

October 7, 2025 Board Meeting

Transcript

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The Salt Lake Academy school board meeting on October 7, 2022, covered several key points. The board approved the September minutes and discussed the budget, noting a 25% expenditure of the school year and a projected net income of \$270,000. Enrollment stood at 889, with a 3.5% decrease from opening day. The bond closed and funded, with liens paid off on both campuses. Staffing changes included replacements at the high school and middle school. The board also reviewed elementary student performance data, highlighting areas for improvement in reading, and discussed the need for a closed session on personnel and safety.

Action Items

- [] None.

Achievements

- Casey Holmes: Bond closed and funded, refinancing both buildings and paying off liens.
- Casey Holmes: Financial update shows overall projecting net income of \$270,000, meeting debt service requirement.
- Samuel Gibbs: Enrollment retention at 96.5%, which is considered good for charter schools.
- Samuel Gibbs: Second grade math performance above state benchmark at the beginning of the year.
- Samuel Gibbs: Third grade reading above state benchmarks to begin the year.

Priorities

- Casey: Finalizing budget adjustments with new schools merged and bond numbers settled.
- Casey: Working towards solidifying funding numbers by December after state's mid-year updates.
- Samuel: Monitoring student growth every two weeks and adjusting instructional practices.
- Samuel: Focus on improving reading and math performance across all grades.
- Samuel: Staffing changes and replacements to ensure full staffing at both schools.

Challenges

- Low enrollment in kindergarten and first grade compared to previous year.
- Students well below benchmark in every grade to start the year.
- High ELL population affecting reading performance, especially in primary grades.
- Staffing changes: replacements needed for several positions at high school and middle school.
- Principal position at high school currently vacant, with Samuel Gibbs serving dual role.

Collaboration

- Casey working with the state to finalize funding numbers and resolve new issues.
- Samuel mentioned coordinating with auditors for compliance piece of the audit.

Deliverables

- Audit deadline is due by the end of November.
- State's mid-year updates expected mid to late November to solidify funding.
- December board meeting expected to have solidified numbers for budget and enrollment.

Company Updates

- Bond closed and funded completely, refinancing both buildings.
- Enrollment decreased by 3.5% since opening day, considered within normal range.
- Staffing changes: Mr. Dawson and Miss Meyer no longer serving at high school.
- Elementary school replaced two individuals with internal staff.
- Principal position at high school currently vacant, Sam serving dual role.

Open Questions

- Enrollment numbers to be finalized and discussed in future meetings.
- Budget adjustments expected in coming months once numbers are solidified.
- Future meetings to discuss student growth and progress based on initial assessment data.
- Closed session planned to discuss personnel and safety matters.

Outline

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

- Samuel Gibbs welcomes everyone and hands over the meeting to Darrell Robinson.
- Darrell Robinson conducts a roll call, confirming the presence of all members: Darrell Robinson, Rebecca Byrne, Roxanne, Samuel Gibbs, and Casey Holmes.
- The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by the participants.
- Darrell Robinson asks for comments on the board agenda and minutes from the previous meeting.
- Rebecca Byrne moves to approve the September board meeting minutes, and Darrell Robinson seconds the motion. The motion is approved unanimously.

Public Comments and Financial Update

- Darrell Robinson opens the floor for public comments, but no one wishes to speak.
- Casey Holmes presents the budget summary for September, noting the first month of bond allotment and the upcoming state student count on October 1.
- Casey Holmes explains the current budget status, highlighting categories trending high and the projected net income of around \$270,000.
- Discussion on the state's mid-year updates and the progress of the audit, with Samuel Gibbs asking for an update on the audit.

Director's Report and Enrollment Update

- Samuel Gibbs takes over to present the director's report, starting with an enrollment update.
- Samuel Gibbs compares enrollment data from the August board meeting to the current data, noting a slight decrease and the impact of disciplinary actions.
- The enrollment retention rate is discussed, with a 96.5% retention rate considered good for the opening months of a charter school.
- Samuel Gibbs explains the bond closure and refinancing of both buildings, including the waterfall process for bond payments.

Elementary School Data and Staffing Updates

- Samuel Gibbs presents the beginning of the year data for kindergarten through fifth grade, highlighting areas of improvement and areas needing growth.
- Discussion on the performance of first and second-grade students, with first-grade teachers showing significant growth.
- Samuel Gibbs compares the school's data to other charter schools, noting the impact of a high ELL population on reading scores.
- Staffing updates are provided, including changes at the high school and middle school, and the current status of the principal position at the high school.

Action Items and Closing Remarks

- Samuel Gibbs checks for any action items but finds none.

- Darrell Robinson suggests closing the meeting and going into a closed session for personnel and safety.
- The motion to close the meeting and enter a closed session is made and approved by all members.
- Samuel Gibbs works on pausing the note-taker for the closed session.