



BOARD BRIEFS

Authored by the Davis School District Community Relations Department

Board announces negotiations with educators, staff

Base salary increases and steady insurance rate among 2022-23 benefits

The Board of Education of the Davis School District approved a teacher compensation package Tuesday evening that includes a 5 percent base salary increase, plus additional steps and lanes for eligible employees based on education levels and years of service.

That package — which also includes a one-time, two-installment payment totaling 2 percent of the educator’s salary and a one-time payment reflecting 32 additional prep hours — amounts to a total compensation increase for veteran teachers of 11.47 percent. New teachers will also receive additional compensation for orientation training they are involved in for the 2022-23 school year.

The approval comes after two-and-a-half months of negotiations between the district and the Davis Education Association (DEA).

The Board also unanimously approved the nego-

tiated agreement between the district and Davis Education Support Professionals (DESP). That package includes, among other things, a 5 percent base salary increase and additional steps. The total package reflects an 8.8 percent compensation increase.

Also, for the first time in recent memory, district employees will see no increase in insurance costs or change in current insurance plans.

“We’ve done a nice job of cost containment.”

— Business Administrator Craig Carter

“We’ve done a nice job of cost containment,” Davis School District Business Administrator

Craig Carter said, adding since the district is now self-insured, and because it was able to go through Navitus Health Solutions for prescriptions, it has saved millions of dollars in expenses.

TSSA (Teacher and Student Success Act) funds, which are allocated by the Utah Legislature, are also part of the certified package. The overall goal of the TSSA funds is

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Board approves establishing Local Building Authority

A new elementary school in the northwest corner of the district may happen sooner than originally planned.

District Business Administrator Craig Carter outlined for the Board of Education the steps needed to establish a local building authority (LBA) to build a new elementary school. The option allows the district to begin building a school a year earlier than it would if it waited for a voter-approved bond.

Under the local building authority, the Board of Education would sign articles of incorporation and act as the LBA board. That documentation then must be approved by the lieutenant governor’s office allowing the dis-

trict to move forward with the construction.

Carter said the board will develop bylaws and elect leadership of the LBA, which can then approve the issuance of bonds for the school’s construction.

The board also approved a Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) to oversee the building of the school. Following an evaluation process, Hughes General Contractors was approved as the CMGC. Carter said

“Let me just say first how exciting it is to be able to move forward,” Board member Cheryl Phipps said. “This will be really appreciated and needed in this area.”

In other business, the board

also approved:

- Structural repair of a small section of Viewmont High School in an area where the school’s teen center will eventually be located. Wasatch West Contracting will complete the work for \$180,101.

- A canopy replacement at Central Davis Junior High by Wasatch West Contracting for \$195,060.

- An increase of \$89,180 to the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Davis Catalyst Center. Carter said the increase came from a decision to upgrade the audio-visual equipment installed in the school.

- Changes to the student enrollment policy. Legal Counsel Ben Onofrio said new state law moves the

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District reports on progress with review of Summit learning system

The District is establishing a strategic approach for considering school requests for use of the Summit Learning program, Dr. Logan Toone told board members May 3.

Toone was reporting back on progress with new guidelines in regards to Summit, a personalized-learning platform used at 10 schools, after a lengthy discussion about the program on March 15.

A draft of the guidelines for schools includes a two-year preparation process. Toone said the guidelines include specific steps schools would need to address during the first year of the process. Those steps include engagement with stakeholder groups, including parents; teacher training; a philosophical shift in regards to personalized learning, and other preparations. Additionally, Toone said the district wants to ensure the system meets district standards and aligns with state standards.

There is still work to be done on establishing standards for implementation year, he said. It will require ongoing engagement with stakeholders, improvements in reporting systems, as well as ongoing support for educators, students and parents.

“Our hope is to have a sound process that is well reviewed and accepted by all as we move toward that direction,” Toone said.

At this time, no other schools have asked to implement Summit.

Additionally, Toone said the board asked the district to look at an independent review of its use of Summit.

“Our intent has always been to have a top tier personalized learning system for our schools,” Toone said. “And that intent, in some ways, we feel like is being delivered as we outlined when we met in (a previous board) workshop. In some ways, we feel like we have some areas we need to work on.”

Moving forward, Toone said the district wants any analysis of its use of Summit to be trusted by the community. The only way to do that, he said, is to solicit an independent review.

Superintendent Reid Newey said the outside analysis should not be seen as a review of the Teaching and Learning Department or its programs.

“We have great professionals with experience ... that establish these educational programs,” Superintendent Reid Newey said.

“We want to make it clear from an administrative point of view that this is to do a service to our community, rather than in our confidence in the program. And a third party evaluator provides that.”

The outside evaluator would not look at should Summit stay or go. Instead, Toone said, it will look deeper at what gaps may exist and what can be done to address those issues. Such an evaluation would survey educators, parents and students, he said, as well as consider outcome data — graduation rates, test scores, grade point averages, etc. The study would take at least one year, but possibly multiple years and the cost is an unknown at this point.

Toone said the board will be apprised of updates as the district moves forward.

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early enrollment application start date two weeks earlier to Nov. 15. It also gives priority to children of a military service member for acceptance of an open enrollment application, as well as special consideration if a housing change occurs for a service member’s child.

- A policy addition which allows an enrolled member of a tribe to wear tribal attire during graduation.

The board also gave initial approval to a new policy establishing an exit survey for educators. Superintendent Reid Newey said the district has surveyed educators for years and looks at that data often. Onofrio said the policy guarantees confidentiality. The new law identifies that data gathered can be used by the district and the Utah State Board of Education. The policy will be considered for final approval by the board during its next regular meeting.

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to award money to educators going above contract hours in an effort to improve education of students. TSSA funds can also be used for educational supplies.

Other details include:

- Teacher professional days continue as they currently exist.
- The funding for the 32 hours of additional prep time is from the Utah Legislature and includes teachers, school psychologists, related servers, counselors and principals. Educators would be paid for that time after their submitted plan is approved by their supervisor and they complete those hours.
- Funding for 10 additional health aides and 10 additional family service workers — five of which will be in the Teen Centers.
- An additional school administrator stipend for night-time supervision of student activities.
- Beginning teachers, starting in the 2023 fiscal year, will receive a starting wage of \$51,600.

The compensation packages will now be sent to the general membership of the DEA and DESP for ratification consideration.

Board honors



Board of Education members join Superintendent Reid Newey, Business Administrator Craig Carter and Secondary Schools Director Dr. Dan Linford (appointed superintendent) in saying 'thank you' to Student Board Members Kaylee Cardenas and Trevor Nelson.



Bountiful High School's Jazz Combo kicks off the Board meeting.



Viewmont Vykelles are honored as the 5A State Drill Team champions. Coach Kayla Bagshaw also received Coach of the Year.



Bianca Mittendorf is recognized for being awarded the Robert "Archie" Archuleta Human and Civil Rights Award from the Utah Education Association.



The District Spelling Bee winners are honored for their expertise in words. From left, Janae Powell, Shoreline Junior High, third place; Brooke Powell, Heritage Elementary, first place and Colette Duff, Holt Elementary, second place.