funding for the program was reallocated by the Board in October 2016. There have been requests from rural districts for the program to be reinstated.

Staff were directed to contact districts to determine their level of interest in the program. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-127.]

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dickson reported on the following:

- Sarah Young, Education Specialist, will receive the Make It Happen Award at the Utah Coalition for Education Technology Conference; Leah Voorhies, Assistant Superintendent, was awarded Administrator of the Year by the Council for Exceptional Children Utah Chapter; Thalea Longhurst, CTE Director, was awarded the Administrator of the Year Award from the Utah Association of Education Office Professionals; and LesLee Snelson, Executive Assistant, received the Committed to Excellence in Education Award from the Utah Association of Education Office Professionals.
- Staff will continue to be involved in professional learning on design thinking in several extended events.
- Dr. Dickson recently attended a conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers along with Chief of Staff Tiffany Stanley and Public Information Officer Emilie Wheeler.

Staff attended meetings with a senior staff member from the Utah Department of Education and Senator Lamar Alexander's office while there, and participated in visits with State Board members to the Utah congressional delegation.

- Member Alisa Ellis reported on the visits with Representatives Mia Love, John Curtis, and Rob Bishop, and staff from the offices of Representative Chris Stewart and Senators Lee and Hatch to discuss challenges with the Every Student Succeeds Act. They all indicated they understand the challenge and expressed willingness to support the Board in its position.
- Dr. Dickson reported on the student walkout day on March 14 and guidance the office provided to schools. The walkout was about student voice and how to make a difference in policies, and thousands of student participated.
- Natalie Gordon from the School Children's Trust Section reported that the distribution from the school land trust funds of \$74,577,098 is fifteen percent higher than the distribution last year.

Legislative Session Overview

Deputy Superintendent Angie Stallings and Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones gave a brief overview of education legislation and budget passed in the 2018 Legislative Session.

Deputy Superintendent Jones reviewed a budget comparison between the funding the Board requested and the funding that was appropriated. He explained that it will not be known what the effect of H.B. 293 Tax Balancing Revisions will be until the November election concerning the gas tax. A restricted education account will be set up, and over the summer a working group will meet to determine how the money in the education account will be distributed to schools.

Terry Shoemaker, Executive Director of the Utah School Superintendents Association, was invited to comment. He clarified that the revenue from the gas tax will not go directly into this restricted account; the additional revenue from the gas tax will go into the transportation fund, which will help supplement the general fund. Because the general fund supplements the education fund the dollar amount will get set aside. He acknowledged it is very complicated and

some very significant work was done on this legislation that will make a big difference for schools.

Superintendent Jones offered to meet with individual Board members to discuss the impacts on the schools in their districts.

Deputy Superintendent Stallings noted that the only bill that passed which the Board opposed was H.B. 404 Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Act. The legislation moves the School Children's Trust Section Director under the State Treasurer, with appointment by a five-member advocacy committee. The responsibility of this director to be the advocate and watchdog for the beneficiaries will move under the Treasurer. The other three staff members in that section will remain under the Board and will continue with the responsibilities of training and supporting school community councils. The bill also removed the Board's participation in the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board Nominating Committee and the School and Institutional Trust Fund Board Nominating Committee.

[For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-128.]

Consideration of Veto Requests

The Board briefly discussed whether to request a veto from the Governor of H.B. 404 or send a letter to him. It was noted that the Board articulated very clearly and thoroughly its concerns with this bill during the legislative session.

Computer Science Task Force Update

Superintendent Dickson brought the scope of work and suggested categories for membership of the Computer Science Task Force before the Board for input. It is anticipated the Task Force will meet over the next couple of months and bring recommendations to the Board. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-129.]

Report on NASBE Legislative Conference/Congressional Meetings

Members Riebe and Boulter reported on the NASBE Legislative Conference and meetings with Utah's congressional delegation.

Board Chair's Report

Vice Chair Cummins again thanked staff members for their great work over the last several months to prepare for and participate in the legislative session and thanked them for the follow up that is already beginning to take place.

