CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 7, 2012

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a study session and business meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 beginning at 5:00 at the Canyons Administration Building, 9351 S. 300 East, Sandy, UT 84070

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
Keith Bradford, J.D., Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel

Excused:
David S. Doty, J.D., Superintendent

1. Closed Session

A. For the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.
B. For the purpose of discussing pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

2. Study Session—6:30

A. USBA Reports

1. President Cowdell welcomed everyone. He said: In the closed session, the Board was dealing with a student appeal and an employee issue. These are delicate issues that are only discussed in closed session. Board members are authorized to attend the Utah School Boards Association training each year. Board members then report on their experience. Last year, Mont reported on the Active Shooter Program and we have followed up on that. He asked members to share what they learned or things we should follow-up on in Canyons School District.
2. Kevin Cromar attended a session with Superintendent Larry Shumway where the Core Curriculum was discussed. There was a discussion regarding how this will affect CRT testing, especially in the English area, because it is subjective. Superintendent Shumway acknowledged that this is an open issue that they are working on. Mr. Cromar said he feels our district will be setting standards in this area. He also attended Burke Jolley's session regarding school finance. Mr. Jolley is very knowledgeable and gave an excellent presentation. He gave examples of how his district was impacted by last year's legislative funding. On Saturday, Chad Lewis spoke about climbing Kilimanjaro with war amputees. It was an inspiring presentation. Chad's mother Jan is a past Board President of Alpine School District and USBA President. Mr. Lewis is Mr. Cromar's cousin. Kim Horiuchi represented the district very well and facilitated one of the presentations. She has accepted a position on the USBA Board.
3. Steve Wrigley provided a handout with points he found interesting.
   - Jamie Vollmer was the Keynote Speaker. He said you can't get from "A" to "B" without going through "C" (the community). We need to involve the community. It emphasized that we really need the community on board with us to accomplish our goals. He talked about the systems problem in education. All of our teachers are good teachers. But, there are systems issues that need to be resolved for them to be successful. Our Board has been addressing some of these issues. Mr. Vollmer talked about how we group kids by when they were born rather than their ability level. His 5 "S's" included: Stop bad mouthing one another in schools, Shift your attention from the negative to the positive, Share your success, Sustain one another and Start now.
   - Master Boardmanship—this is a USBA award given to Boards that have 2/3 of their members take this course. It includes five areas: Continuous Improvement, Advocacy, Community Engagement/Collaborative Relationship, Accountability and Foundation of Effective Governance.

- The Key Work of School Boards—Mr. Wrigley has a copy of this book that the Board may want to review. It talks about the keys to success for school boards which include: Vision, Standards, Assessment, Accountability, Alignment, Climate and Culture, Collaboration and Continuous Improvement.
- Power Up Master Boardmanship—a lot of this will be available at usbapowerup.com website. You will be able to take open meeting law and several other classes online.
- Collaborative Teaming in a Professional Learning Community. The goal is to have more kids learn more and not just Professional Learning Communities. They teach less content at a greater depth in more meaningful ways.
- The Learning Management Systems Course reviewed using computer software in education. They discussed how digital textbooks will be the norm for the 21st century learner. President Cowdell said he is very interested in looking at Open Source textbooks and going more digital. Mr. Wrigley said they pointed out how the use of technology will give teachers the ability to provide individualized education.
- Transforming Our World-Social Networking, Facebook, and Twitter. We are really into this. A lot of times there is fear connected to the use of social media. It is better to have this so people can make comments that you can monitor. President Cowdell said this should be added to the agenda for future consideration. We should have a class on social media to get more current. Mr. Wrigley said the presenter pointed out that when Twitter was used for school assignments, grades increased by 50% and there was 35% less absence. Skyward has been very helpful.
- Several quotes from Chad Lewis were reviewed. He said the Board sets the atmosphere for the school. Don't let your jobs be just jobs. Don't make obstacles make you quit.

