CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 17, 2012

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a study session and business meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 beginning at 5:00 at the Canyons Administration Building, 9150 S. 500 West, Sandy, UT 84070

1. CLOSED STUDY SESSION—5:00 pm

President Cowdell welcomed those in attendance and thanked the staff for taking the time to prepare the agenda for tonight. The agenda was amended and the closed session deleted for this evening. The Board first discussed the Cottonwood Heights CDA.

2. STUDY SESSION

Those present were:
Tracy Scott Cowdell, Board President
Kevin C. Cromar, Board Member
Kim Horiuchi, Board Member
Paul McCarty, Board Member
Mont L. Millerberg, Board Member
Sherril Taylor, Board Vice President
Steve Wrigley, Board Member
David S. Doty, J.D., Superintendent
Keith Bradford, J.D., Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel

A. Cottonwood Heights CDA Proposal

1. President Cowdell asked if any of the Board members had any concerns or questions regarding the proposed CDA. A vote will be taken on this proposal tonight.
2. Kevin Cromar
   - Asked for the total number of tax dollars lost over the life of the 20-year CDA. Keith Bradford responded that the estimate supplied by Cottonwood Heights showed that the tax revenue for Canyons School District without the CDA would be $210,000. With the CDA the amount of revenue to the District would be $121,000. If the project is developed without the CDA, there would be high-density housing. Additional students from these apartments would increase district costs not covered by the WPU-- estimated at $62,000 per year. If this is factored into the non-CDA, the revenue difference is about $26,000 per year over the 20 years. After the CDA ends, District revenue from the CDA project would be about $394,000 per year compared to a net from the non-CDA of $153,000.
   - Construction costs for the bridge across Wasatch Boulevard were requested. This information was not identified by Cottonwood Heights. The bridge is not included in the non-CDA project.
   - The taxpayers should get something for paying for this project out of a CDA. The only benefits for taxpayers are the bridge and weekend parking. These benefits are not compelling enough for the CDA.
   - At USBA, Mr. Cromar attended an excellent presentation by Burke Jolley discussing CDA's. Mr. Jolley has a strong bias against CDA's and RDA's and spent time discussing these programs.
   - Mr. Cromar considers CDAs and RDAs corporate welfare. One developer gets an exemption from property taxes to do a development whereas another business person doesn't. When an exemption is given, the tax burden is shifted to other businesses in the area.
   - He does not feel like weekend parking would benefit the citizens of Cottonwood Heights. Parking privileges should be available every day if they are paying for the parking.
   - Traffic is terrible without any additional development in that area. This impact has not been taken into consideration and developers should consider this.
   - Mr. Cromar has a problem supporting CDA's. He did vote for the Sandy CDA because of the huge benefit for the District. It was a good use of a CDA.
   - His other concern is that one of the developers is a strong proponent of equalization of property taxes to fund public education. He then asks for an exemption for his project.
   - Mr. Cromar cannot vote for this proposal.

3. Sherril Taylor will support the CDA. In his opinion, the non-CDA will harm the district.
4. Tracy Cowdell favors the proposal.
    - He believes with a CDA and RDA we are asked to forego increases in property taxes for a variety of reasons. Cities and counties make a compelling argument why we should participate in economic development. We will continue to collect the same amount of revenue that we currently receive.
    - With this proposal we are getting a 30% cash return back to the District. This is unique. This makes the proposal easier to support.
    - We make decisions based on economic reasons. We also make decisions based on relationships we have with sister entities. This is both. He is comfortable participating for both reasons. It is good to support what the other entities are trying to do. They have made several changes and adjustments to make it valuable to Canyons School District. He feels there is enough value in it that all of the other entities have agreed to participate.
    - Supporting this proposal will be an easy decision for President Cowdell. It is a good project and he hopes to see more redevelopment projects like this in the future.
5. Paul McCarty favors the proposal.
    - Appreciations our strong association with Cottonwood Heights. The mayor met with several Board members to discuss their concerns and suggestions. Cottonwood Heights has done a great job revising the proposal to address those concerns.
    - The 30% cash back is impressive.
    - When reviewing proposals, he asks if it will have a positive impact upon the children of the District. He believes this will have a strong benefit and the non-CDA will not have a positive impact.
6. Kim Horiuchi favors the proposal.
    - The bottom line is this is a good investment for the school district. There is a net-positive cash flow with the CDA. It is better with the CDA than without it.
    - There is some talk that the non-CDA proposal is a bluff and the developer won't put apartments on that property. If you look at the association the developer has with federal financing and their previous projects that have involved housing, she believes the non-CDA is a realistic possibility if they cannot secure the financing for the CDA. She does not believe the non-CDA will be as beneficial to the school district and the community. The community would sacrifice the public amenities.
    - The reason the apartments would not be as beneficial to the school district is we would receive 50% in property tax compared to 100% for business or commercial property.
    - The public amenities are good for the school district and the community. Public parking is needed at the mouth of the canyon. The bridge has also been added. School children could use the overpass to access the canyons for field trips. It will provide learning opportunities.
    - She likes how the CDA is structured and recognizes that the city has worked with the developer to revise the terms to benefit the school district. The original proposal was 75% over 25 years. When concerns were expressed over those terms, they revised them. They were not only trying to hold the District harmless but were trying to make it a good investment. She likes the structuring of the 30% as funding that is unencumbered. This will be beneficial.
    - We need to make an effort to be good partners. The city has made other investments with us in that area. They have taken the liability of the Mountview property. They are also investing in Butler Middle School.
    - Traffic issues are matters for a planning commission rather than a school board. We should be looking at the impact of the project on the school district.
    - Jordan School District has approved several CDA's that extend over 25 years since their formation. We need to look out for our own school district and weigh proposals on a case-by-case basis. This proposal makes sense.
7. Mont Millerberg favors the proposal.
    - He appreciates Mayor Cullimore and the City of Cottonwood Heights for their willingness to revisit the impact to the school district under the original proposal. They made some major concessions resulting is a positive cash flow to the District. We are virtually at a break even.
    - He feels strongly about the relationship between the District and the City of Cottonwood Heights. They have had some unanticipated things happen on the Mountview property that they fixed which has allowed the District to come out of that deal unharmed.

- After the last study session, Mr. Millerberg was approached by several gentlemen from the CH Voters and they asked if they could have 15 minutes to discuss this issue. He agreed to meet with them and gave them his phone number. They have not contacted him.
- He will be voting yes.

8. Steve Wrigley favors the proposal.
   - He could not have supported the original plan. He appreciates the work the City put in to make this proposal more beneficial to the District. He has not had any emails regarding this issue.
   - Mr. Wrigley asked if there was a way to put in a clause that if the legislature should cut out the 30% if it could automatically revert back to the 70%. Mr. Bradford explained that if the legislature made a change like that it would be for future agreements. They cannot make legislation that is retroactive.
   - This will not impact the Jordan/Canyons debt.
   - Although he is not fond of CDA's, he feels he can support this proposal.
9. Kevin Cromar asked what it would mean for the CDA and promised amenities if the owners sell this property,
   - Jason Burningham explained that the interlocal agreement is between the school district and the agent. Separate from that is a participation or development agreement with the developer. The participation agreement will stipulate that they will deliver this particular plan to receive the benefit of the tax increment. The agency would have to be satisfied that the new developer could perform the development plan in order to transfer the tax increment.
   - Mr. Cromar said the big amenity is the parking to diminish congestion in the two canyons. It does not seem unreasonable that parking be made available to the public every day of the week. If the public is going to pay for this project, they should get more than weekend parking.
10. President Cowdell said we will vote on this issue tonight. He will ask any patrons who wish to address the Board on this matter to do so right before the vote rather than during the public comments. The Utah Taxpayers Association may comment. Paul McCarty will make the motion.

