

TINTIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2020 MEETING

Date: February 24, 2020
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Tintic School District Offices
Eureka, Utah

The meeting of the Tintic Board of Education was called to order by President Boswell at 4:00 p.m. President Boswell instructed the Business Administrator to call the roll which indicated the following Board members were in attendance:

<u>Members Present:</u>	Janice Boswell	President
	Ted Haynes	Vice President
	Helen Wall	Member
	Heather Young	Member
	Jeana Rowley	Member
	Kodey Hughes	Superintendent
	Jeremy Snell	Business Administrator
	Taleigh Laird	Student Board Member

Members Excused: None

Work Session

Prior to the Board of Education meeting, the Members of the Board met in a Board Work Session from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., in which the following items were reviewed and discussed:

1. Consent Agenda Review

Minutes: January 27, 2020 Board Meeting

Member Rowley asked for clarification of the minutes regarding the financial audit report given by Mr. Ron Stewart. Mr. Snell explained the recommendation from Mr. Stewart is to perform a five-year average of the outstanding warrants at year-end. Mr. Snell explained the purpose of the five-year average is to minimize any expenditures in excess of the adopted budgets. Mr. Snell stated it will be his responsibility for performing the calculation, not the Board members. Mr. Snell also clarified which budget functions were impacted by the past fiscal year's expenditures.

Member Rowley asked for clarification regarding the number of required public hearings that needs to be held prior to adopting the district's fee schedule. Superintendent Hughes explained that according to Utah Code, two public meetings are required to be held prior to the adoption of a District fee schedule, not three as was stated at the January 27, 2020 Board meeting.

Member Rowley inquired about the administrative decision to not refuse enrollment due to the date of enrollment and if the policy language needed to be amended to reflect the decision. Superintendent Hughes stated the language in the policy for the appeal process will not change, therefore no policy amendment is necessary.

Warrants: #00006680 to #00006729

Mr. Jeremy Snell, Business Administrator, discussed various warrants from the January check register.

2. Action Items Review

Board members discussed the proposed amendment to the 2020 Annual Board Meeting Calendar. Superintendent Hughes explained the proposed date of the October 19, 2020 Board meeting conflicted with Fall Break and suggested it be moved to October 12, 2020. Member Young stated the work session language on the proposed calendar also needs to be updated to reflect the date change.

Board members discussed the necessity of having a meeting in July 2020. Superintendent Hughes stated that in recent years, a meeting has not been scheduled in July due to the various conflicts with schedules. Board members discussed the possibility of holding a work session in July to possibly set goals for the school year, participate in team building activities, or review policies. Superintendent Hughes stated he would present various dates for a possible July work session and asked Board members to respond with their preferred date. Board members agreed that if a work session is scheduled in July, the meeting will be held in the Board Room rather than traveling to an alternative location.

Board Members discussed District Policy FI: Students Fees, Fines and Charges. Superintendent Hughes stated the verbiage allowing students to perform service in lieu of fees has been removed from the policy. Superintendent Hughes stated the only alternative to reduce fees is for a program to fundraise to offset costs.

Member Rowley asked if District Policy FI could be presented without the strikethrough red language and show only the new language changes in green. Superintendent Hughes stated he will make the changes and provide emailed and printed copies to Board members.

Member Haynes inquired how fees will be assessed if a student has a temporary financial hardship and then recovers. Mr. Snell stated the policy provides language to charge a proportional or reduced fee if there is a change in fee waiver eligibility. Superintendent Hughes expressed concern as to how to judge if or when eligibility no longer exists and suggested a process be developed to address the issue.

Member Haynes inquired if it is possible to withhold transcripts if a student has outstanding fees. Mrs. Becky Jones, Programs Director, stated that District Policy FI states transcripts can be

withheld if fines, not fees, are owed. Superintendent Hughes clarified that fines are not considered fees and therefore are not subject to the fee waiver guidelines.

Board members reviewed the 2020-2021 Coaching Assignments document.

