

**December 17, 2020 Wasatch County School District Board of Education Meeting (Thursday, December 17, 2020)**

Generated by Stacey Moore on Friday, December 18, 2020

**A. Study Session**

Procedural: 1. Roll Call of Members

Present:

Board President Blaik Baird, Tom Hansen- Board Member, Cory Holmes- Board Member, Tyler Bluth- Board Member  
Excuse Mark Davis- Board Member  
Superintendent, Paul Sweat  
Business Administrator, Keith Johansen

**Discussion, Information:**

Move item 2 to item 1.

**2. Potential Land Swap Discussion**

Superintendent Sweat - The property on the northwest edge of Heber was purchase for a potential new school. Bob Probst retained 4.8 acres of the land that was negotiated. We would have purchased it at the time if he had been willing to sell it. He has approached us about selling it at this time. He is interested in a 10 acre land piece that we own and trading his piece in a land swap.

Our engineer, Paul Berg, has reviewed the site and will speak to a proposal.

Paul Berg - There are advantages to slide the school to the south 120 ft. That gets us away from the Lake Creek channel and groundwater. It would allow us to straighten out the property line. Timpview Investment property is to the north of the proposed entrance. That would give us an opportunity to swap. It would also help with an alternative building that isn't generally part of the high school (Seminary Building, FFA animal lab). Timpview is in favor of something like this, with additional discussion. We would move the school and the first road 120 feet. If we did want a seminary building the church would need to buy the land. 1 acre is needed for that. It would also free up space for a wetland project for the school and saves trees. This land would likely appreciate more than the Daniel property. We would appraise both properties before the swap was finalized.

When are we getting it annexed into the city?

Paul Berg -We have been waiting on other developers to ask for an annex. The school board may want to do it on their own.

Supt. Sweat - The board can give Paul the approval to go ahead with the process.

Board President Baird - We should do that and keep the process moving.

Tom Hansen - I like that, lets keep the process going.

Support from Tom Hansen, Cory Holmes and President Blaik Baird for Paul Berg to continue the process for next steps.

**1. WCSD Students Learning In Person During COVID-19, Garrick Peterson**

Supt. Sweat - We sent out a resolution for the board to review to take a public position as it relates to keeping school open as much as possible. We will make those decisions with our health department. The anticipated quarantine change was announced by the governor today, that will keep students in school. The resolution accomplishes that it resolves that the board will hold an emergency meeting prior to additional school closures.

Garrick Peterson - We won't be quarantining kids if there is mask to mask exposure, based on the governors' announcement today. There was also a 1% shift for the closure discussion threshold. The goals of the state align with WCSD to keep kids safe, keep them in school - which is best for everyone, lastly we want to keep kids participating in activities.

RESOLUTION language;

*WHEREAS, the District and community stakeholders are concerned about the disruption quarantines and school closures cause; AND WHEREAS, educational personnel are often the primary sources of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health;*

*WHEREAS, the authority to move school to remote learning lies solely with the School Board, and school will not be changed to online learning at any of the District schools without an emergency meeting being called and a vote taken that determines that action;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED the Wasatch County School District Board of Education hereby believes that modifying the existing COVID-19 instructional plan will be in the best interests of Wasatch County School District students and is necessary for the efficient conduct of Wasatch County School District Schools; the board is passing this resolution to keep kids learning in-school whenever possible.*

Tyler Bluth - This shows our involvement with the health department that will work with us and what is best for students.

Tom Hansen - What did the governor say about school closures?

Garrick Peterson - 1% school closures should be considered. What the resolution is stating, is that a discussion with the health department and the board will happen at 1% to consider a closure.

Aubreigh Parks - I am in support of the changes and keeping kids in school. Mask to mask is really important and this may help us enforce it more in schools.

Supt. Sweat - Students continue to do a good job of wearing their masks. This will be messaged out throughout to building administrators.

President Blaik Baird - The resolution will help us in the future if there is another surge.

Tom Hansen - The resolution will give the board the opportunity to discuss a closure with the experts that need to be at the table.