B. Middle School Class Schedule

1. Dr. Doty gave some background information. We have had a Grade Reconfiguration Taskforce working on all of the issues related to moving ninth graders to high school and sixth graders to middle school in the 2013-2014 school year. In December, the Board approved the staffing timeline. Tonight the proposed academic schedule for the 6-8 middle schools will be presented. The main driver for these changes was the desire to have more core academic instruction in the sixth and seventh grades. This will allow us to have as many students as possible on a clear college-bound pathway that will allow them to successfully take rigorous college-prep coursework in high school. That entails restructuring how we teach, the amount of time we spend on certain subjects and the kinds of courses offered. Hollie Pettersson and Mike Sirois will present a plan that has been developed by a broad coalition of stakeholders including the CEA, teachers, administrators, and the HR Department. The Board was given a working draft of frequently asked questions for teachers. As Dr. Doty visits the elementary schools, there are a lot of questions from sixth grade teachers. We need to get them answers.
2. Mike Sirois said many people have been working the past year to define the direction for the middle schools. One of the first things the Board did was recognize the need for public input. Dan Jones was commissioned to survey our public to see what they thought the needs of the District are. The responses indicated the middle schools needed improvement. This included the need for more rigor and challenging courses for middle school students. Patrons also wanted middle school students to have more opportunities to select classes and activities. The Board commissioned the administration to improve the middle schools and part of that improvement included the reconfiguration. With the help of constituent groups including principals, teachers, CEA and members of the EBL staff, they set out on a journey to find the direction the District should go to improve the middle schools.
   - Four priorities were used to judge the models that were considered.
     - Create extended time in English/Language Arts and mathematics to prepare our students for success with the academic rigors of the college- and career-ready Common Core State Standards
     - Ensure scheduled intervention and enrichment time for students during the academic day.
     - Provide opportunities in the schedule for students to make choices about their elective courses.
     - Enable collaborative work groups for educators to support alignment of grade-level and content-area teams.
   - They started looking at models of high-performing schools across the nation. They developed a living document which was presented to principals and teachers. Numerous meetings were held to gather

input. They believe this model will not only meet the standards but will be recognized state-wide as the middle school standard.

3. Hollie Pettersson
   - Parents were questioned at various meetings to gather input to frame the next step. Most middle school parents have very specific choices they would like their students to make. They would like students to learn world languages as early as sixth grade. In the current middle school setting, students do not have that opportunity until eighth grade. Parents also want electives that give students experiences that they cannot get at home. The example was given that parents can provide music lessons for their child but they cannot provide a full-orchestra experience.
   - There were a lot of models that increased the time in English/Language Arts and mathematics. But few included that element and allowed students to have some choice in their day. It was hard to meet both of those priorities. This model does satisfy both of those priorities.
   - This model is a five-period modified schedule. Although it has some features that are similar to trimesters in our district it is not the same as those at Indian Hills and Brighton High School. It looks a little like an A/B Day which is a modified block.
   - Students will alternate day to day. Students will have math and English/Language Arts for 72 minutes every day. Forty minutes every-other day will be skills based. Placement will be determined using current student skill levels. A student who is a proficient reader will have the opportunity to do advanced research during that time period. Students who need skills-based reading will get the attention they need without taking away one of their electives.
   - Sixth grade students will have an additional reading class. Our current sixth graders have more time in ELA than our seventh and eighth graders and we wanted to bridge that gap. They will have a STEAM class that we are very excited about. This is a movement that is coming across the nation. We have an opportunity to be leaders in our state. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art and math. Students will have those topics integrated in a way that we think will help it make sense so they can take future classes in those areas at a higher level.
   - Dr. Doty added that there have been advocates in higher education and industry to increase STEM curriculum (science, technology, engineering, math). The idea of integrating art and design with these science and math-related topics is really gaining momentum. This will evolve in our district. It will be a new course for sixth graders that no one else in our state is doing. We will then be able to move it up to seventh and eighth grade and high schools. We hope it will engage students in science and math in more robust ways and get them more interested in the subject. It will also help us engage our business community and parents as we roll out a major fund-raising campaign for the district. There are a lot of people interested in art and employers who are interested in more science and technology from our graduates. It will help us with curriculum and it will help us raise money.
   - Dr. Pettersson stated this model uses a 12-week grading period. Sixth graders would have STEAM every other day for the whole year. Seventh and Eighth graders would have STEM. The State Office is helping us to develop this new class but they are hesitant to have an art teacher be highly qualified to teach science, technology, engineering and math. The "A" will become more of a compliment in electives in the seventh and eighth grades.
   - This differs from the Brighton model in that they don't have the alternating day to day option.
   - The STEAM class is seen as a great opportunity to engage kids. It will be thematically based and use world problems, for example, energy. Students will use those disciplines to solve problems. Business partners will be involved to support this business-level work. We don't want pretend projects. We want students to have classes that will provide the rigor to get them to where they want to go.
   - Keyboarding will be taught to every sixth grader and they will have four electives.
   - CTE Intro is required for seventh graders. They will still have the option to take two full-year courses or three 12-week courses.
4. Mike Sirois reviewed sample schedules for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students.
   - We can now offer sixth-grade students a full year of a foreign language and a full year of band at the same time. Currently our sixth grade students don't have either of those options.
   - Seventh- and eighth-grade students could also have a full year of band and a foreign language.
   - Students will have math and English every day all year. Students will attend those classes that are taught for a 12-week period every day for the entire period. This would be similar to a semester. The classes will be 72 minutes each. Equipment-heavy disciplines like band and science will have significantly more time with the students.

- Mont Millerberg expressed concern regarding our obesity problem. He does not feel that having PE for twelve weeks per year will effectively motivate students to have a healthy lifestyle. It would be better to have it all year. Students could choose more PE as an elective. The problem is if they need it, they probably don't want it.
- There would be three reporting periods for the year.
- Students could begin taking a foreign language in any grade. This model gives students more flexibility in elective offerings.
- Mr. Millerberg asked if PE could be taught in the A/B format. The response was the state requires us to offer certain courses for a certain amount of time. That requirement has been met in this model. If we add more time to PE, something else would have to give. Mr. Millerberg said that is why he thought an A/B format would work. You would still have the same number of instructional periods but it would be throughout the entire year.
- The schools will have the option to have an advisory period. Some schools will have clubs during the advisory period that would address healthy lifestyle needs. Sixth grade would not have any recess time.

5. Hollie Pettersson presented the roll-out plan
   - Indian Hills will try this schedule next year. Midvale Middle will use a modified schedule because they have specific requirements for IB. This will help them meet IB requirements better than and seven-period day does.
   - In 2013, all schools would use this schedule.
6. Board Questions
   - Kevin Cromar asked what this five-period day will do to classroom sizes. It is estimated to increase class size by two students. Mr. Sirois said he feels that will be a non-issue compared to what schools will get out of this model.
   - Mr. Wrigley asked if a decrease in science time would hamper student achievement. Mr. Sirois said in his experience, he feels the reason students do not score well in science is because of low math and English and reading skills. So, by giving students more time in math and English, the science scores will increase. The STEAM and STEM programs actually increase the amount of time students have in hands-on science classes. We're still aligned with the state requirements for Social Studies and Social Studies electives will be available.
   - Sixth grade keyboarding will be required and the seventh-grade Intro to CTE is required. Other CTE classes in the eighth grade will be electives. State approved electives will be offered for seventh and eighth graders. Ninth graders will no longer be in the middle school so the CTE classes geared to that grade will no longer be available.
   - When will the teachers have time to work in teams and plan? The Friday late-start will allow collaboration time. Teachers will also get 30 additional minutes each day for prep time. There was a discussion regarding Friday as the late-start day. This is a transportation issue. Mr. Sirois said initially he was afraid Friday late-starts would increase absenteeism but it has not.
   - Mr. Cromar said he is really excited about the STEAM piece. We could partner with companies located in the valley with this program.
   - Will we still have department chairs or will we have team leaders? That has not been discussed.
   - Dual-immersion issues also must be addressed. The state requires 50% of their day in the target language. This model will allow for that.
   - President Cowdell said the Board appreciates all of the hard work that has gone into this proposal. When the district was created, this was the kind of thinking and expectations we all had. This is one of the best ideas that has been presented. His only suggestion would be to include STEAM all three years.
   - Dr. Doty said the challenge we have right now is that the State Office will not let us teach science in seventh and eighth grade without a certified science teacher which makes the design of that course different. Dr. Doty agrees that he would also like to see that integrated all three years.
   - Hollie Pettersson said with the STEM and the STEAM, the State Office Curriculum has been wonderful to work with us. They are very excited and are encouraging us to take this idea forward. They have had brainstorming sessions with us. Diana Suddreth, the STEM Coordinator, has been phenomenal.
   - Sherril Taylor would like to see the Department Chair system maintained so teachers can hone their skills in their subject area. But, he also feels there should be team chairs to organize the team. It is important for teaching departments to maintain their identity.