3. Board Training

Board members discussed District Policy ECC: Curriculum Reading Achievement for K-3. Superintendent Hughes discussed the history and importance of the K-3 Reading Achievement Program. Superintendent Hughes stated the assessment process for K-3 Reading Achievement has changed many times, but that the assessment dates have remained the same. Member Rowley asked how the assessment data is collected and if it is presented to the Board. Superintendent Hughes stated the Board could review the assessment data provided by the State or ask individual schools for their literacy goals and school improvement plans. Superintendent Hughes discussed how parents are being notified and what other action is being taken for students lacking reading proficiency. Board members discussed whether the actions are enough to help the student. Member Rowley asked what assessment tools are being used currently. Superintendent Hughes stated that teachers utilize their own assessment methods as well as using state assessment programs such as DIBELS.

Mrs. Becky Jones, Programs Director, and Mrs. Crystal Leuk, School Counselor, presented information regarding the District's website and how to find information pertaining to school grades, assessment and accountability data, and other reports such as school ACT scores. Mrs. Jones and Superintendent Hughes explained that if there are less than ten students in a class, the State reports will not show any data for an individual school but that Mrs. Leuk can provide proficiency data for the small classes. Mrs. Jones explained there is no data for school grades for last school year due to issues with the testing system used statewide. Mrs. Leuk explained the various assessment programs used for each grade level. Mrs. Leuk and Superintendent Hughes discussed the importance of the ACT assessment data and how it could be used when considering approval of school Trustland plans. The Board thanked Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Leuk for their presentation.

Board members discussed the various items included in the proposed School Spend Plans. Superintendent Hughes stated that the Tintic School District proposed fees are considerably less than other districts. Superintendent Hughes stated the Board will discuss the fee schedule document during the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Board members adjourned the work session at 3:45 p.m.

Meeting

1. Call to Order and Recognition of Guests

President Boswell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and instructed the Business Administrator to call the roll.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Young led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Student/Schools Recognition

The Board welcomed Mrs. Jodie Hughes, Eureka Elementary School Music Teacher and various third grade students. Mrs. Hughes discussed the Core Standards being used to teach music and the importance of students participating in performing arts. The third grade students introduced themselves and performed several songs on their xylophones and glockenspiels. Board members thanked Mrs. Hughes and the students for their music.

Mr. Mike Tromble, Tintic High School Wrestling Coach, and wrestlers from the wrestling team were present to discuss their recently completed season. The senior wrestlers each shared how wrestling has helped them in school and improved their lives. Mr. Tromble reported on the success of the wrestling team at the Divisional and State competitions. Mr. Tromble thanked the Board for the wrestling mats and reported that Tintic High School hosted its first tournament. Mr. Tromble reported the summer wrestling program has begun and stated there may be enough interest for a girls wrestling team next year. The wrestling team ended their presentation by reciting their motto. Board members congratulated the wrestling team and thanked them for their presentation.

4. Reports

Miss Taleigh Laird, Student Board Member, stated that she will present more teacher features at the next Board meeting. Miss Laird presented information on activities taking place in Tintic High School. Miss Laird reported the wrestling and basketball seasons have ended and that each team represented the District well. Miss Laird stated representatives from the Shakespeare Festival conducted an assembly on mental health for students at Tintic High School. Miss Laird stated the Sterling Scholar competition will be held March 3, 2020 in Richfield. Miss Laird stated there will be six students representing Tintic High School at the Sterling Scholar competition. Superintendent Hughes commended Miss Laird's efforts as a cheerleader for the past four years, and noted that during her sophomore year, she was the only cheerleader. Superintendent Hughes thanked Miss Laird for her dedication and support of all the sports teams.

