

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 29, 2016

Those in attendance: Dean Oborn, Terry Bawden, Richard Osborn, Scott Carlson, Heather Bennett, Belinda Johnson, Michelle Kaufusi, Blaik Baird, Craig Seegmiller, Alan Mouritsen, Neil Carrigan, Dale Whitlock, Jeff Schena, Kim Pickett, Jerre Holmes, David Brotherson, Kodey Hughes, Bill Boyle, Mike Savage, Amber Shill, Tamara Lowe, Bryan Durst, Kristen Betts, Stan Young, George Henrie, Rick Nielsen, John Penrod, Garett Muse, Rob Cuff, Kim Monkres, Ryan Bishop, Josh Taylor and Jeff Cluff. Excused: Greg Miller. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. Welcome and Chairperson Business: Chair Betts welcomed members.

A. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Bawden read a quote: “When it is time to be counted, the important thing is to be strong enough to stand.” Members have important decisions to make. He led them in the pledge of allegiance.

B. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Savage shared a quote from O. Leslie Stone: “..... self-satisfied indifference fully convinced that the way we see things is the way things really are.” He then offered a prayer.

C. Chair’s General Observation: Chair Betts thanked the staff for their effort, time and communications to prepare for these meetings. The staff received a round of applause.

2. State Board Rule R277-409: Chair Betts opened discussion regarding the ballot sent to the governing boards. Ms. Widerburg reported 95 ballots were returned to that point. Question 1: 95 opposed. Question 2: 3 supported and 92 opposed. The staff will continue to collect the remaining ballots. Mr. Cuff reminded members they would have another meeting on December 8 prior to the State School Board meeting on December 9. Final positions and statements could be prepared on December 8. Mr. Van Wagoner feels there is support from the member schools to write the State School Board a letter with the results of the ballots. Board discussed points to be included in the letter:

- Membership schools oppose USBE participation in policy
- Many years of cooperative effort with USBE for By-Law changes
- Conflict of interest
- Spirit of cooperation
- Rural vs urban effect of transfer rule

Mr. Van Wagoner felt the letter should be signed by the Board of Trustees and all member schools that voted. Mr. Spatafore suggested Chair Betts should sign and have an addendum in which all schools that participated in the vote are included. He also suggested a cc to the Governor, Speaker of the House and Senate President.

MOTION: Ms. Lowe motioned to support the points that have been discussed and for a letter to be prepared. Mr. Pickett second. Mr. Boyle feels there are two issues: (1) the larger issue is if it is appropriate for the State Board to participate and (2) the content of what they are considering. The letter should respond to both issues. Ms. Lowe said she felt the BOT is open to looking at revisions to the transfer rule. Mr. Van Wagoner felt that could be included because the members are looking for a simpler means of transfer, but keeping fair competition. A minimal number of transfers were denied. He felt it important to discover the State School Board’s reasons for changing the transfer rule. Do the changes benefit all students or only benefit a discreet minority? Mr. Boyle said from a rural school standpoint that the proposed transfer rule makes no sense whatsoever. The rule is absurd with unprecedented mobility in the urban areas. Within a

ten-mile radius that would open the door to 18,000 students to smaller urban schools. Within a ten-mile radius at San Juan they would still have the same 305 students. Sub varsity doesn't mean much in smaller areas because everybody is needed to field teams. Mr. Van Wagoner feels the rule represents a minority of students and does not address the issues of displacing students due to the transfer. Chair Betts suggested the letter would be written and emailed to members in preparation of discussion on December 8. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Legal Items (executive session):**

MOTION: Mr. Seegmiller motioned to go into executive session to discuss legal matters. Mr. Whitlock second. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Whitlock motioned to leave executive session. Mr. Pickett second. Motion carried.

4. **Realignment:** Mr. Cuff discussed meeting handouts and process of bubble schools and realignment.