- Dr. Doty mentioned we will continue our current intramurals activities and expand those if possible. Participation has gone up every year. About 20% of the students are participating at the school level. The kids participating in intramurals are already athletic students. We need to worry about the students who are not active. We have had a lot of participate who normally would not.
- Mr. Cromar asked if there will be a problem with students transferring during the middle of the year into this unique program. We'll have to figure out how to accommodate those students. We do that now. At the end of the year, we want them to be happy that they transferred because we gave them a better education.
- Dr. McCarty said he feels the most important priority is ensuring scheduled intervention and enrichment time for students during the academic day. This is where our success will hinge. Early intervention in elementary school has made a difference but this will be huge. He asked if the Board could see what the planned interventions are. He is glad that we are continuing the Professional Learning Community model. He also suggested that we apply for a waiver on the STEAM class by having a licensed science teacher as the team leader training other teachers for that certification. A teacher can teach gifted and talented and ESL if that teacher has submitted to start getting that endorsement in so many years.
- Dr. Pettersson said these are all things we need to explore as we plan for the future. Today she and Mike Sirois are the spokespeople for this model but she acknowledged that Tamra Baker, Kathryn McCarrie, Ginger Rhode, Amber Roderick-Landward, Karen Sterling, Bob Dowdle, Darren Draper, and Janet Goble have all been part of this process.
- President Cowdell asked about online options for younger students. Some students could take classes online and have more options at middle schools for electives. He also asked if there has been any discussion on expanding the school year. Mr. Sirois said this model was chosen under the constraints that there were no additional funds to expand the school year. This fits into the current timeframe but it doesn't preclude that. Dr. Doty said this question has come up several times in faculty meetings. Although he would personally love to have an extended year, we have two big barriers to doing that district wide. First, it will be two to four years before all of our schools are air conditioned. The second is resources. Last year we were cutting days to balance our budget. We would need additional resources to pay teachers on a longer contract. The more time we get on core academics the better off we will be. Successful charter schools around the country have a longer school day and a longer school year.
- President Cowdell said we are pushing students to have more time in science and math with our differentiated diplomas. We should have more classes online so students can take classes for credit so it gives students more time during the day for enrichment classes. Dr. Doty said we are going to look at offering classes during the summer in our Virtual High School. We need to look at hybrid models at the middle school. There are students in that age group who would benefit from that type of model.
- Dr. Pettersson said in the current trimester at Brighton High School, students don't have this many options. We're going to have to explore some online components where we have blended learning.
- Mr. Cromar said the legislature is making a big shift in how they are going to fund education. They are looking at targeting money for different types of programs. We should have a proposal to go to the legislature this session to get funding.

C. Long-Range Capital Facility Plan

1. Keith Bradford
   - Board identified priorities are: Health and Safety (seismic issues and schools without cooling) and Academic Needs (college-and career-ready and state-of –the-art science and math.)
   - Currently, we have twelve projects. Some were paid with the $250 million bond and some will use capital dollars to complete. Albion Middle and Midvale Elementary will be completed in August 2012. The high school will be completed in August 2013. These projects are on schedule. Butler Middle is using capital outlay funds. Sandy Elementary has been completed.
   - In 2010, MHTN did a capital facilities needs assessment which showed the need for $642 million. $233 million renovation needs are mitigated with current bond and capital. Remaining facilities assessment needs are $409 million.
   - Long-Term Facility Plan for 10-15 years. This would be a comprehensive maintenance and capital plan and would include all district facilities (school and non-school). Salt Lake School District followed a 15-year plan and just completed their last seismic upgrade. We have been focused on the right-now needs. We need to prioritize our needs and put a plan in place to make sure we systematically deal with

them. We need to be very careful with the money we have. Funding sources would include bond funds and on-going capital outlay.

- There are seven buildings with significant seismic issues that are not included in the current bond.
- There is a plan in place to address all of the non-air conditioned building issues.
- Hillcrest and Brighton are aging high schools that need work. We have two options for these schools—renovation or a phase 1 or planned replacement as we prepare for the grade reconfiguration.
- The needs of individual high schools were reviewed. CTEC, an alternative high school, an early college high school, adult high school, Trax accessibility and possible conversion of existing middle schools were considered.
- Union Middle School was discussed. Renovation would be approximately $36 million. The replacement cost is $32 million. It has seismic issues. If we are going to renovate instead of rebuild we should be putting in air conditioning instead of evaporative coolers. If we reused the architectural design from Butler Middle School, there could be a cost savings for Union.
- Elementary Schools not in the current bond are Edgemont, Midvalley and Peruvian Park. These have seismic issues and are not air conditioned.
- After the Board approves a long-range plan, we can look at when we can go out for another bond. The first bond did not have a tax increase but the next bond will.
- Non-school issues included seismic issues at the 300 East Building and Transportation Building. As we develop the Mt. Jordan site, should we be looking at relocating Transportation and the Warehouse? We have been informally exploring some options.
- The current bond includes the rebuild of a White City Elementary (Alta View or Edgemont—both about 50 years old). The Board needs to identify which school will be rebuilt. We don't want to spend upgrading funds on a building that will be torn down. The rebuild of either of these schools would be smaller than the current size. Choice programs have been put in these buildings to bolster enrollment. The new boundaries have made the boundary of Alta View much larger.
- If we could have master planned our district before homes were built, our schools would be in different locations. We are seeing enrollment growth at most of our schools. People are coming back. Ridgecrest and Lone Peak are both up 100 kids. If we put the right programs in these schools we can keep them viable. Fee-based all-day Kindergarten could be a possibility for one of these schools.
- Hillcrest High School—we need to decide if it will be a phased replacement or additional classrooms will be added to the current building.
    - When the Jordan High School rebuild was under consideration, a committee was formed with alumni and district staff to study the feasibility of it. The committee recommended a rebuild. It was easier for everyone to support the rebuild after the committee endorsed it. We should probably follow the same model with Hillcrest. Alumni could also be used to raise private funds to upgrade the school. This was done at Ogden High.
    - Mr. Bradford believes the directive of the Board is to do what needs to be done on Hillcrest to handle the grade reconfiguration and take more time to decide its future. Mr. Millerberg said he hates to have the current footprint of the building dictate the future footprint. There is too much at stake. Building classrooms on the east side of the shop hall is one of the least expensive ways to provide the needed facilities. It would be great to have feedback from people we trust and respect regarding a rebuild. The goal is to educate the kids in the best way possible.
- Brighton High School.
    - We have had a lot of pressure from the community to build an athletic building by the football field. They wanted this from the bond.
    - Mrs. Horiuchi liked the proposal from last week. There are several options that would work. It will provide more space to accommodate grade reconfiguration. It will fit perfectly with a phase 1 of the building if that is the decision of this Board or a future Board. We don't know when these decisions will be made. We need to allow flexibility and not lock in future boards.
    - Dr. Doty agrees with Mr. Millerberg that we preserve more flexibility with Hillcrest by working with the existing building. The Brighton site is landlocked and we would have more flexibility doing a stand-alone building. Tonight we need some guidance as to whether or not you want to proceed with the design of a stand-alone building to accommodate grade reconfiguration. If so, the next step is to have some meetings with the architects and with the School Community Council to discuss the placement of the building.

- Mr. Millerberg would like the building administration and community council involved in making decisions about Hillcrest.
- Mr. Cromar said the VCBO presentation including the three-story building fits nicely with a future Brighton rebuild. The second floor of that building provides classrooms for the grade reconfiguration. Community meetings should be held and the project begin as soon as possible.