Mr. Greg Thornock, Tintic High School Principal, presented information regarding year end assessments and what the school is doing to help students succeed. Mr. Thornock explained the efforts of his staff to make testing a positive experience for students. Mr. Thornock reported that Mrs. Leuk, School Counselor and Testing Administrator, participates in assessment training each year and that Mr. Mark Allen, Technology Director, ensures the digital tests can be taken on the student's Chromebooks without any malfunctions. Mr. Thornock stated benchmark testing is utilized for practice and to remedy any issues. Mr. Thornock reported teachers utilize curriculum maps for the State Standard Common Core for instruction. Mr. Thornock stated he studies the testing data to identify improvement areas for teachers and where students may need additional instruction. Mr. Thornock reported that during testing, students are given food and breaks with physical activity, and that data shows these practices increase student test scores. Member Young

stated the testing efforts at Tintic High School have benefited her own children and made testing a fun and positive experience. Member Rowley inquired how the teachers create a curriculum map if he/she is the only teacher in that subject. Mr. Thornock stated that teachers often network and participate in professional development to improve teaching strategies. Member Rowley asked how the Board could support the staff and students in their testing efforts. Mr. Thornock stated that approving Trustland funds for professional development and participating in the Utah Rural Schools Association conferences has been very helpful. Superintendent Hughes stated the assessment practices helped to improve Tintic High School's grade significantly in just one year. Mr. Thornock thanked Board members for their support. The Board thanked Mr. Thornock for his report.

Mr. Brian Ward, Eureka Elementary School Principal, reported he is implementing strategies similar to Tintic High School to improve test scores. Mr. Ward expressed his appreciation to Mr. Allen and Mrs. Leuk for their assistance with testing. Mr. Ward stated his school uses benchmark tests to familiarize elementary students with testing. Mr. Ward stated that his teachers work with teachers from other schools to improve teaching practices and that the changes being implemented in the reading program are producing positive results. Mr. Ward thanked the Board for its support. Member Rowley inquired what the K-2 students do during the testing of the upper grades. Mr. Ward explained that they also do testing such as DIBELS or other assessments. Superintendent Hughes asked what assessments are used for K-3 reading and what the Board can do to help the school meet its reading goals. Mr. Ward stated that the support of the Trustland funds is greatly appreciated and helps move the school toward achieving the reading goals of 90% proficiency. Mr. Ward commended the efforts of his staff in implementing all of the changes and programs. The Board thanked Mr. Ward for his report.

5. Citizen Comments

Board members asked Mrs. Sonja Laird, Tintic High School Secretary, to comment regarding the testing practices. Mrs. Laird stated the recent changes to testing have been very beneficial for students. Mrs. Laird reported students are more enthused now to participate in testing.

6. Communications from Board Members

Member Young stated she recently visited the Special Education Program and was amazed to see the level of activities and skills being taught. Member Young stated she attended a recent 7 Mindsets lesson at Eureka Elementary School for the first and second grades. Member Young reported the students were not quite grasping the concepts completely, but that the students were still participating in something positive.

Member Haynes stated he recently attended some basketball games and expressed how proud he is to be associated with the District and its students.

Member Wall stated she is very proud of the schools, staff and students. Member Wall thanked the administrators for their presentations on curriculum, assessment and instruction. Member Wall expressed her appreciation for all the hard work the staff does.

Member Rowley stated she attended the Eureka Elementary School Read-A-Thon and was pleased with the enthusiasm of the students for reading. Member Rowley reported she recently visited a Special Education classroom and was impressed with the students cooking abilities and with the communication system in the classroom. Member Rowley reported visiting a 7 Mindsets lesson with the first and second grade classes at Eureka Elementary and stated that even though the students do not fully understand the concepts, the exposure to the program will be beneficial in the future.

President Boswell stated the 7 Mindsets program is very important and helps the students have a positive outlook. President Boswell thanked the administrators for their presentations and information they shared. President Boswell stated she is proud of the schools, staff and students.

7. Action Items

Consent Agenda Approval:

Minutes: January 27, 2020 Board Meeting

Warrants: #00006680 to #00006729

Member Rowley offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Member Haynes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor of the motion.

2020 Annual Board Meeting Schedule Revision

Member Wall offered a motion to approve the 2020 Annual Board Meeting Schedule Revision as presented. Member Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor of the motion.

Policy Revision FI – Students: Fees, Fines, and Charges

Member Young offered a motion to approve the first reading of District Policy FI: Students Fees, Fines and Charges as presented. Member Rowley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor of the motion.