3. Kevin Cromar added that he has concerns about the Masterboard Award concept. Not all districts are the same. He's afraid this award will simply encourage competition between boards. Mrs. Horiuchi said she feels it puts too much attention on the school board. It is things that we should be doing anyway. Our time can be better spent. President Cowdell said in USBA's defense, they realize we are under pressures that we have never been under before as elected officials. They are trying to encourage board members to get more training and do the things we need to do to be successful. We need to do a little bit better and try a little bit harder. Mont Millerberg said he feels USBA is trying to take control of boards. Mr. Cromar said he is concerned about the element of competition between boards. Mr. Wrigley said he feels it provides a good check list for members to review.
4. Paul McCarty wanted to review the session he attended with Patti Harrington. Dr. McCarty was able to talk with Aaron Osmond about his legislation. As a freshman senator, Senator Osmond entered some bills that were quite questionable. Teacher associations invited him to go into the classroom and see what is really going on. He now wants support from the membership for a bill that will help with the orderly dismissal process. He said rural school districts have a problem in due process. Dr. McCarty suggested that instead of legislating binding restrictions on all districts, that successful districts should be consultants to those districts that are struggling. Senator Osmond was very open and willing to listen. The entertainment was fun.
5. Mont Millerberg said Kim reported last time on comments by Jose Enrique, the founder of Latinos in Action. He is an excellent presenter. He inspires the Latino community to make a meaningful contribution. He inspired Mr. Millerberg to become more involved. Hillcrest and Jordan have embraced Latinos in Action. Every time Mr. Millerberg has attended USBA conventions, he has come away uplifted and excited. He felt many of the courses this year were "reruns" from previous years. He was not impressed this year.
6. Kim Horiuchi said she attended Brinton Burbage's seminar. He is an attorney who represents several school districts. He reviews the latest case law that affects school districts. He talked about several cases involving employee speech. If employees work for a school district, they have a responsibility to that district. Their speech rights are not the same as a citizen. There is some accountability and responsibility that comes with their position as an employee of a school district. Mrs. Horiuchi also attended the session with Senator Osmond and Representative Merlynn Newbold. They talked about several education bills that are before the legislature. School districts really need to emphasize the need for local control. Education is targeted every year and this year is no exception. There are more bills run in that area than any other. Legislators need to know it is important for school districts to exercise local control because they are aware of the needs of their districts. Legislators need to realize micromanaging is harmful. Jose Enriquez's presentation was the best. It is inspiring what one person can do. He has a good perspective on student achievement and closing the achievement gap. He wants to help all students excel and not fall through the cracks.
7. President Cowdell said John Robson, an attorney for many of the school districts in Utah, suggested there may be some value in organizing an urban coalition with the Wasatch Front districts for issues impacting

districts in the Salt Lake Valley. This could include Canyons, Granite, Jordan, and Salt Lake. This is something the Board could discuss. Kevin Cromar said in his experience, the USBA is dominated by the rural school districts in the state. He agrees this type of coalition could be valuable and it may be something Canyons should lead out on.

B. NSBA Conference
   1. President Cowdell asked who would be attending this conference. Mont Millerberg and Sherril Taylor will be unable to attend. Kim Horiuchi, Paul McCarty, Kevin Cromar and Steve Wrigley are planning on attending. It will be held April 21, 22 and 23.
   2. Kevin Cromar recommended that the Board join the Hispanic Caucus with the NSBA.

C. Extra-Curricular Fee Schedule
   1. This item was tabled. Keith Bradford is going to do a more comprehensive analysis of this proposal. It will be discussed at the February 21 meeting.