- Mt. Jordan Site
  - Relocation of Transportation. The bus barn is not meeting our current needs. This land is a combination commercial/residential area and could be better used. Dr. Doty asked permission to present specific options for relocating this facility. He would like it moved before the 2012-2013 school year. President Cowdell said now is a good time to buy property and asked the administration to bring recommendations to the Board. Dr. Doty said we own a large parcel to the south of the Canyons Administration Building that could be a potential replacement site for the warehouse. We would like to move ahead with this project so we can plan for that transition.
  - Dr. McCarty mentioned the Sandy CDA included a master plan of the Mt. Jordan property and asked if that had been completed. Dr. Doty responded that Sandy has presented some concepts but they are waiting for the District to make decisions. Once the Board makes decisions about relocating these buildings more formal discussions will be possible.
  - There are more than 60 acres in this area on both sides of the street. We can do so much with this property.
- CTEC—The site on 9400 S. and 900 E. is adequate but it is not exemplary. It may not suit our needs as we look at ways to upgrade and modernize our CTE programs. The Jordan District has notified Itineris that they will no longer have that program. Jordan District will ask Itineris to vacate the building that is on the Salt Lake Community College property so they can expand their CTE programs to duplicate things our district is doing. We want our Applied Technology Center to be competitive in terms of programs and facilities. We would need a facility if we want to charter our own early college high school. It would make sense to do something with these specialized programs on the Mt. Jordan property where we have a Trax stop. If we could get CTEC near a Trax stop, it might open possibilities for programs and enrollment.
- Schools to rebuild in the future.
  - Union Middle School—central air has failed in this building several times. Evaporative equipment will probably be more efficient.
  - Edgemont and Midvalley are on huge pieces of property. It would be easy to rebuild those schools behind or adjacent to the existing school and not have to relocate those kids.

D. Adjourn

1. President Cowdell said this is one of the most productive study sessions the Board has had. The closed session that was scheduled will be held at the February 7 meeting.

2. <u>Business Meeting Opening 7:40 pm</u>

A. Welcome

- President Cowdell began the meeting by saying: Welcome to Canyons Board of Education Business Meeting tonight. We've been meeting in a study session for the last several hours and it has been one of the most productive study sessions that the Board of Education has had in recent memory. I would like to thank the Board and the administration for providing an agenda and a dialogue that was very productive. Tonight we appreciate those of you who have taken time to be with us here in the Canyons Board of Education Meeting. It means a lot to us that you would come. We know that you have other commitments and your lives are busy and we appreciate it when people come and take time out of their lives to not only come and visit Board Meeting but to address the Board of Education. This evening we will begin by approving the agenda as presented.

B. Approve Agenda for January 17, 2012

<u>MOTION:</u> Sherril Taylor moved to approve the January 17, 2012 Agenda as presented. Dr. Paul McCarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Flag Ceremony—Troops 3757 and 3806 from Edgemont Elementary

D. Reverence—Sally Bouck, ESP Employee, Edgemont Elementary

E. Patron Comments

1. President Cowdell said; What I thought we might do tonight is everybody but one person signed up to discuss the CDA. I think what we will do is we will take comment on that right before we vote. And that would give you a chance to address the Board right before we take up that matter. And, then, we are planning on voting on it tonight so everybody who does address the Board will have an opportunity to see what the outcome of that decision is this evening. The only other person who signed up to speak under Board comments is Heather Lambert and she signed up to speak about Crescent View Middle. If you would like to come forward Heather and sit on the front row, that would be great. The rules of our public comment are pretty simple. We encourage people to come and to address the Board on matters that are important to them and it doesn't necessarily even have to be something on the agenda. We typically don't give feedback to people when they are here offering public comment unless the matter is on the agenda for formal consideration. So tonight, although there will be those who comment on the CDA we will discuss that a little bit later in the meeting. We don't take public comment on individuals or on particular students. We don't take comment on our faculty if you have to take up issues with the faculty or students we'd ask that you would do that with the principal or with our superintendent. We also don't allow clapping, yelling, cheering when others are speaking because political speech is very important to the Board and we want to make sure that everybody gets an opportunity to share their feelings with the Board so we do not allow cheering or booing one way or the other just to insure there is an environment where people are comfortable sharing their political speech with the Board. Having said that, if you signed up to speak for an individual you will have two minutes to address the Board. If you signed up to speak for a group, you will have three. We time everybody to make sure that everybody gets an opportunity to be heard by the Board. So, when the buzzer goes off, if you would please, end your sentence and give the next person an opportunity to speak. If not, I hate to sit people down. I do it almost every week and I don't like it. So, if the buzzer goes off if you'd please just end your sentence and sit down. That would be appreciated.
2. Heather Lambert said: Thank you. Like Tracy said, my name is Heather Lambert and I am the PTSA President at Crescent View Middle School. We as a PTSA Board just want to thank you. We appreciate the approval of the installation of air conditioning in our school. We are very excited about that. I know that has been a topic for quite a few years and we really, really appreciate it. We discussed it at our last PTA Board Meeting and we wrote some cards for you to let you know how much we appreciate it. It will make a much more pleasant experience for, of course, the students as well as the staff. Thank you.
3. President Cowdell said: We will take up the balance of the comments right before the CDA. Was there anybody wishing to address the Board who did not sign up who wants to discuss something other than the CDA?

5. <u>Recognitions—Jennifer Toomer-Cook</u>

A. Jennifer Toomer-Cook said: Thank you, President Cowdell and the Board of Education. Each month we have the opportunity to honor our students and our employees in Canyons School District for the excellent work that they do and the excellent achievements that they have that bring recognition not only to the wonderful things that they are doing but to our district as a whole. We kind of have a Hall of Fame of sorts for students and for employees. Tonight we will be honoring two employees for our Canyons Employee Achieve kind of hall of fame. So, if you will indulge me, please. Keith Bradford, our CFO and our Director of Accounting, and Leon Wilcox if you would join me over here. While they are coming up, the work of these two men was recognized by two international groups. They received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada as well as the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials International. Let's give them a hand for their work. We wanted to present to them two plaques that they have received. This one is from the Government Finance Officers Association and this one from ASBO for their work. We will get a picture. Basically, these two awards acknowledge their commitment to excellence in the public presentation of the budget for the current fiscal year as well as their work to uphold the highest standards in governmental budgeting. Let's give these guys a hand. That concludes the presentations.

B. President Cowdell said in behalf of the Board and we've all emailed these gentlemen and told them how much we appreciate them. But, we are so grateful for their hard work on the budget especially in these difficult economic times. They have just been fantastic. They have given us great advice. We just thank you so very much for all of your hard work.

C. Mont Millerberg said: I think you sometimes look at budgeting and I don't think they are going to make a TV series out of you and your budget work—Canyons CPA or something. I think that is really, really to most people something that is exceedingly boring. I exceedingly appreciate the work that goes into that and I appreciate so much the work that you and Leon have done and the people that are supporting you. For a new district to come

up with that kind of an award to me is exciting even though budgeting is not that exciting. It is exciting to see that quality of work happen. Thank you.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes from January 3, 2012 Board Meeting
B. Approval of Student Overnight Travel
C. Approval of December Financial Reports
D. Approval of December Hires and Terminations
E. Approval of Home School Affidavit

MOTION: Steve Wrigley moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 6A-E as presented. Kim Horiuchi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Community Engagement

A. Corner Canyon High School Colors and Mascot Selection (Action Requested)

- President Cowdell said: This is an item that has had a lot of discussion. We have taken a lot of time to talk about Item 7A which is the Corner Canyon High School Colors and Mascot. We have decided on the name of the school which is Corner Canyon High and now it is time to decide the final name. We've had a vote. We've had all of kinds of emails and letters and telephone calls. We have received all kinds of feedback. I wonder if a member of the Board is willing to make a motion that we can debate.

