



# APPROVED MINUTES

## JANUARY 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Piute County School District Board of Education was held on **January 14th, 2020** at the Piute County Commission Chambers in Junction, Utah. President Marty Morgan called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM. Present was Marty Morgan, Teresa Morgan, Erin Jensen, Rick Dalton, and Jeremy Pearson. Also present was Interim Superintendent Koby Willis. Guests at the meeting were Jeri Sylvester, Shauna Bagley, Holly Nowers, Robert Thomas, Stacie Gass, Tyrel Ivie, James Barney, Danial Springer, Sally James, Gloria Fox, Eugene King, and Paul James.

**Work Meeting:** The school board held a work meeting at 2:00 PM. In this work meeting the school board discussed the book "Who Moved My Cheese" and set goals for the Master Board Awards for 2020. The Master Board Awards is a set series of professional development for school boards provided by the Utah School Boards Association.

### Opening Remarks:

- Board President Marty Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the pledge of allegiance opening remarks were given by Rick Dalton.

### Citizen Dialogue:

- None

### Discussion Items:

- **PLC Reports**
  - Holly Nowers reported on the progress of the Math Professional Learning Community. Mrs. Nowers reported that the Saxon Math curriculum has become outdated for the elementary schools. Oscarson elementary transitioned to a new Math curriculum for the 2019-2020 school year. The elementary and high school are still evaluating the different programs and how they match with state standards and objectives. There is an effort to coordinate the programs that are being used at the different schools.
  - Danial Springer reported for the CTE PLC. They have meet 3 times so far this year. Jennifer Christensen, the CTE Director, communicated to Mr. Springer that the CTE program review went well. The PLC members include all of the CTE teachers, Jennfier Chrsitensen, and the pathway coordinator from the Sevier CTE Technical Center. Morgan Hoyt trained the PLC about some things he has done to help motivate students. The CTE PLC created a 4 year plan for CTE courses and pathways. The 4 year plan allows students to map out the pathways they would like to complete during their 4 high school years. The next meeting for the CTE PLC is March 9th and they'll be discussing standards based grading. Teresa Morgan asked about

- James Barney presented to report on the Literacy PLC. He showed some of the data collected from the Reading Plus program at the high school. A benchmark reading assessment was given at the first of the school year and again before the Christmas break. From the first assessment to the second 11% of students moved from below grade level to at or above grade level and 20% of students moved from 3 or more grades below grade level to 1 or 2 grades below grade level. Mr. Barney presented some goals for the PLC that included things such as establishing good pre and post tests for each grade level to appropriately measure student growth in Literacy.
- Tyrel Ivie presented for the performing and visual arts PLC. Mr. Ivie started by teaching the school board how to use a Makey Makey to make music. Then Mr. Ivie showed how art teachers can use the tool to teach different types of art and to make art more interactive. Mr. Ivie talked about how technology can bridge the gap between school subjects. Mr. Ivie made the request that the district purchase a Makey Makey classroom kit. The Piute High School Choir will be singing the national anthem at the Region Wrestling event and at the Boys Basketball Region Championship game. The elementary students have been making a weekly broadcast for the rest of the student body and the public. The broadcast the student leaders explain what they'll be learning that week.
- Robert Thomas reported to the school board as the Science PLC leader. The Science PLC talks a lot about the Literacy component because so much of the Science standardized tests is reading story problems. They discussed adding more reading into the Science classes to help students become more familiar with Science terms in the context of a story. Mr. Thomas talked about aligning elective Science courses to career objectives.
- Kristy DeLange was sick and unable to attend, but she emailed to Koby Willis what she wanted to present to the school board. Kristy was going to present for the Special Education PLC. In her email she stated the members of the committee, their meeting times, and the major topics their discussing. The biggest topic in Special Education this year is our full file review by the USBE. Every school district does a full file review every three years. Kristy explained what that means and how the Special Education department has been working with USBE to prepare for that.
- **2020 - 2021 School District Calendar**
  - The school board reviewed the district calendar for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Since the December meeting the district received a lot of comments about not wanting to have school on December 23rd, 2020. The district office sent out a quick poll to get some feedback about the calendar. The majority supported the calendar as it stands, but would like to extend the Christmas break to December 23rd.
  - The simplest solution to not having school on December 23rd is removing the built in flex day (Sometimes called snow day) from the calendar. If a Snow Day or flex day is needed students would have to have school on Presidents Day or Spring Break would have to be shortened by one day.
  - The school board felt that would be the easiest way to make an accommodation with the calendar and felt it was ready to be passed.
- **4 Day Week Proposal**
  - It was requested that the school district make another attempt at bringing back the 4 day school week. Some from Wayne and Garfield have indicated that if Piute went that direction they would like to follow. Koby Willis explained that with the new strict expectations for schools on a 4 day week it would require the entire region to make the change.
  - Currently Tabiona, Manila, Rich, and Tintic are on a 4 day school week. To make that work they have had to schedule all of their athletic and club activities on Fridays and Saturdays. If