### **3. Spring Sports Facility Upgrade, Shawn Kelly**

Guests - Jed Eastbrook and Curtis Livingston, Curtis Minor Architecture

The Spring Sports Complex has always been difficult to manage in the spring time, water is always a factor. We have snow and water challenges. The three areas for discussion are the football field replacement turf, utility field for soccer and lacrosse (current freshman field), baseball field turfing infield and entire surface of the softball field.

Football Turf - lifespan is approx. 10 years. That field is used more than any space at the high school in the spring.

Fields can be plowed when there is snow, that is a big benefit. Safety and better playing experiences for athletes.

Turf Technology has advanced and would offer a more competitive edge to our athletes.

State contract gives us an idea of the cost, including the excavation, drainage, backfill and construction.

Year One - Baseball and Softball \$814,026 (replacements for high traffic areas are included in the proposal)

Year Two - Lacrosse, Soccer, Multi Use Field \$619,449 (8-year warranty, 10-11 year lifespan depending on usage)

Year Three - Football Field Replacement \$421,496

The board would not be approving entering into a contract in the meeting this evening, this is part of the procurement process. The board will vote on the plan to move forward.

### **4. WCSD Staff Vaccine Protocols, Shawn Kelly**

Thank you to Aubreigh for all the hard work she has been doing through the pandemic for WCSD.

We are working through how to best provide high risk individuals and the high school staff with the vaccination. We should receive our first dose the first week of January. The health department will hold clinics on their own. Our limitations and challenges include how to store the vaccine. We need 10 people at a time to open a vial of the vaccine. Scheduling will take some logistics. The vaccine will be given in a two dose cycle, 27-29 days apart.

There are some staff concerns. The district is committed to helping Aubreigh staff her team as needed.

There is no mandate for teachers to get the vaccine. A survey will be sent to staff to get an idea of how many people are interested in receiving the vaccine.

#### **A. Board of Education Meeting**

Welcome by Board President Blaik Baird

Special welcome to board member elects Kim Dickerson and Marianne Allen.

#### **B. Call To Order**

Procedural: 1. Roll Call of Members

Present:

Board President Blaik Baird, Tom Hansen- Board Member, Cory Holmes- Board Member, Tyler Bluth- Board Member

Excuse Mark Davis- Board Member

Superintendent, Paul Sweat

Business Administrator, Keith Johansen

#### **Procedural: 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance offered by Board Member Hansen

**C. Community Comment**

Information: 1. Public comments will be accepted for approximately twenty (20) minutes. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes.

Joe Burns - Thank you to the board of education for the hard work and decisions that you are making during this difficult time (Some audio difficult to transcribe comments by Mr. Burns).

Marianne Allen - Thank you to Blaik and Mark for your service. I appreciate what you have done and look forward to seeing you around.

Kim Dickerson - Thanks to Mark and Blaik Baird. I have worked with both of you over the years. I respect the work that you have done for the students and teachers. I am going to miss you. I look forward to working with the board.

**D. Information/Celebration - Action, Discussion, Information:**

1. Eide Bailley - Keith Johansen

Eide Bailley does an annual audit. The information is due to the state auditor's office by November 30th. Tonight we are presenting the audit for approval. As a district we had a successful year. We were able to add a million dollars to the fund balance. The audit was clean and showed no findings, even through a very in depth process. I learn something new every year in ways to strengthen our internal controls and processes.

Paul Skeen and David Peadon from Eide Bailley to present audit -

Paul Skeen - Keith and his team do a great job. They provide a lot of documents to assist with the audit process. Management is responsible for designing internal controls and presenting the financial documents for the district. There were no difficulties during the audit process. There were no statement corrections that were required - the reporting was very clean. Wasatch County School District Financial Statements includes the Independent Auditors Report and a summary of the report by Keith. These two portions of the statement are helpful rather than reading the entire document. Page 20 shows the expenditures and revenues. The increase of nearly 1.3 million dollars shows sound financial management, that is remarkable.

David Peadon - We are required to review the compliance of Federal and State funds. Independent Auditors report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and a second review of the Independent Auditors Report on Federal requirements. We do a single audit on significant programs, like school lunch and Special Education program. This year we tested the Special Education program. There were no deficiencies.

The opinion at completion of the audit is that Wasatch has designed a system of controls that is remarkable for the size of the district. Most districts don't have corrected mistakes, it is unusual to have uncorrected mistakes. No findings at all is really good as well. This is an above average audit.