MOTION: Sherril Taylor motioned that we accept the colors that were outlined by the committee and decided on by the Board and I'd also like to vote on the name Chargers as the mascot for the high school. As you all know, a Charger is a big strong steed, a big strong horse. It would make an excellent mascot for the high school. It would be something that they could work to and it would be a very wonderful thing for the school to have Chargers as their mascot. That would eliminate in my mind any of this controversy that has been going on. It would open this new school without a lot of controversy and would be very good for the community. Paul McCarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

- Dr. Paul McCarty spoke in favor of the motion. Not only historically but throughout the ages the Charger has been a great "war horse." I think it is appropriate and it just kind of rolls off the tongue along with Corner Canyon Chargers.
- Kevin Cromar said: Representing part of the north end of the district, I would like to support the motion. I like the alliteration. It has appeal to have Corner Canyon Chargers. Chargers I like because a number of people voted for that and I think it is something that will unify the community. We don't want to have a name that brings divisiveness and I think this name will unify that community in a good way.
- Steve Wrigley said: From what I understand, there's not many Chargers in the state. One of the questions we were trying to get out is a school that doesn't have two or three other schools in this state. I don't think there are any. I know we sent this out for a vote and second on the list was Diamondbacks but that is a snake and thinking about it a little more there was concern about the reference of a school to a snake too. Mr. Taylor said: From a principal's point of view too, you always run the risk of students bringing a bag full of snakes to an assembly or to a game. Do we really want to encourage something like that? That is something you really need to think about. If they have a Charger and they would like to get permission from the principal to bring it. Steve Wrigley said: I think Falcons was another one that scored pretty high on that. But, I believe there are other schools that have the Falcon name so this would be a very unique name for a unique school in Draper. I support that.
- Dr. McCarty said: Mr. President, I would like to add too that in the heritage of Draper we have the Corner Canyon Equestrian Park. The horse has always been a very prominent animal in Draper, historically. I think it is very appropriate. You may see some students trying to bring their Chargers to school.

- After the vote, President Cowdell said: Mary, if you would take all the appropriate steps you need to take for your high school to be named the Chargers and Sherril, I wonder if you might let the High School Activities Association know so they can make preparations for us in the upcoming seasons as well. Thank you very much.

B. Cottonwood Heights CDA (Action Requested)

1. President Cowdell said: The next item on the agenda, ironically enough, isn't as controversial as the name of the high school in Draper. It is the Cottonwood Heights CDA. This is an item that we have discussed in previous Board meetings. We have had a lot of written information. We've had presentations on it and tonight is a night to get some feedback on it and then after we get some feedback from the public, I'll ask a member of the Board to make a motion so we can debate that motion. I'll call you up in the order that you signed up today.

2 Patron Comments

- William Carvill said: I'll stick with the theme of the evening which is brevity. I represent the CH Voters Inc. We think the project plan for the Canyons Center at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon will be a welcome addition to the City of Cottonwood Heights. It is a very desirable property and the planned development will take care of the empty sight. We do, however, object to the use of tax increment by the City of Cottonwood Heights to fund it. In a recent editorial in the Salt Lake Tribune, January 15, 2012, it was pointed out that the effectiveness of Utah education continues to sink now to eighth worst in the nation. Utah received a D+ in school finances. Utah ranks 26th in the nation for the amount of tax revenue public education receives for every $1,000 in personal income in 2009. Our schools are struggling. They are struggling now and the promise of money in twenty years is no help to the current generation of students. The California State Supreme Court recently ruled to uphold an act passed by the assembly to terminate all RDAs and CDAs (Los Angeles Times, December 29, 2011.) The uncontrolled use of these financial implements was robbing local governments of the ability to provide basic services. In one case, Santa Clara County schools will gain $150 million annually due to the termination of CDAs and RDAs. We do not want to see Utah get to that condition. We think it is sad that our students are being robbed of a decent education while desperately needed money is going to finance private development. It is one thing to create an RDA for the encouragement of development on undesirable property. It is another to use public funding for properties that will be developed anyway. We want you, our school board, to stop funding CDAs. If not, we plan on reminding voters that future money was taken away from our children and given to developers. Thank you. President Cowdell said: Thank you for providing it in writing. That is always helpful for us.
- Mark Machlis said: The Canyons Center CDA is being sold on some erroneous facts. First fact is that it must be approved or the developer will build an inferior product worth less in tax value and not provide any public benefit. This is prime land—one of the best in the state. It will be built to the highest and best use. That is the market place. The money that comes through the CDA we have been told isn't going to be bonded so that $14 million and your share of the seven or whatever number that might end up being is going to come through the tax increment. There is money to build the development. This is simply just gravy for the developer. I just wonder if any of the Board members has actually asked Chris and Wayne to do the right thing for the kids—forego the CDA and build this out with 100% payment of taxes. Then the CDA financially doesn't quite look as good. If we make the assumption that we have to do this, they have created a financially good deal for the district but the numbers have been tweaked over and over and over again to get there. The final tweak was to try to go around Truth in Taxation and bump from 70% to 100% and then guarantee back to the school district 30% avoiding Truth in Taxation. The CDA will simply create a precedent for future CDAs to look just like this one and rob, just as has been said, more tax dollars. Finally, the erroneous part is the public input we were offered on March 15, we were denied that. You've never heard the second side of the story.
- Richard Schults said: Having watched two of these meetings the one that was in March and this one, it is obvious that your involvement on this Board speaks to your strong

sense of duty to the public and especially to the children of our community. This responsibility cannot be fulfilled if you are willing to mortgage their future for the sake of helping developers now and in the future who by the terms of the CDA obviously don't need it and don't deserve your help. If you feel that financing this project should be with public funds, then go back and ask the city to do this properly through a bond which the public whose money this is has an opportunity to pass judgment on it. You are obviously judging the CDA on the original presentation which has been changed a number of times—witness the parking situation. Thus, you are voting on a moving target. Which, given the fact that you don't really know who you will be dealing with in the future. Thank you for doing the right thing and voting this down for the sake of our kids' future.

- Alona Holm said: I am talking for myself. I live next to the property and it is a prime property. It's been developed before and it was wonderful in the community and it can be again. However, I object to the CDA for using the public funds which would be our children's' to fund it. I totally am against it. So many people are against it. We did not get the information in time to get here. You probably tried to get it out to us. Direct your attention to your beautiful little sign right behind you—Community Engagement. All of you take a look at it, please. OK. You know what it says. We have not had that opportunity. On March 15, we were promised that time. We've not received our time to do this. This is not fair. We have a lot of input. We have a lot of information. Please allow us to share that with you and do the right thing. Please don't vote on this tonight. Give us the opportunity to have a study session with you and present our opportunity. We have tons of information and charts and figures. We've done a lot of work on this. Please do this. I thank you for your time.
- JoAnn Merrill said: Hi, I live by the property too and I hate to see public funds taken away especially for our children's education. My husband's company, he works for a law firm that does all the bonding and funding for the charter schools. My grandkids went from public to charter schools because they get better teachers that I've noticed from experience from the grandkids. To see Utah public education being rated down and taking more money away for that, I think this is very sad that this is happening. I think you really need to sit down with the group and discuss this further. No emails were answered or anything. I think a little more research needs to be done on this. Thank you.
- Royce Van Tassell said: Good evening, my name is Royce Van Tassell, Vice President for the Utah Taxpayers Association. Appreciate the opportunity to be here. I think it is well known the Taxpayers Association often has concerns with CDAs and RDAs—various flavors of RDAs that take money out of the public schools and put them toward projects where the economic activity would have occurred whether or not the project goes forward. That, unfortunately, is the real problem here. If the project is done much like the Cottonwood Mall project was originally envisioned, it will be beautiful. I have no doubt about that. And there is no question that there are parking needs that the canyons need to address; however, it is also irrelevant to this particular project. We have many, many times been told on a variety of projects that there is no possible way to do it except this one. And yet, low and behold, when elected officials or the public stand up and say no we need to find a better way. The dollars that go into the education of our students need to be the first priority. Low and behold, solutions are found. Let me give you just one example. A couple of years ago the Oquirrh Mountain Recreation District said we need a bond in order to build this pool. And, if it is not passed right now we can't make it happen. The voters spoke and rejected that. Six months later they had a solution that didn't require any further outlay of dollars to provide the same pool facilities. It may not have been as nice as they had hoped but the taxpayers said no we're not willing to bond for it, find another way. And they did. That is the reality here. This is, as it has been pointed out, prime real estate. The economic activities that you will concentrate on this specific spot of land will happen whether or not you take money out of the classroom, out of the education of the children in the Canyons School District and put them in this project. They may not happen at that spot but they will happen. You are merely

cannibalizing economic activity that will happen whether or not this goes forward. For that reason, we urge you to vote this down. Thank you.

