



BOARD BRIEFS

Authored by the Davis School District Community Relations Department

Board considers boundaries, name for new junior high Handful of residents comment during public hearing

Boundaries for Junior High No. 17 have been studied. Public input has been received through email and comments during two open houses. And a handful of people spoke during the public hearing Tuesday night.

Junior High No. 17 is being built in West Layton off Weaver Lane. It is scheduled to open in the fall of 2019 with a capacity of about 1,000 students.

The boundary study sets boundaries for the new junior high, as well as new boundaries for Centennial, Farmington and Legacy junior highs. The new school helps alleviate overcrowding at those three schools.

The Board of Education said all of the input received will be considered as it finalizes boundaries during the Nov. 7 and Dec. 4 Board of Education meetings.

Two people spoke against the proposed boundaries because their neighborhood isn't in the consideration for boundary realignment. As residents of an area referred to as Angel Crossing, they said they are closer to the new junior high than their boundary school Fairfield Junior High. Their students attend Layton Elementary which is a 100 percent feeder into Fairfield Junior High.

Resident Julie Johnson said the distance to Fairfield makes it problematic for families who have students involved in before or after school activities. The travel time to the school is about 30 minutes, she said.

Boundary Consultant Darrell White said that area

was not recommended for the boundary study because it would take only about 10 percent of Layton Elementary students to a different junior high.

"We studiously try to avoid a feeder pattern that has a small number of students," White said.

Additionally, the new junior high already will be at or near capacity in a few years due to growth in the area. Fairfield Junior High will remain at or below capacity.

Another resident asked the board to reconsider moving a small portion of Farmington Junior High to Centennial Junior High. Many of those students, she said, are immersion students and will attend Farmington because it offers the continuing immersion courses. However, if Farmington is no longer their boundary school, the students will have to find transportation. Currently they are bused to Farmington Junior.

"You know it's always a big deal to me when we make a decision to hear from those who are affected," said Board Member Julie Tanner. "I feel strongly we've done a good job ... of hearing from those who are affected by this."

White said the committee received a few emails and comments during the open house addressing similar issues.

"The feedback we have received has been significantly more calm and less than with the high school's (boundary study)," White said. "But the feedback we have received is very important."

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Calendar proposal features weeklong spring break, long winter recess

The Board of Education will consider adoption of the 2019-20 calendar during its regular meeting Nov. 7.

Elementary School Director Helene Van Natter said the 27-member calendar committee — made up of district staff, parents and administrators — reviewed more than 30 variations of the calendar. Comments made regarding past calendars were part of the discussion.

"Although we didn't get

everything we want here in terms of balance for terms and semesters, this calendar is what the committee felt really good about," Van Natter said. "If comment comes that the committee has not already considered, we will reconvene the committee and see if we need to offer you an alternative proposal."

The traditional nine-month calendar includes a start date of Aug. 20 and end date of May 29. The year-round calendar begins July 25 and

ends July 2. The draft calendar also schedules a two-week winter recess that runs from Dec. 23 through Jan. 6 for all schools, a weeklong spring break from March 30-April 3 for traditional nine-month schools and a spring break April 1-3 for year-round schools.

In other business, the Board:

- Heard public comment on a proposed change to the boundaries of Bountiful and Valley View elementary

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BOUNDARY, from Pg. 1

The new junior high is also a step closer to having a name. Junior High School Director Dave Tanner said nearly 600 names were suggested. From that pool, constituents could vote for their top choice among seven suggestions. More than 1,500 responses were received.

Tanner said the overall favorite was Shoreline Junior High with Lakeview and West Layton also being popular. Board Member Gordon Eckersley said students told him names like West Layton are boring. The board will consider naming the school during the Nov. 7 Board of Education meeting.

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schools.

During an ongoing study, students who lived in an area east of Bountiful Blvd. were given the option to attend either school. Those students currently are assigned to attend Bountiful Elementary.

Van Natter said part of the study was to ensure enrollment at both schools stays near or at capacity. The district also considered the socioeconomic impact at each school. Van Natter said both schools dropped by about 2 percent. Neither school will experience a significant socioeconomic impact with the change.

During the study, the number of students choosing to attend Valley View increased, leaving only about 16 students from that area still attending Bountiful. Those students will be allowed to stay. New students, however, will be asked to attend Valley View.

A handful of parents from that area spoke in favor of the change.

“The positives of this last year have been

fantastic for us,” Ryan Squire said. “I don’t think this has ever been a question of demographics or socioeconomics ... it is very much a matter of the neighborhood that we want to be a part of. I really want to express gratitude for the creative approach this past year.”

The Board of Education will consider a permanent change to the boundaries during its Nov. 7 meeting.

- Heard a brief overview of the hybrid Utah Consolidated Application/Utah Grants — the accountability system for grants received from state and federal government.

- Reviewed the results of a communication survey conducted by Y2 Analytics. District Director of Communication and Operations Chris Williams said the survey shows 88 percent of respondents report having a good experience with the district. It also shows that respondents rank curriculum, infrastructure and safety as top issues.



Central Davis Junior High School physical education teacher Kristy Knight was awarded the Utah Educator of the Year award for Dance. She was selected from over 70 other nominations.



Centennial Junior High science teacher Jennifer Tullis, Farmington Junior High science teacher Tim Robinett, and Syracuse Elementary third-grade teacher Katie Brown were named winners in Microsoft's 2018 Hacking STEM Worldwide Competition with their project entitled “The Brain Gong.”

Board approves remodel increases

During its Oct. 2 meeting, the Board of Education:

- Increased the Guaranteed Maximum Price of the Woods Cross High School addition and remodel by \$243,277. The difficult aspect of doing the major remodel was determining where to stop. The decision involved where the new interior finish would end and what would remain. Once construction was completed as per the contract, several areas were identified as needing upgrades. The project was expected to be complete by the end of October and totals \$24,048,634.

- Increased the Guaranteed Maximum Price of the Mueller Park Junior High School addition and remodel by \$305,905. During the construction project, the contractor ran into unforeseen conditions. The largest one was that the water line that was to tie into the new fire sprinklers to the building was inadequate. It necessitated rerouting the fire sprinkler connection. There were also several wiring problems found in the building that needed to be corrected. The project totals \$9,980,915.

- Approved the sale of a CTE student-built home at 579 W. 2350 North, Layton, for \$335,000.

- OK'd an addendum to Interlocal Agreements for school resource officers with Bountiful, Centerville, Clearfield, Farmington, Kaysville, Layton, Syracuse, Sunset and Woods Cross cities, as well as the Davis County Sheriff's Office. In order to provide faster response times to emergencies, the district will give the entities limited, cost-free, live access to its closed caption security cameras for investigating emergency-related school situations.