Board Member Comments

Member Riebe thanked staff for producing the *Fingertip Facts* and recommended Board members keep a supply to hand to constituents.

Member L. Cummins reported she attended an event at Herriman High School where Lance Allred, former NBA player, spoke to students and parents. The presentation fostered a discussion on what leadership skills look like and how teens can push through difficult times.

Member Hansen reported that she has received very positive letters from students about the new Social Studies Standards.

Adjournment

MOTION was made by Member Neilson and seconded that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

USBE STUDY SESSION – March 16, 2018

A study session of the Utah State Board of Education was held March 16, 2018 at the Utah State Board of Education Building, 250 East 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah. First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins presided.

Board Members attending included First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins, Second Vice Chair Alisa Ellis, and Members Laura Belnap, Michelle Boulter, Janet Cannon, Lisa Cummins, Jennifer Graviet, Linda Hansen, Carol Barlow Lear, Scott Neilson, Kathleen Riebe and Terryl Warner. Chair Mark Huntsman and Members Spencer Stokes and Joel Wright were excused.

Others attending included Mary Nelson, Nancy Tingey—Utah School Boards Association; Terry Shoemaker, Utah School Superintendents Association; Sydnee Dickson, Patty Norman, Angie Stallings, Scott Jones, Lorraine Austin—USBE staff.

Call to Order

Vice Chair Brittney Cummins called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

School Safety Presentation/Discussion

Superintendent Sydnee Dickson and Deputy Superintendent Patty Norman facilitated a presentation on school safety. [For additional details, see General Exhibit No. 18-130.]

Superintendent Dickson spoke of conversations that were held at the recent Council of Chief State School Officers Conference, where the state school chiefs from Florida and Kentucky shared what they learned from the school shooting crises in their states, and thinking beyond security protocols to strategies for student wellbeing and overall health.

Deputy Superintendent Norman shared examples of what other state are doing to address school safety.

Mary Nielson, Utah School Boards Association President, Nancy Tingey, USBE Past President and Terry Shoemaker, Utah School Superintendents Association Executive Director, were invited to give their perspective on school safety.

Ms. Nielson shared the perspective from Nebo District Superintendent Rick Robbins, that the responsibility of local education agencies concerning school safety is: 1) mental health

and family engagement; 2) employee safety training; and 3) infrastructure of facilities. She emphasized that local districts are doing everything they can to take care of students.

Ms. Tingey also reiterated that local boards and districts always have been and continue to focus on school safety, and that school safety is a part of student safety. Student safety involves so much more than the physical facility and includes social and emotional supports.

Mr. Shoemaker shared that district superintendents have a great weight of responsibility for all the children in their districts and feel it intensely. There is no greater issue to local school boards than the safety of their students. The conversation is comprehensive, and covers everything including drills, building issues, training teachers on active intruder situations, controlling access to schools, providing models for students on mental health issues, adding security personnel, and dealing with trauma. He pointed out that rural schools have more challenges as they may be far from emergency and law enforcement facilities. Training of teachers is being done as quickly as possible and local boards are working on expanding the training to all teachers. He acknowledged that not all districts are on the same level of training.

Board members discussed various issues, including looking at the safety of relocatable classrooms, requiring that drills be done at various times throughout the day, including lunch and recess, involving parents in drills, creating model safety policies and addressing the mental health of students.

Ms. Tingey reported that teacher preparation programs do not currently include training on school safety, and the State Board could be helpful in working with those programs. She suggested the Board could also be most helpful in requiring local education agencies to have up-to-date school safety plans that require training and accountability.

Member Warner reported that she is a member of the newly-formed School Safety Commission and the commission will be looking into all aspects of school safety and policies that can be done at the state level. She indicated law enforcement will be reviewing school safety drills and determining whether changes are needed.

It was suggested that school safety be considered as a Board funding priority for the next legislative session.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary
Minutes approved April 12, 2018