- Claire Giddes said: My name is Claire Giddes. I've worked against RDAs for many, many years. I had a group called Utah Legislative Watch and I have been very active in this area. I've also been up at the legislature lobbying on behalf of schools and teachers and funding. And, believe me; we face horrible odds up there in trying to increase funding. It makes me sick to see it thrown away at the district level. What you are doing if you do this is you are robbing from children. There is only one thing worse that you can do and that is mug old ladies. They are defenseless. They need the money. The numbers you have been given are nothing more than pie in the sky. These are estimates. No one knows where they are going and they are given to you by a group of people who are trying to get money out of you. Believe me they are pretty creative when they want your dollars. This is a sin to do this—to take the money out. Those of us who go up and support education; you don't know how discouraging this is. To sit there and watch hundreds of thousands of dollars sometimes and millions being handed out like they are candy. I fought the RDA down in Lehi, the Micron. They were going to give them $125 million and the paperwork they had that on changed three times. It went from 30, 60 to 90 million without even changing the paperwork. That is how frivolous it is. It ended up falling through, thank goodness, before it went forward. But, it is the school children that are being hurt here. You are taking money that was designated for them and it is so hard to get money for them. In good conscious you shouldn't be able to do this. I urge you, strongly urge you, don't do this. Don't steal from children to give to developers. Developers have money. They don't need our children's money. Thank you.
- President Cowdell asked if there was anyone else who would like to address the Board on this issue who didn't sign up. Hearing none, we will close the public comment portion of the meeting. The next item is to make a decision on this matter. Is there anyone willing to make a motion for us to debate?

MOTION: Dr. Paul McCarty motioned that the Board approve the Cottonwood Heights CDA. Mont Millerberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Kevin Cromar, no; Kim Horiuchi, yes; Paul McCarty, yes; Mont Millerberg, yes; Sherril Taylor, yes; Steve Wrigley, yes; Tracy Cowdell, yes. The motion passed 6-1.

- Kevin Cromar said: I know I have addressed a lot of these comments in the study session but we are now in a business meeting and I need to speak why I'll be voting against this motion for the public record. I want to make it very clear to the Board; I've actually had in the last couple of months no communication with the groups that have spoken to us. I've made these conclusions at the presentation they made some months ago and then other comments. As I mentioned to the Board over the weekend Burke Jolley, the business administrator for Jordan School District, presented a presentation on finance to the all the USBA members. And a good part of his presentation he spoke against the use of CDAs and RDAs. Now, whether or not his board listens to him or not, that is another matter. Whether or not they have chosen to do RDAs and CDAs that's another matter. But, I thought Burke Jolley gave some very compelling statements of why school boards should not enter into these agreements. I am very concerned. I served in the legislature years ago on a committee where we reviewed the abuses of RDAs with Frank and Ute Knowlton; both of those men have now passed away. But, the arguments haven't changed from that time. Now we have expanded that power with CDAs and I believe there is quite a bit of abuse state wide. What is interesting to me is as soon as the legislature made changes in this law we had several senators as developers go out and use this instrument. Notoriously, Senator Bramble made a large presentation to Alpine School District who turned it down. We now have Draper who has approached us with a seven-year CDA. We've had a Sandy CDA. This is the third CDA the Board is looking at approving. My guess is this will not be the last Cottonwood Heights CDA that comes to us. We have the gravel and sandpit in the next 15 years and development there. I'm pretty sure we will be approached on entering in that CDA. By principle I oppose

RDAs and CDAs. I did vote for the Sandy CDA because I felt there was great benefit that the school district will be out of that particular negotiated CDA as far as the Mt. Jordan campus but I voted against the Draper CDA even though that was limited to seven years. This one is twenty years. I have a real problem when one of the developers of this project has been most vocal at the legislature saying that education should be funded by property tax yet he is the one coming to us and asking for a tax break in property taxes for twenty years. That really bothers me, especially when he has been so vocal up at the hill that education should be funded using property tax. I really see no benefit of this project to the City of Cottonwood Heights. The use of parking will certainly will not be used by our citizens. They have now added a bridge across. I don't know the value of that to the community. I just don't see any benefit that the City of Cottonwood Heights is getting from this development at all. I see a lot of problems. There is a very serious seismic center. That is where they are proposing to put a park and this is a fissure. That is why the previous owner didn't go ahead with a seven-story hotel. The previous owner Kevin Gates, I can't remember his name, sold it to the current developers. Now, some Board members said they can see students using that property for field trips or whatever. I just don't see how that park in the center of a hotel district will be really utilized by any serious application that way. I appreciate the fact that there has been efforts made to reduce the impact on the District, amending it from 25 years to twenty. Amending it from 25% up to 30% the school district would get. I appreciate that effort. I'd like to address the issue of partnering with the city. I have been a good partner as a Board member with the city. I voted for the Mountview property. We're leasing that land to them for $1 per year. The city is getting a pretty good deal from the school district it is not just one way. We're getting some benefit from the city but certainly it is not all one sided. We're leasing a very valuable piece of property for $1 a year to the city to be used for the whole community and I really support that project. I also supported the rebuild of Butler Middle School and I appreciate the fact the city will be contributing at least to the auditorium part of that project and I do appreciate that. I agree that we should partner when it is right. I personally feel, and I know other Board members differ with me, I do not feel this particular type of partnering is right. From a standpoint as a citizen of this area that will be directly impacted by this project, the traffic that will be generated by this project really, really concerns me. Just with the current development there it is always a very serious situation. I've been almost been involved several times with accidents just with people turning into Seven-Eleven. I'm concerned about the economic viability of the proposed project. The proposed project, I just don't see upscale people wanting to stay at that hotel when they could be downtown Salt Lake or up at Snowbird or Deer Valley. There is just not a lot of activity going on in that particular area at night unless they go to the Porcupine or whatever. During the summer months, I'm also concerned the office space and the hotel what that really means—what type of clientele. I have concerns if the owners sell this property what will that mean. I have a lot of questions. Generally speaking, I'm voting against it because I'm against CDAs and RDAs in general.

- Kim Horiuchi said: I expressed my opinion quite a bit in study session but I will repeat some of it too. First of all, I would like to agree with the groups that I think that without a doubt, yes, this property will be developed one way or the other by the developer. My concern is their Option B which calls for apartments. There's no doubt in my mind that they will pursue that option. They have applied for HUD housing,. They have connections with federal housing. Some of their other developments include housing. And if you just look at it from the perspective of the school district and the bottom line to the school district, the proposal without apartments is a much better option for us. The developer said in our last meeting that their apartment proposal calls for five apartment buildings with 24 apartments apiece—120 total apartments. That should be a concern financially to us because, as we all know, the school district receives only 50% of property tax from housing units compared to 100% property tax return on commercial or business property. I remain convinced that this is the much better investment for the school district. The school district will receive higher cash flow with the CDA than without it and that should really be the bottom line to the school district. You know we can talk about traffic mitigation and all of these other things

but that is really outside our purview. That is the responsibility of a planning commission not the school board and our responsibility as was said tonight is to the school children and this is a good investment. We need to maximize our dollars. Also, I really do appreciate the way that it has been structured with the return to the school district of the 30% which really should be unencumbered funding anyway. It is money that we will be able to utilize. So, with that I support the motion that has been presented.