Tom Hansen - Thank you to Keith and his team. We go through the public bonding activities and elections, and we are always able to stand by the decisions that we make including financially. When I hear that the audits are above average it is good to know that we are doing everything possible to run clean accounting.

Cory Holmes - Thanks for all of your 26 years of audits.

Supt. Sweat - Keith does such a good job. It is a pleasure for me to work side by side with him. Thank you Keith.

Motion to approve by Tyler Bluth, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**E. Consent Items**

*Action (Consent): 1. Consideration and Approval of Consent Items*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent), Minutes: 2. Minutes -11.19.20 Board Meeting*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 3. Separations*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 4. New Hires*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 5. Employee Status Changes*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 6. Travel*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 7. Financials*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 8. Home School*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

*Action (Consent): 9. School Choice*

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth

Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**F. Action Items**

Action, Information:

**1. Resolution to Keep WCS D Students Learning In Person During COVID-19 - Garrick Peterson**

As information comes to the district it is in our best interest for the students to make changes when necessary. Keep everyone safe, teachers, students and community. In person learning is best for most students. Students get to participate in activities that they love and that are important to them.

We have learned;

When kids are in school mask to mask, very little transmission is happening. The masks work. We know that from the data that has been collected.

Middle school and Elementary kids are effected by the virus less

Resolution language read -

*WHEREAS, through its policies and practices, the District has made a commitment to a quality education for all students, which includes a safe and stable learning environment, means of transportation to and from school sites, the preservation of classroom hours for educational instruction, and the requirement of school attendance;*

*WHEREAS, the District and community stakeholders are concerned about the disruption quarantines and school closures cause; AND WHEREAS, educational personnel are often the primary sources of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health;*

*WHEREAS, the authority to move school to remote learning lies solely with the School Board, and school will not be changed to online learning at any of the District schools without an emergency meeting being called and a vote taken that determines that action;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED the Wasatch County School District Board of Education hereby believes that modifying the existing COVID-19 instructional plan will be in the best interests of Wasatch County School District students and is necessary for the efficient conduct of Wasatch County School District Schools; the board is passing this resolution to keep kids learning in-school whenever possible.*

This resolution will put the decision in the hands of the board, and they will have the ability to hold a meeting and discuss closures or any changes that may need to happen to keep students and staff safe.

Board President Baird - Thanks to all those that assisted with this resolution

Board Member Hansen - The resolve of the board is to have that decision. I like the intent of this resolution.

Board Member Bluth - We have a very supportive department of health. We will continue to work with him as we make decisions for students.

Motion to approve by Cory Holmes, second by Tom Hansen  
 Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
 Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
 Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**Action, Information: 2. Spring Sports Facility Upgrade - Shawn Kelly**

As discussed in Study session the timeline for the spring sports facility upgrade plan. The recommendation is that this is a three-year plan.

2021- 22, Baseball and Softball - \$814,026  
 2022 - 23, Soccer and Lacrosse - \$619,449  
 2023 - 24, Football Turf Replacement (13-year-old) - \$421,496

Board President Baird - We are unique because we are nearly a 6A school. We compete with those that have snow gone sooner than we do here. This will help our students be safe, but will also give them a competitive edge. This is important. Moving forward with the new board, I hope the board will continue to support this for our students.

Board Member Bluth - The maintenance will be better for groundskeepers.

Board Member Tom Hansen - Soccer, softball and lacrosse will now all have the same opportunities for students to participate. I appreciate the discussion and the understanding that this will come back to the board for further budget discussion.

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth  
 Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
 Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
 Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**Action: 3. Approve COVID-19 Response Policy - Shawn Kelly and Aubreigh Parks**

We discussed this and because of the new guidelines from the state, we feel that this policy is no longer needed. We recommend tabling this item. The resolution and updates will address the policies intent.

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth  
 Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
 Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
 Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**Action: 4. SOQ - RMMS Roof Membrane Replacement - Francis Harrison**

We need to replace the roofing membrane at Rocky Mountain Middle School. We need to hire an architect to bid the project. Five companies bid the project, Curtis Miner Architecture one the bid for \$35,300.00 to do the plans and specs and construction administration for the roof replacement. That is my recommendation to the school board.