Current 2016-2017 Classifications and Regions

Format and Procedures

Bubble Schools (original) – considered tied in enrollment, BOT breaks the tie

Child Nutrition report provided for consideration of Free and Reduced Bubble Schools

Petition for higher classification

Schools by District (pp.67-72)

First consideration of Classifications

Second consideration of Classifications

First consideration of Region Placement

Public Hearing* (See below)

After the hearing concluded, the BOT Members took a short break and then broke into two groups: (1) 1A, 2A, 3A and (2) 4A, 5A, 6A. Members were discussing classifications as a second consideration and the first consideration of region placement. The two groups then reported the proposals that were approved for classification and region placement to all board members.

MOTION: Mr. Hughes motioned to include East HS in Region 3 in 6A for football only. Mr. Whitlock second. Motion carried but not unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett motioned to assignment of independent schools. Mr. Henrie second. Motion carried

MOTION: Mr. Pickett motioned to approve activity only schools placement. Mr. Oborn second. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett motioned to accept the 1st consideration of region placement. Mr. Seegmiller second. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. at Jordan High School
BOT Meeting on Thursday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m. at the UHSAA Office.

Meeting Adjourned.

5A/6A Bubble Schools:

Corner Canyon – Darrell Jensen, principal. No permits, district realignment effective next year and will decrease their enrollment. Requested 5A Classification. They have not dominated in their current region.

Cottonwood – Terry Roylance, principal. Requested to stay in 5A. She reports to five different mayors of towns and cities. They are losing some student to Taylorsville next year because of a bussing issue. They feel they will be more successful in 5A.

Hillcrest – Amber Shill, BOT member, reported Hillcrest is fine with 5A or 6A placement, but would like more influence in region placement. Hillcrest will lose students because of the Canyons School District boundary change effecting Hillcrest, Corner Canyon, Alta and Jordan.

Kearns – Maile Loo, principal. Requested 5A Classification, 50% fee waiver, very transit community.

Roy – Kirt Swalberg, principal. Requested 5A Classification, not competitive in current 5A and have a high transit population.

Taylorsville – Garrett Muse, principal. Requested 5A Classification, not competitive in current 5A. If assigned to 6A, would like consideration in region assignment.

Timpview – Fidel Montero, principal. Requested 5A Classification. This would promote unity for school district, help with their increased diversity and community involvement.

4A/5A Bubble Schools:

Alta – Brian McGill, principal. Requested 5A classification because of the approved school district’s boundary change in 2017. They have a unique early college pathway program with the University of Utah beginning in the fall.

Ben Lomond – Dale Wilkinson, principal, joined by Luke Rasmussen, Ogden HS principal, and Ken Crawford, District AD. Ben Lomond requested 4A Classification. 4A would allow them to maintain a friendly rivalry. Ogden HS requested 4A Classification, they struggled in 3A. Mr. Crawford commended the Board members for consideration for bubble schools and free and reduced lunch rates. They would actually qualify for a double bubble. He feels the district has made great improvement in facilities and funding.

Bonneville – Larry Hadley, principal. Requested 4A Classification. The school is a landlocked school and is losing enrollment and have a decreased number of students participating. The district is increasing their special education programs units at Bonneville and they welcome the opportunity to participate in Unified Sports. 4A Classification would also allow natural rivals with Ogden and Ben Lomond.

Desert Hills – Larry Bergeson, Washington County School District Superintendent, and Rusty Taylor, Desert Hills Principal. Requested 4A Classification because of travel costs to them and other member schools. They have a competitive region and has served the area well. A charter school was slated to open 2016-2017 and didn’t. It is felt Desert Hills will lose students to the

charter school in the fall. The district is building a new school in 2019 that will level enrollment numbers in the area.

Lehi – Scott Carlson, BOT member, reported Lehi is still struggling to recover from the enrollment drop because of Skyridge opening its doors this past fall. They requested to stay in the 4A Classification.

Mountain View – Scott Carlson, BOT member, reported Mountain View has similar challenges to Lehi HS. They requested to remain 4A to allow enough schools to create a region and eliminate significant travel.

Salem Hills – Bart Peery, principal. Requested to remain in 4A Classification. He suggested 24 schools in 4A.

Spanish Fork – Dave McKee, principal. Requested 4A Classification because they are landlocked and 4A is a good fit for their school. Other district schools in 4A Classification.

Uintah - John Penrod, BOT Member. Due to the oil economy drop, Uintah has dropped enrollment. He said they have been a good school to work with in his current region.

