

**MINUTES OF THE  
UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

Thursday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
USBE – Board Rooms

**DRAFT**

**Members Present:**

Chair Kristin Elinkowski (refrains from voting, unless otherwise noted).  
Vice Chair DeLaina Tonks  
Member Dean Brockbank  
Member Cynthia Phillips  
Member Jim Moss  
Member Michelle Smith (via conference call)

**Members Absent:**

Member Bruce Davis

**Staff Present:**

Jennifer Lambert  
Armando Venegas  
Rabecca Cisneros  
Michael Clark  
Reed Bramble  
James Madsen

**Others Present:**

Scott Jones (Deputy Superintendent), Alisa Ellis (USBE), Teresa Theurer (Higher Ed), Jerry Record (USBE), Jennifer Moulder (UAPCS), Lanny Adamson (Reagan Academy), Jeana Tallool (Reagan Academy), Ashley Moss (Reagan Academy), Craig Frank (UCN), Kim Frank (UCN).

**Call to Order**

Chair Elinkowski called the meeting to order at 11:07 AM, and noted that Member Davis was absent, and Member Smith would join the meeting via conference call.

## **Public Comment**

No one made public comment.

## **Board Chair Report**

Chair Elinkowski urged board members to sign up for graduation visits, and informed them that Member Phillips, Member Moss, and Vice Chair Tonks had been attending meetings for legislative session.

## **General Consent Calendar**

*Including: A. minutes from the January 11, 2018 meeting, B. Advantage Arts Academy Charter Agreement Amendment, C. Monthly Financial Report*

## **Motion**

Vice Chair Tonks moved, and Member Phillips seconded, to approve the consent calendar. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

## **School Spotlight – The Reagan Academy**

Mr. Reed Bramble reported on how school grade attribution is changing, prompting SCSB staff to want to know how schools are doing with English Language Learner (ELL) growth scores.

Reagan Academy attributed growth to data driven instruction, including mid-year map testing and SAGE benchmarks. Reagan Academy commented that they hold pizza parties where teachers and principal revisit new data, and their school culture promotes an “I can” statement among its students to influence attitude, while the importance of testing is explained and reinforced.

## **OEK Funding Direction to Staff**

Executive Director Lambert commented that staff recommends a tabling of this agenda item, due to pending decisions concerning how funds will be allocated.

## **Legislative Session – Discussion and Possible Stance Taken on Education and Education Related Bills**

SCSB Legislative Committee reported on the legislature and bills that may impact the work of the SCSB and its authorized schools; so that the full board could choose to take positions on those bills and provide direction to the Legislative Committee. HB40, HB46S1, HB175, HB227, HB228, HB231, HB245, HB282, HB313, SB70S1, and SB132 were discussed.

## **Motion**

Member Phillips moved, and Member Moss seconded, that the SCSB give directive to

Legislative Committee to be supportive of HB40 and HB46. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

**Public Comment on HB227**

Ms. Kim Frank, of Utah Charter Network (UCN), commented that discussions by legislators at the Education Appropriation meeting centered around how to reduce reporting and streamline a system, saying that one representative proposed a system where schools would report all the data the state might want with the idea that staff at USBE would turn that data in to its necessary reports. Ms. Frank said there is a lot of discussion surrounding streamlining and cost reduction, and that UCN fully supports the bill.

**Motion**

Member Brockbank moved, and Member Smith seconded, that the board support an overall reduction of reporting requirement and legislations that would reduce reporting requirements of LEAs. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

**Motion**

Member Phillips moved, and Member Moss seconded, that the SCSB direct its Legislative Committee, and its members who may be up on the hill at any time, to speak on behalf of the board in a position of support for HB231. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

**Motion**

Vice Chair Tonks moved, and Member Brockbank seconded, to support HB245. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

**Motion**

Member Moss moved, and Member Brockbank seconded, to express opposition to HB282. The motion carried with Member Moss, Member Brockbank, Member Phillips, and Member Smith voting in favor; while Vice Chair Tonks recused herself from its vote and discussion (because her school uses the SIS the bill discusses).

**Public Comment on HB313**

Ms. Kim Frank, of UCN, commented that UCN is supporting the bill, the bill is from UAPCS, and the fiscal note is fairly small.

Mr. Royce Van Tassel, of UAPCS, commented that he was unaware of the fiscal note, but that it is not terribly surprising. Mr. Van Tassel said he believed USBE was looking for an FTE so they would not be taking on a burden they could not manage. Does not view this as a poison pill, and noted that a bill that has a fiscal note has to be funded before it could pass both houses and committees. Mr. Van Tassel commented that he does not know the pressures of the building (USBE offices), but noted that he believes the FTE position would analyze process. Mr. Van Tassel commented that they wanted to make sure that each authorizer had the capacity to evaluate proposed schools' governance, finance, and academics; and

### **Motion**

Member Brockbank moved, and Member Moss seconded, to support HB313, and as part of the motion, and as part of our messaging—in light of the fiscal note that has come up, we support, in theory, the primary focus of the bill, but with the fiscal note, it has raised some additional concerns. We don't necessarily support additional oversight of this board by the state board, but as far as the core message of having schools approved as a final decision maker of this board, I definitely would be supportive of.

### **Amendment to the Motion**

Member Phillips moved to amend the motion to include that “we are also receptive, as a board, of oversight of USBE's setting of standards for applications, but have continuing concerns about the implications of the fiscal note. Member Brockbank and Member Moss accepted Member Phillips' amendment, thus the motion became “to support HB313, and as part of the motion, and as part of our messaging—in light of the fiscal note that has come up, we support, in theory, the primary focus of the bill, but with the fiscal note, it has raised some additional concerns. We don't necessarily support additional oversight of this board by the state board, but as far as the core message of having schools approved as a final decision maker of this board, I definitely would be supportive of. We are also receptive, as a board, of oversight of USBE's setting of standards for applications, but have continuing concerns about the implications of the fiscal note.” The motion carried unanimously by those present.

### **Public Comment on Charter School Administrative Cost Funding Amendments**

Ms. Kim Frank, of UCN, commented that this was proposed as a line item on the budget, and not as a bill, and no votes were taken, except to move the request to the Education Appropriations list. Ms. Frank explained that charters wear all the same hats as a large district, and USBE has recognized that small districts don't have the same economy as a large district, and there is a discrepancy in funding between charter schools and small districts; and this request seeks to level those playing fields by asking for an additional \$100 per student with promise of reducing reports and getting charter schools up to equity. This is 7.5 million compared to the 24 million if the spending was to be equal to that of a small district.

### **Motion**

Member Brockbank moved, and Member Smith seconded, to support additional funding per pupil, as outlined in Ms. Frank's presentation, to \$100 per student. The motion carried with Chair Elinkowski, Member Moss, Member Brockbank, and Member Smith voting in favor. Vice Chair Tonks, and Member Phillips recused themselves from the vote and discussion because it would benefit their respective schools.

### **Discussion to the Motion**

The need to move closer to parity with district counterparts was discussed.

### **Adjourn**

Member Brockbank moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by those members present.