Board Member Holmes - Do you not get a bid from other companies?

Professional Services state procurement requires that companies are selected by qualification, the price is negotiated after the company is selected. A fair negotiated price is also part of practice in securing an architect for any project.

Keith Johansen - I would like to commend Francis for the processes that he does in getting SOQ results and negotiating fair pricing. Francis is a huge asset to WCSD and safes the district so much money.

President Blaik Baird - Francis nearly always brings in a below price on all projects, never above what was originally approved.

Motion to approve by Cory Holmes, second by Tyler Bluth  
 Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
 Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
 Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

**Action: 5. Land Swap Letter of Intent - Superintendent Sweat**

On the northwest corner of Heber, we have an opportunity to add some acreage to the property the school district owns, for a future school site. Bob Probst currently owns 4.8 acres that he did not sell. He has come to the school board and asks about a swap with some land that we own in Daniel. Our engineer, Paul Berg, has reviewed the proposal and his opinion is that this would improve our site. Another land swap with Timpview Investments would straighten the south boundary line and would allow us to slide the school 120 ft to the south. As school district staff, we are askign tonight that the board authorize leadership to explore this landswap with Mr. Probst. I would report back at each board meeting as to where we are at and how the swap.

Motion to allow district leadership to explore and discuss the land swap options with Mr. Probst, then report back to the board.

Motion to approve by Tom Hansen, second by Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis

## **G. Board Report**

Discussion, Information:

1. USBA January Conference Virtual - January 7th and 8th

Board President Baird - I was able to zoom on the Wasatch CAPS presentation this week. I am always impressed. It is such a good program.

Tom Hansen - I would like to offer gratitude to you and Mark for the service you have done. I look forward to when we can recognize you both. I appreciate you as a friend and mentor.

Tyler Bluth - Thank you for your leadership and direction. You are so honorable. I appreciate your mentorship. You will be missed.

Cory Holmes - Thank you. I have enjoyed working with you and the direction and leadership that you have lead our board.

Board President Baird - I have appreciated the relationships and the interaction with great people. I will miss the opportunity to make good decisions in listening to our experts at the district office. I appreciate the work that all of you do on behalf of the students. Mark would agree with me. Our eyes have been opened to the hard work that is done. I am looking forward to more time with my sweetheart.

## **H. Superintendent Report**

Discussion, Information:

1. *High School Activities Realignment - Ryan Bishop*

I would also like to let Blaik know how much I appreciate him. I also want to thank the board for investing in the HS activities. The proposal passed tonight is an awesome thing for all of our students.

The UHSAA finalized the realignment today. We will remain in 5A, we are in Region 9. There are now 5 regions in 5A. There are still 6 classifications. We loose Park City and Payson, they will be in other 5A regions. We will stay with Maple Mountain, Provo, Salem Hills, Spanish Fork and Springville.

We are the largest 6A bubble school. We are the 25th largest in the state by enrollment. We had a chance to petition the board of trustees, they honored our request to stay in 5A, knowing that is a good fit for us.

The big change for 5A is that 4A became smaller due to shifts of schools to 3A and 5A.

2. *Oath of Office and Board Organizational Meeting, January 4, 2021*

We are proposing that we hold a Organizational Meeting to swear in our new board members and elected member. We would also elect board president and vice president of the board. I am suggesting a 5:30 start time for a 30-minute meeting.

Blaik Baird has always been someone that people have looked up to. He has always been a pleasure to work next to him. Thank you for your service. Mark Davis is one of those guys who, when he speaks, everyone listens. He chooses his words carefully. I admire him.

We have accomplished a lot these past few years. We have shown our teachers a lot of appreciation. We have moved the academic needle greatly. This board understood the dynamic of changing teacher compensation. That leadership has lead to increased student achievement. Students are now above the bar, hundreds of students. The fingerprints of these men will live on for a long time. We want both of you to come back and allow us to publicly thank you for your service to WCSD.

## **I. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn meeting by Cory Holmes, second by Tyler Bluth  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Cory Holmes, Tom Hansen, Tyler Bluth  
Not Present at Vote: Mark Davis