want to have an activity on another day they would not be able to leave until school is out. That has meant they have not been able to have freshman and JV games in some cases. For Piute most of our games and events are scheduled by the region. It is highly unlikely Piute could make that sports schedule work unless the entire region was on board.

- It was proposed that the school district meet with all of the coaches and that the principals meet in faculty meeting to determine if that was really the desire of the group. If the coaches and staff of the district at least support the idea of taking the proposal to the region board then the high school would prepare to take the idea to them. If it seems the region board may have some interest then the district would do some more in depth research and get the opinions of more stakeholders.
- The school board was supportive of at least seeing what our coaches thought and then pitching the idea to the region board.
- **Vehicle Lease & Purchase Options**
  - The school district budgeted to purchase a large activity bus for this school year. There are 12 school buses and we try to get them to last for 24 years. To keep up with this rotation we need to purchase a new bus every other year. Some small schools and even some large schools have purchased vans or suburbans as an alternative to activity buses. Driving to SUV's is cheaper than one large bus. The district received a quote for 15 passenger vans that was one fourth of the cost of a new bus.
  - As the district discussed the idea with coaches, parents, and students most were very opposed to using vans in place of buses. The primary reason was safety. Statistically transporting teams on a school bus has been safer than in large vans.
  - Koby explained that a possible solution would be getting a mid-size bus that can do smaller teams and clubs. Then sell the suburban and traverse, to be replaced with two SUVs that would work better for activities. The SUVs would only be used for activities where, cheerleaders, managers, and lots of equipment are not needed.
  - All school board members voiced that they did not like the idea of the 15 passenger vans and felt the students would be safest in a bus whenever practical.
- **Review of State School Fees Model Policy**
  - With all the changes that the Utah State Legislature and the Utah State Board of Education has made to school fees an update to the district fees policy is now necessary. The USBE staff have provided a model policy that fits all the new rules and state code.
  - The school board went through all 23 pages of the model policy determining the applicability of every section to Piute County School District. The model policy included lots of information not relevant to Piute County School District. The school board elected to strike sections about things like school uniforms and fees for extended day kindergarten. Piute does not require a school uniform and no fee is charged for extended day kindergarten.
  - After making recommendations throughout the model policy the board will review a shortened draft policy revision in the February meeting.

### Information Items:

- **School Report Cards** - Koby Willis showed the school board where to find the school report cards for each of the Piute County School District schools and reported on their progress. The school report cards do not include a letter grade this year, but it's unclear if that system will continue in the future.

### Action Items:

- **Minutes, Vouchers, Payroll**

- Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 10th board meeting, the December payroll, and district vouchers 200455-200539. Jeremy Pearson Seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **School District Calendar 2020 - 2021**
  - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the school district calendar for the 2020 - 2021 school year with the note that December 22nd will be a half day. Teresa Morgan Seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Executive Session**

- Erin Jensen made a motion to enter an executive session. Jeremy Pearson seconded. Motion passed by unanimous individual voice vote. Erin Jensen voted aye, Teresa Morgan voted aye, Rick Dalton voted aye, Jeremy Pearson voted aye, and Marty Morgan voted aye.
- The school board entered executive meeting at 5:59 PM.
- The school board left the executive meeting at 6:50 PM.

### **Adjournment**

- At **6:50 PM** Erin Jensen made a motion to adjourn the **January 14th, 2020** meeting of the school board. Jeremy Pearson seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.