- President Tracy Cowdell said: My take on it is this. Where are all you people when we are talking about Truth in Taxation or going out for a bond? Everybody here is so worried about the money for the children yet I don't recall seeing one person who has spoken here tonight to speak in favor of our bond or one person who spoke in here tonight during a Truth in Taxation issue. I guess it is all about the children when we are talking about a CDA but any other time it isn't. I don't recall anybody here ever being here talking about one mention of our academic plan which has a lot more to do with the students in our community generally than one small project and one small CDA. That includes the Utah Taxpayers Association. I would think they would be interested in our academic plan given that they are the future employees of Utah Taxpayer members yet there has been no discussion about that, no comment on that this evening—just a very narrow focus on one issue when we don't see any of you people any other time and you come out on a very narrow issue and you complain that we don't care about the children. You complain that we haven't carefully considered it and yet you are never here when we are talking about all these other issues and frankly, it is a little insulting to come in here and accuse us of not thinking about the children and not thinking about the economics when that is all that we do every single day. And for you to accuse us of it is incredibly insulting, quite frankly. No, I'm not going to call on you. There has been plenty of opportunity to discuss this with us. Nobody called me. Nobody emailed me. Mont had offered to meet with people and nobody met with him. There has been plenty of opportunity for dialogue. The dialogue is over. I'm going to call for a vote unless there is any further discussion.
- President Cromar ruled the motioned passed 6-1. We'll instruct our administration to effectuate the outcome of that vote as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

8. Staff Reports

A. Superintendent Report

- Superintendent Doty said: Just really quickly, well, every week I'll continue to report to you on the faculty meetings that I am holding out in the schools. It is my intent to get out to all 45 schools. I've been to about eight or ten I think so far. I have a couple more scheduled this week. I just want to report that those are going really well. I want to thank all of you for your interest in this Middle School Academic Plan. I think us being able to move forward in giving our teachers some information about that will be really helpful. I guess the one thing that I wanted to highlight for you, and it is something that I put in your Board Briefing today, is that we are seeing some pretty astounding enrollment growth this year at some schools where you wouldn't expect it. I hate to single out any of our schools because I think they are all doing a great job but I do want to, just for purposes of making the illustration, highlight Oakdale Elementary where Alice Peck is our principal, Lone Peak Elementary where McKay Robinson in our principal and Ridgecrest Elementary where Teri Mattson is our principal. Now, of course, at Lone Peak we are already jam-packed there and we have a lot of kids there but even so we have a number of kids in that Pepperwood and east Draper community who go to Waterford, who go to charter schools, who go to other places and those kids are starting to come back. I met with McKay Robinson last week and he told me a lot of those parents coming back are simply happy with what is going on at Lone Peak. Same thing going on at Oakdale. I don't know if you remember this but a couple of years ago when we had the vacancy at Oakdale and held a parent meeting up there to discuss what people wanted in the new principal. One of the things that people were really adamant about was getting somebody in there who could really engage the community and really unite it frankly. I'll always remember there was a parent of a Kindergartener there who said that her child was one of only ten on her street or in her neighborhood that went to Oakdale. All the rest of them went to different schools –were

permitting out to different schools. Many to Brookwood and some other schools. Which, again, still in our district most of them. But, fleeing from that neighborhood school for a variety of reasons. I asked Alice Peck when I was out there last week if she had been able to stem that and she said yes, almost all of it. They have hardly any kids permitting out of Oakdale now. Teri Mattson at Ridgecrest told me that they are up 100 students. They have gone from 460 kids to over 560 in one year and only a small portion of that is coming from an added grade in the Chinese Immersion Program there. That is a program where we have lost students due to SALTA and that is partly why we are pulling it out to consolidate and we've had some other enrollment decline in the neighborhood. We're seeing some great growth. I guess, I just want to compliment not just our teachers but these principals. It kind of struck me that in all three of these schools, we have new principals. These are principals who have been hired since we started as a new district and I think they reflect very well my priorities, our priorities as a Board to engage the public, to innovate, to reach out to people to make these schools positive, exiting places where parents want to be and have their children. And, it is starting to show some results. I'm just really thrilled with what is going on. If we are seeing that kind of return back to schools that at least over the past few years for example in the case of Ridgecrest and Oakdale have had some pretty serious challenges with declining enrollment, I think that bodes really well for schools across the district where we don't have that problem even to begin with. I'm just thrilled with the kind of people that we're hiring. I'm thrilled with the jobs that they are doing. All three of these principals were just very energized by their jobs and by the support they are getting from the district. I'm just thrilled. I will say that growth presents some funding dilemmas for us. As you might recall, last year when the legislature tried to fund growth, they did it in a way that really penalized us. I've asked Charlie to pay close attention to that issue this year. He and I and Keith, all of us will be paying close attention to that. When we met with our legislators last week, I specifically made a point of this very issue and encouraged them, as they look at funding growth in districts where it really is occurring at rapid rates like Jordan and Alpine and Davis and so forth, that they do it in such a way that it doesn't penalize other districts. The bottom line is, if growth isn't funded, that's in essence a cut to us. That is going to be a real priority I know with USBA, with the Superintendent's Association and with our own efforts in our district this year is to hopefully with the increased revenue picture—the more positive revenue picture—we'll be able to capture some of that for our district. But I think the bottom line is it is a very positive story and we're making some real headway. So, that is my report, thanks.

B. Chief Financial Officer Report--None

9. Board Reports

A. President Cowdell said: There are probably some of you who want to report on USBA. I wonder if we should just put that on the agenda for next time. We don't want to lose out on what was discussed and there might be things we want to study. If you want to report on USBA that would be great but I just wanted to let you know that we will also put that on the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting.

B. Steve Wrigley said: USBA is going to be it but we don't have time. I think it was a good conference. I enjoyed associating with the Board members attending. We had some good sessions. It points out—sometimes people are concerned about conference spending and stuff like that. I work for state government. They have cut conference spending. You can't be innovative any longer. It is really important to go to conferences like this. Especially if you are a policy body and trying to decide how things are going is to learn the state of the art. I felt it was a good bang for our dollar and we'll be sharing some of that stuff. There are a lot of good things we will be able to use for our district.

C. Kim Horiuchi said: I have a couple of things and I do want to say want to say with just one thing about USBA at the end of my comments. First, I just wanted to let everybody know that I attended the Midvale Middle School performance of Seussical which was remarkable. There is so much talent there. I was very impressed not only with the cast but also with the behind-the-scenes work and the set design. Particularly interesting is that another middle school is interested in either purchasing or renting Midvale Middle School's set for that play. So, there will be some money for

Midvale Middle School that can be put back into their theater program. That just points to the talent there, I think. I attended Ridgecrest Elementary's DARE graduation and I wanted to thank Mayor Cullimore and Cottonwood Heights Police Chief, Robby Russo for speaking at that and for setting such a good example for the children. The Mayor gave an analogy that I think really had an impact on the children about the need to avoid experimenting with drugs and how it is like randomly boarding a train—you don't know where the train is going and you can't get off until it stops. You have no control over it. I think that really resonated with the children. Also, there were some interesting statistics that were given to the children that 90% of long-term smokers started before age 18 and they first tried tobacco before they were age 18. And now, 80% wish they had never started and 79% wish they could quit. So, the number of people starting before they are 18 as youth smokers corresponds with the number who now wish they could quit. So, you just think if children hadn't even started smoking in the first place if there hadn't been that regret. Anyway, DARE is a good program and I'm glad that it is in our schools and making an impact on our children. I was not able to attend the Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting this week but I wanted to let you know that they elected a new committee board member. It is Amanda Thorderson from the Salt Lake City School District.. She is the new chairperson. She replaces Mike Peterson who has been the chairperson of that committee for the last two years. Just wanted to let you know that Salt Lake County is also planning to pursue their parks bond this year that they have been talking about. That will be $100 million to spruce up existing parks and develop some new ones. Lastly, the point I wanted to make about USBA was I wanted to reference the presentation by Jose Enriquez who is the founder, the executive director of Latinos in Action. This by far and away was the best presentation. Mont listened to it just before I did. I was so impressed by what he had to say. He's also the assistant principal at Mountain View High School in Alpine District. He said that Latino's in Action, the program that he started, is now in 58 schools this year. It will be in 80 schools next year in 14 school districts. He talked about the necessity of creating stages for students to overcome their fear. He told some of his own story which was inspiring to say the least. His story truly is the epitome of the American Dream which was really nice to hear. You think the American Dream really doesn't exist anymore. But he is a testament that it still does. He talked about the challenge of learning English as a second language as a young student and the thrill of mastering big words like photosynthesis. He says that was his first chance to enjoy the "delicious taste of being an expert." I like how he said that—"delicious taste of being an expert." He said all students should feel and experience that. I just came away from the presentation convinced that these students and all of our students really need to know that they are our future leaders. We as a school board have a responsibility, I think, to prepare our students to be those leaders and to give them every opportunity available. Conversely, I think that as a school board we need to make more of an effort to oppose anything or anyone who tries to thwart the achievement of our students or hold them back in any way. Mr. Enriquez ended with this quote that I wanted to use to end my comments. He said: "True leadership comes not from those who seek or aspire to that position but from those who position themselves to serve those who seek." I just really liked that quote because it has the parallel use of seek in it. Let me read it again. "True leadership comes not from those who seek or aspire to that position but from those who position themselves to serve those who seek." I actually called him this afternoon to make sure I had the quote right. I asked him, "Who said that?" And he said, well I kind of came up with it myself. I just thought it was really inspiring and I think the quote just shows you what a really good leader he is and how he is really trying to contribute to our schools. I'm really glad that we have that program in our schools and that we are supporting that program. I'm glad that we will continue that support for Latinos in Action.

