

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

February 28, 2013

A legislative meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held February 28, 2013 at the Utah State Office of Education, 250 East 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

At the direction of the Chair, Vice Chair David Crandall conducted.

Board Members present:

Chair Debra G. Roberts

Vice Chair David L. Crandall

Member Dixie L. Allen

Member Laura Belnap

Member Kim R. Burningham

Member Barbara W. Corry

Member Jennifer Johnson

Member Jefferson Moss

Member C. Mark Openshaw

Member Tami W. Pyfer

Member David L. Thomas

Executive staff present:

Martell Menlove, State Superintendent

Brenda Hales, Deputy Superintendent

Judy Park, Associate Superintendent

Bruce Williams, Associate Superintendent

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary

Vice Chair David Crandall called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Chair Debra Roberts welcomed Heather Groom, whose appointment as a State Board of Education member will go to the Senate today for confirmation.

**Presentation from Legislator**

Senator Aaron Osmond was welcomed to the meeting. He discussed his bill, SB 81 *School Property Tax Funding*, and answered questions from the Board. Senator Osmond also mentioned that he is working with Superintendent Menlove on issues relative to SB 209 *Grants for Personal Mobile Learning Devices*.

Senator Osmond reported that he is releasing a substitute today for SB 71 *Results-based Financing for Early Childhood Education*.

**Budget**

Superintendent Martell Menlove reviewed the available revenue for the 2013 General Session using February revenue estimates. He also reviewed the priority list from the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Statewide adaptive testing is not on the Subcommittee's list, but as the list is only a recommendation to Executive Appropriations, he felt there is still a good possibility of funding.

Dr. Menlove also reported that the Subcommittee passed a series of motions with intent language. He expressed some concern about language on the electronic high schools that would call for additional work on performance measures, but on the whole, didn't see significant impact from the intent language passed.

Motion was made by Member Debra Roberts and seconded by Member David Thomas that staff draft a letter to the chairs of the Executive Appropriations Committee for the Board Chair and Vice Chair signatures reiterating the Board's funding priorities.

Motion carried. Superintendent Menlove will deliver the letter.

Superintendent Menlove discussed a proposal from the Utah Education Association whereby funding for social security and retirement would be allocated to below the line. The Education Appropriations Subcommittee has requested \$50 million to be split between social security and retirement and the Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU). It would result in a two percent overall increase, but only one percent in the WPU. The Board requested a two percent increase in the WPU.

Dr. Menlove recommended taking no position at this time.

[For more details, see General Exhibit No. 12272.]

**Federal Sequestration**

Superintendent Menlove distributed and reviewed information with estimates of the effect of federal sequestration on public education in Utah. Sequestration will go into effect tonight, but won't affect budgets until the next fiscal year

The level of services for IDEA must be maintained even with the funding reduction, so districts will need to make cuts from other areas. [For more details, see General Exhibit No. 12273.]

**Legislation**

Dr. Menlove reviewed education legislation.

Motion was made by Member Dixie Allen and seconded by Member Kim Burningham that the Board support HB 374 *State School Board Nomination Revisions*.

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Member Debra Roberts and seconded by Member Tami Pyfer that for SB 81 *School Property Tax Funding*, the Board support the concept of freezing the basic rate, but note that the two concepts of changing the referendum process and requiring truth in taxation are problematic.

Motion carried.

Superintendent Menlove reported that he has talked with Senator Osmond regarding SB 209 *Grants for Personal Mobile Learning Devices*, which the Board has supported. He has indicated that if the legislation is changed to a vendor bill, the Board will withdraw its support.

**Utah Futures**

Superintendent Menlove reported that there are concerns with the security of the Utah Futures website, which houses some confidential student data. The data was not protected to the degree necessary, and as a result, he requested two weeks ago that the site be closed. Utah State Office of Education staff are working with Utah Futures to correct the problem.

**Adjournment**

Motion was made by Member Mark Openshaw and seconded by Member Jennifer Johnson that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Lorraine Austin, Secretary to the Board  
Minutes approved March 8, 2013