2A/3A Bubble Schools:

APA West Valley – Bryan Durst, BOT Member. Requested to remain in 2A. Mr. Cuff reported that APA West Valley would also qualify for free and reduced lunch consideration.

1A/2A Bubble Schools:

Rich – Rick Larsen, principal. Rich is geographically isolated and would ask to remain 1A. They are a 4-day week school and this allows weekend play and 1A is more amiable to weekend games.

Wendover – Clint Spindler, principal. He reported there had been an error in enrollment reporting, which was verified by the Tooele School District. Twenty-nine students were double counted in grades 10, 11, and 12. They have 61 students and would request 1A Classification.

Bubble School Football Only Requests:

American Leadership Academy – Lora Nicols, AD. Requested 2A for football because of low roster size.

Emery – Steven Gordon, principal. Emery is not competitive in 3A North. Requested 2A because they are losing another 50 students due to a mine closure. It is difficult to get participants. They requested 2A, but if assigned 3A, would prefer 3A South.

Kanab – Form turned into the Board

Layton Christian – Mr. Taylor read information sent from Greg Miller, Board Member. Requested 1A Football because of their high enrollment of international students who have rarely played football in their home country.

Secondary Bubble Schools Qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch:

West - Paul Sagers, principal. Requested assigning them with their natural rivals of East and Highland HS. They have the support of Highland and East, district superintendent and communities. Would help them schedule with a common calendar and restore long traditional rivalries.

Whitehorse - Mr. Boyle, BOT Member. Requested as a free and reduced lunch to move down to 1A Classification. Their school and teams struggle. 2A would be a significant burden on the school and community because they already face significant challenges. 2A classification would more than double their travel.

Higher Classification Requests:

East – Greg Maughan, principal. Requested 6A Classification in football only. They are competitive and would like to compete with larger schools in and out of the state.

Juan Diego – Form in packet, requested to move up in everything except football.

APA Draper – Bryan Durst, BOT Member. Requested to move up to 2A because of new facilities and their numbers will be increasing.

Non Bubble Schools wishing to address the Board:

Viewmont – Jason Smith, principal, and Dan Linford, District HS Director. Requested 5A Classification because Davis District opening new school #10 in 2018 which will drop their enrollment. It would also give them natural rivals with Bountiful, Wood Cross and new school #10.

Payson – Ben Ford, principal. There was an error in enrollment reporting as verified by the school. They have struggled to compete in current classification and requested 4A Classification.

Juab – Mike Bowring, assistant principal and head football coach. They are representing rural schools in 3A. They requested urban schools to be removed from 3A. They don't feel there is a level playing field.

Grand – Steve Wren, principal, and Ron Dolphin, AD. Grand faces economically unique challenges. Cost of living has exploded in Moab, but Moab has the third highest poverty rate. They have inner-generational poverty. Grand has not competed successfully and requested 2A Classification.

San Juan – Bob Peterson, principal. Requested 2A in all activities because the area is impoverished. They have 180 native Americans students and their participation is very low.

Altamont – Dean Wilson, principal. Requested 1A Classification because of emerging competitive programs. They are geographically isolated and 2A classification would increase travel.

St. Joseph – Clay Jones, principal. Requested to stay in 1A. Enrollment is declining, but has been offset with their international program; however, Chinese students don't play many sports.

Monticello – Lewis Whitaker, principal. Requested to remain in 1A. He discussed travel concerns for school. Navajo Mountain is an important part of the district and they are committed to participating with them. Their proposed region assignments were given. They have the support of Region 19 to remain 1A.

Parowan – Roy Mathews, principal. Requested 1A Classification because they are not a growing community and there is less travel time. They were competitive in 1A, but not dominating.

North Sevier Football – Jade Shepherd, principal. Requested 1A football because they struggle to field a football team losing many of the older students. They have hired a new coach and need help in building their program.

Timpanogos – Frank Bramall, AD. Requested 4A football and 5A in everything else. Timpanogos houses the behavior disorder unit for the entire district and they don't participate. He feels it is a safety issue.

Orem – Mike Browning, principal. Requested 5A, if Utah County Schools are not moved down.