D. Legislative Report
   1. Charlie Evans was asked for a brief report.
   2. Mr. Evans said the legislature is off to a slow start with educational bills. There will be a crunch at the end of the session. There are 900 bills under consideration. Melodie Winn sends a daily tracking sheet outlining what has taken place that day.
   3. Greg Hughes statewide testing bill is going to pass and be funded. He also feels Senator Morgan's classroom size amendments will be passed and funded. This will depend on the final numbers. The numbers are good but not as good as projected.
   4. SB 138—Health Insurance Mandate Accountability Amendment should pass. This requires education to fund any health insurance mandates they pass down. This is positive in protecting WPU because that funding will come separately from the WPU.
   5. Senator Stephenson's Student Opportunity Scholarships was to be heard in committee today but the committee was cancelled. That is SB151. The State Board voted 8-6 to oppose this bill. This may indicate it will have more traction than originally anticipated. Our delegation is evenly split on this issue.
   6. There was a brief discussion regarding John Dougall's bill regarding Education Savings Accounts and its fiscal feasibility. This is based on the concept that we are paying for students to take classes over and over again because of failure. This would identify the total amount of resources we are willing to spend for a student to receive a high school diploma. If the student doesn't have a high school diploma after spending this money, he/she is required to pay the difference. It is a radical move.
   7. There is a bill that would affect released time. After the legislature passed Senator Stephenson's bill allowing students to take online courses, the question was raised as to whether a student enrolled in one of our schools and taking released time is considered a full-time student. Would they have to drop a class like released time to take an online class? The State Office's position was they would need to drop something even if they are in seminary. Some legislators felt if they were in seminary, they shouldn't have to drop anything to take one class. President Cowdell said people have opinions as to whether we should have released time but the reality is it would be very difficult for us to accommodate all of those students if they did not have released time. It would increase class size. There is $35 million at stake. There are a lot of unknowns.
   8. Keith Bradford reviewed the misperception about the budget. The governor is talking about a 1% salary increase for teachers and state employees. In addition to that for state employees they are funding the increases in their retirement and health insurance. The 1% WPU given to the districts needs to cover health insurance, retirement and salary increase. A 1% increase in the WPU in unrestricted funds is less than $1 million. The retirement increase for this year is $1.8 million. A 1% salary increase is $1.6 million. They have said they will fund growth this year. There has been some discussion about bringing the WPU value up for Special Ed and CTE add ons so we are back to one WPU. We would lose in that case. There is a question if they will fund growth with new money or with allocations.
   9. The question was asked if there is any discussion on all-day Kindergarten. Mr. Evans responded that he has not heard anything on that this year.
   10. President Cowdell said it was great that our district lead out on funding ACT testing. The legislature thinks that was a good idea as well. It looks like that will be funded state wide. The only concern with that is they are leaving the selection of the test to the State Office. We hope they will select the ACT but it could be a different test.
   11. President Cowdell thanked Charlie for his work and expressed his appreciation for Melodie Winn's updates. When we started as a new district, we decided it was a new day with the legislature. We have decided they have the same interests we have and we have worked hard to establish meaningful relationships with them. Hal Sanderson has worked with Senator Niederhauser on his bills to provide accurate information. He

appreciates the relationship we have with our legislators. We don't always agree but we have a functional relationship. We also appreciate the administration giving feedback to our staff on how to communicate with legislators during interviews.

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

A. Welcome

- President Cowdell said: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the Canyons Board of Education meeting tonight. We would like to welcome those of you who are here with us back in our old facility that has been remodeled. It feels really great to be back home at 300 East. It means a lot to us that our district and the contractors have taken some time to update this room a little bit. It looks really fantastic. Rick, we appreciate so much you and your team doing this for us. It is really just a great facility. We feel like, as a Board, it is going to be so much more conducive to one of our goals which is to be increasingly transparent. Just so everybody knows, this will be broadcast over the internet. It will also be available for people to listen live or to download and listen to later. When we have more people than this room will accommodate we can broadcast it into the room next door—we have an overflow next door. We're just trying to be increasingly open and transparent to the community and to the public so they are more aware of what is going on here on Tuesday evenings. We're so glad that so many of you could be here tonight on a light night. We'd like to excuse Dr. Dave Doty who is home with a family situation tonight. We excuse him. We'd like to recognize Mr. Corbin White, do you mind raising your hand Corbin? He is on the Jordan Board of Education. He is here as a guest just briefly here tonight and we're glad that he could be here. It means a lot to us that he could attend. We'll proceed according to our agenda.

B. Approve Agenda for February 7, 2012

<u>MOTION:</u> Sherril Taylor moved to approve the February 7, 2012 Agenda as presented. Dr. Paul McCarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Flag Ceremony—Wolf Pack 3956, Silver Mesa Elementary

D. Reverence—Joy Sanford, Principal, Silver Mesa Elementary

E. Patron Comments

1. President Cowdell said: The next item on the agenda are the Patron Comments and I only have one individual who signed up to speak to us today.
2. Ross Rogers said: Just a couple of things I want to address with our new legislative session starting. We as teachers are watching that but we also want to invite not just Charlie Evans who works for the Board that goes up there but we really want to see that a lot more of our Board and our administrators join us teachers up on the hill as CEA and UEA. One thing that UEA does every year and CEA is participating in it is called Educator on the Hill Day. We do that every Friday of the legislative session. Our teachers take a personal day—time that they can use for their family, for a vacation or whatever—and go up to the legislators and basically lobby for our students and for education. That is something that our teachers are doing and so we just want to encourage the Board and district personnel to join in and help fight for public education. One other thing that I just wanted to bring up is the district sent out an email inviting people to sign up for a list serve on legislative updates. Apparently, there was a lot of replies that wanted to get that in their email. Because of that, they decided to put it to a Web page so now the teachers actually have to go to that Web page and we are asking that they treat it like the Headline news that comes to our email every day. The teachers would like to have that in their email. Because if they have to go to the Web site and look at it, they don't have time. But, if it is in their email, they will look at it when they have time. I don't know why we can't just do that like we do the daily Headlines because teachers will actually look at that and see what the district and Board of Education is doing if it comes to our email. Thanks. President Cowdell replied: Those are both great suggestions, Ross. What we will do is we will ask our staff to do that with the email. That would be great if we could do that--meeting with the legislators. Let me just say this while you are standing up there, it takes a unified effort to be successful up there at the legislature. We're really glad that we're on the same page when it comes to working with our legislators. We appreciate all the work that you do and that the CEA and the UEA does up there. It doesn't go unrecognized all of the hard work that you do up there. So, I'm sure that we're all committed to do our part and I'm certain I can speak for all of us that you certainly have our support up there and some of our Board members do go up for some of those days. If we can be up there, we will. If we can't we'll be there in other ways. We agree and we appreciate so much our willingness to go do that and sacrifice to do that. Thank you. If you would pass that along to your members

