

**MEETING OF THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BOARD FOR THE
UTAH SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

January 4, 2018

A meeting of the Utah State Board of Education Acting as the Governing Board for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind was held January 4, 2018 at the Utah State Board of Education Building, 250 East 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chair Mark Huntsman presided.

Members Present:

Chair Mark Huntsman	Member Lisa Cummins
First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins	Member Linda B. Hansen
Second Vice Chair Alisa Ellis	Member Carol Barlow Lear
Member Laura Belnap	Member Kathleen Riebe
Member Michelle Boulter	Member Spencer F. Stokes
Member Janet Cannon	Member Terryl Warner

Members Absent:

Member Jennifer Graviet	Member Joel Wright
Member Scott Neilson	

USDB Executive Staff Present:

Joel Coleman, Superintendent	Michelle Tanner, Associate Supt.
Carolyn Lasater, Associate Supt.	Carl Empey, Finance Director

Others Present:

Sydnee Dickson, Patty Norman, Natalie Grange, Emilie Wheeler, Lorraine Austin, Jerry Record—USBE staff; Bryan Quesenberry, David Thomas—Attorney General’s Office; Royce Van Tassel—Utah Association of Public Charter Schools.

Call to Order

Chair Mark Huntsman called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m.

USDB Consent Calendar

MOTION was made by Vice Chair Ellis and seconded by Member Cannon that the Board approve the USDB Consent Calendar.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar

2.1 Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the USDB Board meeting held December 8, 2017. [For complete details, see General Exhibit No. USDB18-1.]

Monthly Budget Report

USDB Finance Director Carl Empey gave the monthly budget report, indicating USDB is right on target with its revenues and expenses. He expressed thanks to the Board's staff who have been a great resource for the school.

It was noted that expenses for sale of goods are at 120 percent, and Associate Superintendent Tanner explained that the overage is due to the teacher supply money that has been distributed. More teachers submitted than planned; however, the Board will reimburse what was actually spent and USDB is awaiting that reimbursement.

Concern was expressed over the cost of expenditures charged by state Data Technology Services (DTS). Mr. Empey indicated he will check the billing to make sure it is correct.

[For complete details, see General Exhibit No. USDB18-2.]

Enrichment Funds Report

Superintendent Joel Coleman reported that there have been questions concerning the international learning experiences provided for Utah deaf and blind students. He made a presentation to the Board, stating that deaf and blind students need more opportunities to experience the world to compensate for decreased access to incidental learning due to a hearing or vision loss.

Superintendent Coleman informed that for the past several years USDB has used its enrichment funds for international travel for students and it has been a great success. The trips are very highly structured with core goals. It was noted that no student who is visually impaired or deaf has ever participated in study abroad opportunities in higher education in Utah. Superintendent Coleman also clarified that enrichment funds can't be used for operations.

Associate Superintendent Lasater reported on specific trips where blind students designed the program along with students from the countries to which they were traveling. She reiterated that the trips change these students' lives and provide opportunities the students would not otherwise receive. It was also clarified that the trips are open to deaf and blind students that apply and meet the criteria from all schools in the state, and that no student would be turned away for economic reasons.

Associate Superintendent Tanner reported on the international travel in which Utah deaf students have participated and echoed the sentiments already stated about the benefits to the students. She noted that the students that participated came back with much more confidence and with a gratitude for the Americans with Disabilities Act and the opportunities for disabled individuals in the United States that aren't always available to individuals in other countries.

Board members asked whether the concerns of the USDB Advisory Council on the use of the enrichment funds for this purpose have been addressed. Chair Huntsman responded that he has met with both the chair of the Advisory Council and the Advisory Council and their concerns were resolved.

Board members thanked Superintendent Coleman for providing the information to the Board and for providing these opportunities.

[For complete details, see General Exhibit No. USDB18-3.]

Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) Division Report

Jennifer Salazar, Director of the USDB Listening and Spoken Language Division, made a presentation about the work of the division. [For complete details, see General Exhibit No. USDB18-4.]

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Coleman reported that his main focus currently is getting ready for the legislative session. He indicated there may be a bill for USDB to take over vision screening in the

schools from the Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired. USDB is willing to facilitate the screenings if the change is made.

Executive Session

MOTION was made by Member Belnap and seconded by Member L. Cummins that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

Upon voice vote of Members Belnap, Cannon, B. Cummins, L. Cummins, Ellis, Hansen, Huntsman, Lear, Riebe, Stokes and Warner, the Board went into closed Executive Session at 1:38 p.m.

Those present included the Board members above and Joel Coleman, Carolyn Lasater, Sydnee Dickson, Bryan Quesenberry, David Thomas and Lorraine Austin.

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

Motion carried. The Board reconvened in open meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary
Minutes approved February 2, 2018