D. Kevin Cromar said: First of all, I would like to commend the Superintendent for his efforts in visiting the schools recently. When he first came on as superintendent, he went to all the schools and that was a very effective thing that he did. I know it is really appreciated. I commend him for going out, being willing to listen to the faculties and staff and hear what they have to say on what he has done. I think President Cowdell said it very well in our study session but I would also like to add my commendation to the Superintendent, Mike Sirois, Dr. Ginger Rhode on this proposed Middle School Curriculum. I know the effort that has been put in to that over the past year or so—many months of work, meeting with stakeholders to bring it to the point that we now have. Having

said all of that, there are times we agree and times we disagree and I would like to respond to something that is important to me of what the Superintendent said recently—at least was quoted in the press in a meeting he attended with the governor on charter schools. He asked the question, "Why would we be against charter schools as competition?" I guess from a business model perspective you could ask that question. But, I would like to respond. First of all, I'm sure the Superintendent was speaking on his own and not representing the Board since the Board has not taken an official position on that matter and to a lot of our educators those are sometimes fighting words when you are talking about charter schools. Just like a single Board member speaking on charter schools, it should be known that it just that person's opinion and not the official policy of the Board. So, I'm sure the Superintendent was speaking using his First Amendment rights as we have as individual Board members. But, however, it is sometimes hard to separate when he represents in a meeting like the governor's meeting I think a lot of people would assume that that is policy of the Board. A question I have is maybe a little more care in my opinion. This is a very important subject to me. I just want to respond that the one problem I have with funding—funding is the issue, it's not should we have charter schools or not. The core issue has always been for me is the funding. Most people don't realize that we taxpayers pay twice for education. They pay for public ed and charter schools. The only problem is when they say it is equal—we're all on an equal playing field. We're not. I'll give one example. There's no Truth in Taxation when it comes to property taxes that go to charter school. It doesn't show up on the assessment notice. So property taxpayers don't know that they are paying to charter schools. So, we want to be competitive with charter schools and public schools. The first thing I would say let's change the law where we show taxpayers that they are paying for charter schools. That is only fair and I would hope the legislature would make that change in the next session. Sometimes people want to hide that fact because people would be upset if they saw that on their property tax notices and they realized that they were paying twice for education. That is one thing. Also, the thing with charter schools is they have their own agendas—anywhere from constitutionalism to art because you know it is not found in other schools. But, I don't believe a lot of charter schools are perhaps, and I may be wrong on this and could be corrected, but Core Curriculum. We're focused in public ed on Core Curriculum and so we're really not on the same playing field because I don't believe just the nature of charter schools. We believe Core Curriculum is the best for our student being college-ready but that charter system doesn't focus on that. So, is it good or not for all of our students? Is Core Curriculum good or not? That is my response. I know the Superintendent was speaking perhaps his opinion like I am tonight. I'm not representing the Board in my comments. But, I feel strongly about the statements I've just said. They are both underfunded. The other thing I would say, a third of the legislature has direct economic interest in charter schools. It is a conflict of interest and in court right now there is an ethics petition that would address that. And, it is in the courts right now. I believe we will prevail because recently it prevailed on a city council level where the courts ruled that citizens have that right to petition their government. Ethics, that is why you see increased funding for charter schools last session and a decrease of funding for public schools. When a third of the legislature has a direct beneficial interest in having increase into something they have a direct financial interest in, that is a serious, serious conflict of interest. So, I don't believe it is on the same level playing field at all. If we are, then you can have competition. Thank you.

E. Sherril Taylor said: I just felt like I would be remiss if I didn't thank Dr. Doty and his academic team for the proposed middle school schedule. I'm very excited about that. I want you to know that as an old science teacher, I never did feel like I had enough time in the classroom to do what I needed to do as far as setting up labs, teaching the labs to the students and then the time it took to clean up. We just never had the time to do it. With the new middle school schedule, I see that you'll have the time for your science, your math and all the other areas that will be involved. Very excited about it. You have my full support on this and let's go forth with it.

F. Paul McCarty said: Last week, Board, I had the opportunity in my capacity as a principal in the Granite School District to go and visit the families of some of my students. As you know, I have a Title 1 population at my school and I went to the over-flow center, homeless center there in Midvale that is open from November 1 to April 1. And, I was very impressed. Most impressed with Connie Crosby who is our district liaison representing Canyons and responsible for everything

from intake to the placement of the children in local elementary, middle school and high schools in the area. If you have an opportunity, it is so heartwarming. I'm very impressed that Dr. Doty has been there several times and with his Spanish has been able to really connect with some of the short-term residents there. Again, I'd like to say a lot about Ms. Crosby and the work that she does. Literally, she is building bricks without straw there. There is a desperate need, obviously, for more money and supplies and resources. I was so impressed with Canyons' presence and what we are doing. In the future, I'm just wondering, going back to our study session as there might be some availability of school buildings and other structures that we have in the District maybe in addition to a CTE and early college high school and other programs maybe we ought to look at something more permanent in that area for the housing of families that are in need—at least temporarily. And, what a great humanitarian benefit it does to the community. I'm very proud of what is going on and thank you, Dr. Doty, for your support.

G. Mont Millerberg said: I don't want to take a lot of time and maybe I'm going to wax a little bit philosophical right now. I've been thinking what a privilege it has been for almost four years now to have been a part of this Board. We have accomplished a lot since even before we were created as a district and going through the creation now to see where the district is going and the things we've accomplished—so many good people doing so many good things. I'm very pleased in the direction that we're going. Kim, you made mention of Jose at the Utah School Boards Association. He also spoke at the leadership conference up in Midway last fall. And, he was good enough that I wanted to go back and listen to him more. The one thing I was impressed with as he was talking about the Latinos in Action Program, two things impressed me. One, he was most complimentary of Canyons School District that we had two high schools involved in the program and it wasn't just the high schools but it was the feeder system moving up to the high schools as well. And, I took that as a great compliment. And, I also found it very interesting that he is working as an assistant principal and the reason he is an assistant principal and not a principal is because he is not willing to give up Latinos in Action because it is such a time demand on him. So, it has a real monetary impact to him as well. We are so fortunate just not only in our own district but in our state to have so many good people caring about what is happening in education. That's it.

10. Closing Items

A. Adjourn.

- President Cowdell said: I'd like to thank everybody who hung in there with us tonight. It was a good Board meeting. If you were here for the study session, that was particularly good. I say amen to all the great comments that have been made by the Board of Education here tonight.

<u>MOTION:</u> At 8:50 pm Sherril Taylor motioned that the Board adjourn. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was declared adjourned.

/gh

ATTEST _____ President
Tracy Scott Cowdell

_____ Chief Financial Officer
Keith Bradford