that we recognize that that is a sacrifice and we do appreciate it. I know that USBA also meets on Fridays. Mr. Rogers said: UEA meets in the morning and any educator that wants to meet up there, we have a room there. We provide lunch at the Spruce Room in the Senate Building. They start at 8 and go over what bills are being presented and kind of give them an idea where teachers want to go.

3. Betty Shaw said: Thank you. Ross' comments kind of reminded me about letting you know about the PTA Day at the Capitol which is February 24. It is an all-day event. They will have a session where they talk about the bills that the PTA is watching that affect children. There is a whole bunch. Our Legislative Director for the Region Natalie Parker and Susan Edwards have worked together to put together a luncheon time and we will have our legislators that represent all of the people in our district come talk to us at that luncheon. We invite you to come if you are able to come. It is February 24. We'll make sure you have the link to that. It's a really good day. We had a separate one just for our district last year because there was a conflict with the Utah PTA one with not being able to get the legislators there—they had it on Caucus Day so none of the legislators were going to be able to come. So, our legislative people said well we're going to have our own and we had all of our legislators there and it was really a great luncheon. They asked some great questions and we got three to join the PTA so we were really happy with that. We'd love to see you up there and listen to your constituents and talk to the legislators and you can ask them questions too. Thank you very much.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes from January 17, 2012 Board Meeting
B. Approval of Student Overnight Travel
C. Approval of Purchasing Bids
D. Approval of Adoption of Elementary Language Arts Curriculum
E. Approval of Athletic Eligibility Proposal
F. Approval of UHSAA Application
G. Approval of Corner Canyon High School Sewer Easement Extension
H. Approval to Purchase Property for CTEC Onsite Construction Program 2012-13
I. Approval of Administrative Appointments
J. Approval of Employee Settlement Agreement

MOTION: Dr. Paul McCarty moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 5A-J as presented. Mont Millerberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President Cowdell said: Could we turn just a minute over to you Mr. Dimond to brief us on some of the new Board hires that we have made. Normally, the Superintendent takes a minute and introduces us to those new appointees and I wonder if you might make the announcement and have them come up and introduce them to the Board and shake our hands.

Steve Dimond said: The first appointment is Justin Matagi who will be going to Alta High School. He is currently serving in the Civil Rights Department. He will be serving as the Assistant Principal for Alta High School. Our other appointment this evening is Corrie Barrett who is currently serving as an Assistant Principal at Alta High School. She will be serving as the interim principal at Oak Hollow Elementary. She also has an extensive background at middle schools with serving at Butler Middle School prior to that.

5. Report on Study Session Student Appeal

A. President Cowdell said: The next item is informational. The Board of Education took up a student appeal in study session earlier today. The Board of Education has denied that student's appeal and the staff is asked to let the student and family know that that appeal is denied.

6. Staff Reports

A. Superintendent Report—Dr. Doty Excused
B. Chief Financial Officer Report
   1. Keith Bradford said: Just to say we are watching with Charlie the legislature very closely. I meet every Friday at Granite School District with the business administrators to review bills and try to go up to the legislature on Friday afternoon and spend the time up there. We're

watching that really close. We are in the process of working on developing budgets, asking departments to turn in budgets in less than two weeks. All of you here, less than two weeks. We're working on developing the budget in a different process this year using performance measures and objectives as to how you are spending the money and tying those to performance measures.

7. <u>Board Reports</u>

A. President Cowdell said: The next item on the agenda is individual Board Reports. We did do some of that in our prior meeting.

B. Paul McCarty said: This is really exciting to be here tonight. I am so impressed with our new chamber and hopefully there will be lots of really good things coming out of it.

