



BOARD BRIEFS

Authored by the Davis School District Community Relations Department

Compensation packages include 4.75 percent COLA Licensed educators receive up to 8.33 percent increase

The Board of Education of the Davis School District approved compensation packages for teachers and classified employees recently that includes a 4.75 percent increase.

The agreement with licensed educators also includes a 1.88 percent increase to steps and lanes based on education levels and years of service, an additional preparation day for all teachers and two additional days for new teacher orientation. The package amounts to a total compensation increase for teachers of 8.33 percent for the 2019-20 school year.

With a 1.69 percent increase in steps and lanes for classified employees, that total package reflects a 6.44 percent increase. Bus drivers will move up one lane to keep the district competitive with surrounding districts. The agreement also reinstates the Educational Reimbursement Account, which classified employees can use to offset higher education costs.

All employees will see a slight increase in insurance costs, Carter said. Additionally, the out-of-pocket maximum and deductible amount will increase slightly.

The approval comes after more than two months of negotiations between the district and the Davis Education Association (DEA) and Davis Education Support Profes-

sionals (DESP).

“This year has been a great year ... and in my opinion this is probably the best agreement this district has had in a number of years,” Carter said

In conjunction with the approval, the board issued a statement indicating it plans on holding a Truth-in-Taxation hearing in early August to propose a tax increase of about \$4.50 a month on a \$275,000 home.

The increases mean beginning teachers for 2019-20

school year will receive a starting wage of \$43,798.

Associated with the compensation packages is funding from House Bill 373, which will allow the district to add 10 new school counselors

and increase hours worked by school nurses; federal funds to hire five additional family service workers and enhance the Social and Emotional Learning Program; and district funds to employ 13 additional health aides to serve in district elementary schools.

During the school board meeting, Yvonne Speckman, sixth-grade teacher at Buffalo Point Elementary and president of the DEA, said the association’s general membership would soon be voting on whether they would accept the compensation package. Building representatives

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— Business Administrator Craig Carter

Changes to school fees include separation of athletics

The Board of Education of the Davis School District unanimously approved school fees for the 2019-20 school year.

The fee schedule includes basic registration fees for secondary schools, as well as maximum fees for extracurricular activities. It also addresses summer camps and a maximum for EXCEL Enrichment fees (after-school programs) at the elementary level.

Junior High Director Dave Tanner told the board that a 15-member committee consisting of parents, educators and administrators met to look at requests for fee modifications. The changes include a note on each fee schedule that advises parents to contact the school administrator with questions about a fee waiver.

Tanner said many of the actual fee changes were at the junior high level. The basic registration fee went down \$5 because most junior highs no

longer distribute a printed planner. For those that still print a planner, that fee was separated out. Lab fees went up to a maximum of \$15 to help cover the costs for increased science labs. Tanner said administrators were asked to only charge what is needed to cover the costs. If only \$12 a student is needed then that should be the charge, he said. Participation fees for National Academic League and Science Olympiad also went up. Tanner said

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the teams also must travel from site to site for competitions, so a transportation fee was added to the schedule.

Some schools require a PE uniform, so that maximum cost was added to the fee schedule as well as an activity apparel fee for clubs that purchase T-shirts for members.

A unique change to the fee schedule came, Tanner said, after the committee looked at fees being charged for individual athletics. To better ensure that the fee charged was truly paying for that sport, there was a \$10 increase for sports like wrestling, volleyball and basketball and a \$10 decrease for track. Tanner said more data will be gathered to ensure the fees align with the costs.

A definition that identifies the difference between co-curricular and extra-curricular activities was added to the schedule.

"I so appreciate getting more in line with where parents and families are paying for what they are participating in," Board Member Julie Tanner said. "If they are paying for track, those monies all go toward track."

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had passed the proposal on to its members with a 93 percent approval rating.

DESP President Amy Ehresman, who works as a school technology specialist in the district's Technology Integration Center, said her association accepted the proposal with a 95 percent approval rating.

"We greatly appreciate the board and all it does to treat all employees equally and with respect," Ehresman said.

In other business the board approved:

- Contract West Roofing, Inc., for the partial roof replacement at Holbrook Elementary for a bid of \$753,000.

- A bid of \$238,702 from Carson Plumbing and Mechanical for a

Sexting, pornography, abuse trending down

Data shows that the number of sexting, pornography and family-related child abuse cases within the district is trending downward.

Healthy Lifestyles Director Tim Best told the Board of Education during a workshop presentation that the decline can be attributed to a comprehensive effort from education, improved intervention plans, and district partnerships with community organizations. Also, helping decreasing numbers is the fact that state legislature now requires school districts to teach the harmful effects of pornography to students, which took effect last year.

Student and Family Resources Director Brad Christensen said the district has been training educators so they know what to look for in potentially dangerous situations. He said parents have also been asking for family training, so the district has provided parenting and anger management classes, as well as parent nights to help increase education

and awareness.

Best also showed recent data of babies delivered at gestation by students under the age of 19 in Davis County. The numbers for each city in the county are below the U.S. average. The numbers for Clearfield, Clinton, Sunset and Layton are just slightly above the state of Utah average. In addition, the number of reports of chlamydia and gonorrhea have plateaued, while syphilis has been almost completely eradicated within the county.

The results of an optional height and weight study of first-through fifth-graders at 37 elementary schools in the district were also presented to the board. The numbers revealed that students in Davis County are less overweight than their counterparts in other Utah counties. Best says physical education teachers have helped set the tone in elementary schools as students move onto junior high. The district will also be piloting a new health curriculum this fall to update the 20-year-old curriculum currently in place.

waterline at Tolman Elementary.

- Wasatch West Contracting with a bid of \$648,800 for the music rooms remodel and window replacement project at Clearfield High.

- A bid of \$245,973 for the parking renovation at Stewart Elementary by Morgan Asphalt.

- The purchase of a building lot in Clinton for \$135,000 for a future home to be built by district Career Technical Education (CTE) students.

- Amendments to the audio-visual support materials policy. The changes outline that live television programming cannot be shown in the classroom unless it is pre-approved by a school director.

- A policy governing the licensing of material developed with public education funds. The policy in-

dicates that if district resources are used to create curriculum, it is owned by the district.

During a previous meeting held April 16, the board approved:

- The sale of two CTE home lots in west Farmington. The lots are in an area impacted by the West Davis Corridor. The Utah Department of Transportation will pay \$175,000 and \$134,000 for the land.

- The Guaranteed Maximum Price for Elementary No. 63 of \$23,808,077. Hughes General Contractors is the construction manager.

- Hogan and Associates for the install of the multi-sports turf at Northridge High School. The turf will cost about \$1.4 million. Turf is being installed at high schools to accommodate more sports, including lacrosse.

Board honors students, staff



The Board of Education honored students and staff members during its May 7 meeting. Those honored included:

- Top photo: Sam, a first-grader at Burton Elementary, performed “Kent Goes Shopping.” He was one of 24 students to present during the Weber State Storytelling Festival.
- Above left: Janette Duffin, chemistry teacher at Woods Cross High. Her science department was awarded Science Department of the Year by the Utah Science Teachers Association.
- Above right: Leilani Merrell for her work as the Fairfield Jr. High Science Olympiad coordinator. The team has won the state title 25 of the last 26 years.
- Right: The Bountiful High Mandonelles have defended their Drill Team State Title for 20 years.
- Below left: Heather Anderson, Clearfield High, served as a student school board member during the 2018-19 school year.
- Below right: Caden Zesiger, Viewmont High, served as a student school board member during the 2018-19 school year.

