



BOARD BRIEFS

Authored by the Davis School District Community Relations Department

Board adjusts policy for public comment

Comment period moves to 30 minutes maximum at board meeting

The public comment period at the beginning of each board meeting will be expanded to 30 minutes following a 4-to-3 vote by the Board of Education of the Davis School District Wednesday evening.

The board began consideration of the change during its regular meeting on Oct. 5. The original proposal was to change the comment period from a maximum of 18 minutes with each

speaker being limited to three minutes to a maximum of 20 minutes and individual speaking for two minutes each.

Board member Liz Mumford proposed an amendment which changed the maximum comment period to 30 minutes but maintained the two-minute limit for individuals.

“We don’t have less people wanting to share their viewpoint and speak, we have more people,” Board Member Julie Tanner said. “I think reducing the time is a poor direction to go in when we have an interest, more than we ever had.

“Ms. Mumford, I really appreciate your procedural recommendations about helping to engage in other ways” Tanner continued. “I don’t think public comment is the only way that the public can engage with board decisions

and district decisions.”

Board President John Robison proposed a second amendment with a maximum comment period of 24 minutes. He cited multiple occasions when the comment period was not fully utilized. On average, he said about

four people spoke at each meeting. Prior to the proposed changes, 12 speakers was the maximum with six allowed at Board Workshop and six at Board Meeting.

“When we speak

about more people who want to speak, I think we recognize that prior to the pandemic we didn’t have hardly anybody come,” Robison said.

With the individual time limit proposal moving from three minutes to two minutes, 12 public comment slots would still exist, he said. His amendment was voted down with six members voting against it.

The policy change also removes the public comment period during Board workshop sessions. Robison said Davis School District was the only district along the Wasatch Front that scheduled a public comment period during a board workshop.

During the last two meetings, a few patrons expressed concern about decreasing the overall time during public comment periods.

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— Board Member Julie Tanner

Board approves one-time stipend for all District employees

The Board of Education of the Davis School District unanimously approved a one-time 1 percent stipend for all employees.

District Business Administrator Craig Carter said the year-end finances were reviewed and the district is in a good financial position to offer the stipend, which the superintendency recommended. He said much of what was budgeted for the stipend is a result

of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds received due to COVID-19.

“The recommendation that was presented, because of the work that our employees set forth through the last 18-20 months, was that we provide a one-time 1 percent stipend to our employees in November,” Carter said.

Employees will see the stipend in their November paycheck.

Board member John Robison said he is thankful the district is in the position to offer the stipend to employees.

“We appreciate the management of the district in many ways,” Robison said. “As we look at where we are financially ... (we are) grateful that our people can benefit from that.”

Board member Gordon Eckersley said it was good that the stipend was distributed across the board and not just to one group of employees.

Board honors



Abby McBride and Mia Brunner, Woods Cross High School students, are honored after their performance of "Shakespearean Therapy" at the beginning of the Board of Education meeting.



Davis High School Girls Golf Team is honored for winning the state 6A golf championship.



Davis Adult Education Director Marci Flocken and Darece Sperry are honored for being named the 2021 Adult Education Program of the Year by the Adult Education Association of Utah.



Representatives of the Woods Cross High School Girls Tennis Team are honored for winning the state 5A title.