C. Kim Horiuchi said: I just had one thing. I just wanted to say a public thank you for all the well wishes that were extended to my brother-in-law, Salt Lake County Councilman Randy Horiuchi. He is doing a lot better. He's recovering quickly and was treated very fast. We are very encouraged that he will be back on his feet soon. I just wanted to say that all the well wishes, thoughts and prayers really meant a lot to me and my family and I wanted to thank everyone for that. Thank you.

D. President Tracy Cowdell said: I want to just say while I have a friend here—Casey Repp. Casey lives in my neighborhood and he is sitting next to his mother. I am really glad that he could be here. Your pack did the flag ceremony for us today, didn't you? That is great. It is good to see you Casey. I wonder, we have some Boy Scouts with us. I wonder if you young men might tell us where you are from tonight. You are working on what merit badge tonight? Citizenship in the Community. You picked a good night because it is a short meeting. It was the perfect night to come and knock that requirement out. Whoever the patron leader was, you get double points for that tonight. I don't have anything other than I just want to say again how much I appreciate the administration putting this room together for us for Board Meetings. I think it is going to be a lot more conducive to a good dialogue between the Board and the community. I'm just really pleased with the way it turned out. It really exceeded my expectations. Just thankful for Rick and his team for putting this together.

E. Sherril Taylor said: I'd just like to thank everybody that came out tonight to our meeting. It is good to see so many here. I'd also like to thank the Board and the administration for all the work that they have been doing for the students in this district. A lot of good things are happening. I think it would be good if everyone took a close look at all the educational practice-type things that are happening, all the wonderful things that are going on in the schools. Get out in the schools and see what is going on. We have great teachers and it's good to see some of them here tonight. Thank you.

G. Mont Millerberg said: It is awesome to be here tonight. I look at the scouts out there. I was a member of Troop 427 at one time. I have very, very fond memories of the troop that you guys belong to. So, thank you for being here. Since we've last met, I've had the opportunity to go a few places. The Utah School Foundation Convention was held in St. George and I was able to go to that and attend that. Yesterday, our Canyons Education Foundation had their Foundation Retreat. I was impressed at home many people took a day off work yesterday to be there to learn how to make our Education Foundation work. We have so much broad-based support from the community. It is absolutely amazing. A lot of good people are involved in that. This last week I was also able to attend our bi-weekly meeting on the Active Shooter in the School Program that will be taking place come June at Alta High School. We have sub-committees formed and they are moving ahead and I am anticipating a lot of good stuff coming out of that exercise. The other thing I had the opportunity to do was Friday evening we went up to Union Middle School. They put on their first school play at the middle school. It was fantastic. We know that Union Middle School is a feeder into Hillcrest. Hillcrest is going to be well taken care of in the future with that group feeding to Hillcrest to keep the standard up to where it is. The Beauty and the Beast at Union Middle School was so well received they added one evening performance and that is taking place this evening up at Union. Everything I have mentioned there has one overriding theme to me. What that is, I watch a lot of professionals, I watch a lot of volunteers going way beyond what their job description is. They are making our public school system work and work very well. Way beyond

what it would if we didn't have such committed individuals. And that takes place at the teacher level in the classroom, the aides that come in and work with the teachers, the people that work in the offices, all the way up through the district office. I am just impressed with how many people go way beyond what would otherwise be expected just to make education happen. All I can say is thank you so much.

H. Steve Wrigley said: Since you got your plug for your middle school, my middle school is coming up. Eastmont Middle School is having a play coming up next week. You've got to go there. My son is Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof. There is no conflict of interest here. I am very impressed at the opportunities that our middle schoolers have to put on these professional plays. I think it has been very good for them. I've seen many of the kids over the years move on up and participate in high school plays which they probably wouldn't have done if they didn't have the chance at this time. I am looking forward next week to see what happens and you are all welcome to come.

8. Closing Items

A. Adjourn.

- President Cowdell said: I thought the meeting and study session were good tonight. It was actually easier in that study session to have fewer things that we tackled and spend more time on it. I felt like that was a better use of our time. Maybe we will try to do that more often. We had to pull a couple of things from the agenda tonight for various reasons so thank you for your flexibility. We're getting out early this time but next time we will probably go two hours long, I would think. Let's plan on that.

<u>MOTION:</u> At 8:00 pm Sherril Taylor motioned that the Board adjourn. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was declared adjourned.

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ATTEST _____ President
Tracy Scott Cowdell

_____ Chief Financial Officer
Keith Bradford