2020-2021 Coaching Assignments

Member Haynes offered a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Coaching Assignments as presented. Member Wall seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor of the motion.

8. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hughes presented Board members with a copy of the most recent enrollment report.

Superintendent Hughes confirmed that Board members were receiving emails regarding the legislative session and proposed bills. Superintendent Hughes presented a document summarizing recently proposed legislation and discussed the various bills impacting education.

Superintendent Hughes reviewed the Utah Rural Schools Association Rural Legislative Caucus document and items considered high impact for rural schools. Items discussed were the Weighted Pupil Unit, Transportation Funding, NESS Funding, and Student Safety Facility and System Improvements.

Superintendent Hughes presented motivational information from the Walt Disney story for the Board to review.

Superintendent Hughes stated that many staff and community members are participating in the Free February Fitness program for the Fitness Center. Member Wall stated that January saw the highest number of Fitness Center users to date.

Member Young inquired about the Eureka Elementary School parking lot project. Superintendent Hughes stated that a meeting is scheduled with Staker Parsons Construction to discuss options for the parking lot and a possible bus garage. Member Young asked if the District will have to re-bid the project. Superintendent Hughes stated that the project will have to be re-bid because the scope of the project has changed and too much time has passed. Member Haynes inquired if the District owns the property where the crossing guard parks. Superintendent Hughes confirmed the District does own the property. Superintendent Hughes stated that an easement will have to be allowed for homeowners to access their property. Superintendent Hughes stated the district's goal is to reconstruct the parking lot and to build a new bus garage. Superintendent Hughes asked Board members that if both projects together is too expensive, if they would agree to postpone the bus garage and address the safety issues of the parking lot first. Member Haynes stated that he feels a bus garage is just as important as the parking lot. Member Young and Member Rowley both agreed the safety issues of the parking lot should be the District's priority. Superintendent Hughes stated he would present the cost estimates for the parking lot and a bus garage when it is received.

Superintendent Hughes reported on a recent visit from KUTV News Reporter Chris Jones. Superintendent Hughes stated he was interviewed and asked questions regarding school reports and the impact on small schools. Superintendent Hughes stated he did not know when the interview would air, but cautioned Board members that what he actually said in the interview may be edited and taken out of context.

Superintendent Hughes asked Mrs. Karen Kramer, West Desert Schools Principal, to report on the job interviews recently conducted for the open positions at the West Desert Schools. Mrs. Kramer stated preliminary interviews have been conducted and there are prospective candidates for each vacancy.

Superintendent Hughes stated that all employee Letters of Intent have been received and reported all employees except those on January's Personnel Report, plan to return for the 2020-2021 school year.

9. Public Hearing on School Fees

President Boswell reviewed the opening paragraph of the Tintic School District Fee Schedule. Superintendent Hughes explained the history of school fees and how the recent emphasis on Utah Code will impact the District's schools. Superintendent Hughes stated that he and Mr. Thornock, Athletic Director, recently met with all coaches and program directors to compile data on costs associated with each program. Superintendent Hughes stated that the District will cover the fees of students who qualify for fee waivers. Superintendent Hughes reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 Fee Schedule. Superintendent Hughes stated that some fees will be contingent upon a student's full participation. Superintendent Hughes reported the coaches and program directors worked diligently to minimize program costs when creating their spend plans. Superintendent Hughes stated that some coaches are planning fundraising activities to help offset program costs such as summer camps, travel, etc. Superintendent Hughes discussed the non-waivable fees and explained that the Fee Schedule and Spend Plans information will be posted on the District's website.

Superintendent Hughes and Board members responded to various inquiries from the citizens present.

Superintendent Hughes stated another open comment session regarding school fees is scheduled for the March 16, 2020 Board meeting. Superintendent Hughes stated he will present additional information regarding school fees at the meeting and encouraged additional public comment.

10. Adjournment

Member Haynes offered a motion to adjourn. Member Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Tintic School District Board of Education will be held on March 16, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. at the Tintic School District Office, 545 E. Main Street, Eureka, Utah.

Minutes submitted by:

Jeremy Snell
Business Administrator