

INTERLOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING
May 5, 2008
SANDY CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM

Attendance: Mayor Cullimore, Mayor Seghini, Mayor Dolan, Mayor Pollard, Mayor Smith, Board Member Kim Horiuchi, Board Member Tracy Cowdell, John Bennion, Mike Shelton, Pat Casaday, Korban Lee

Minutes of the Meeting:

3:20 p.m. Mayor Cullimore opened the meeting and asked for a report from Dr. Bennion on the work of the Education Team.

1. John Bennion reported on the two town meetings that have been held so far. He noted that the turnout had not been strong, but that those who have attended have asked very good questions and there has been a good discussion. The media coverage of these town meetings, and ways to improve attendance were further discussed.

2. Dr. Bennion discussed with the Interlocal Committee the competitive market public education is in these days in order to keep students in the public schools. Mayor Dolan inquired as to the reasons students are attending charter schools as opposed to public schools. Discussion as to the differences between charter and public schools ensued. Tracy Cowdell mentioned that he and other board members have been discussing how to make changes to public schools, such as increasing the number of magnet programs or international baccalaureate-type programs. He also mentioned he would like to approach the state legislature at some point in the future to see if they would consider a one-time appropriation for a pilot program in the district to offer more themed schools or magnet schools.

3. Mayor Cullimore relayed a conversation he had regarding individuals who misunderstood the benefits and drawbacks of creating a new school district. He mentioned that after he explained some of the issues, the individual was enthusiastic to share the clarified information with everyone.

4. Mayor Dolan asked if the new school district would be capable of paying better wages? Tracy Cowdell explained some of the issues which a school district faces when establishing a wage scale, including the weighted pupil unit from the state.

Mr. Cowdell also discussed the potential bonding which may need to take place immediately following the establishment of the new school board. However, he expressed optimism toward the opportunities available for employees in the new school district.

5. Dr. Bennion and Mr. Cowdell discussed some potential ideas for compensation programs tied to professional development.

6. Dr. Bennion provided an update on the process to recruit a new superintendent. He mentioned that the education team is in the process of contacting recruiters to let them know of this position.

7. Korban Lee distributed a report from Google Analytics displaying the statistics for the www.jordantransition.org website.

8. Dr. Bennion discussed the Education Team making a potential site visit to the Denver area to visit the Adams 12 school district which has an interesting governance model. He also mentioned that while they are in the Denver area, they will try to meet with representatives of the Denver School District to review their innovative compensation plan.

9. Mayor Cullimore turned the time over to the Asset Transition Team. Mike Shelton gave an update to the Interlocal Committee about the work of the Asset Transition Team. He noted that the team is not really meeting much at the moment, but that he is doing work on examining the data which is in the facilities conditions index (FCI). He explained how expired systems were left out of the FCI data and that when they are included, the value of the needed repairs to old facilities increases dramatically. He discussed how there has been little correlation between the needed facility repairs outlined in the FCI and the work that actually gets funded by the Jordan School District.

10. Tracy Cowdell commented that the Jordan School District needed to have a capital facilities plan.

11. Mayor Cullimore welcomed the representatives from the Jordan Classified Personell Association, Gary Martensen, Charlotte Graham, Dawna Troyer, and Bryan Sprague. Mayor Cullimore explained that they wanted to invite the JCPA back to the Interlocal Committee Meeting to keep the communication channels open and hear of any questions or concerns that may have arisen recently.

12. Gary Martensen asked the group to explain the concept of the interlocal agreement wherein employees would be allowed to transfer back and forth between the two districts for a couple of years with no loss of benefits or seniority. Tracy Cowdell explained the latest thinking regarding this interlocal agreement and the timing the board is considering.

13. Charlotte Graham told the Interlocal Committee that many employees are still very nervous about their ability to keep their job. Mayor Cullimore, Mayor Dolan, Tracy Cowdell, and Kim Horiuchi addressed the concerns and reiterated that there would be jobs available for all current Jordan School District employees.

14. Bryan Sprague discussed the need to follow the policies which are already in place in the district. He felt that if the existing policies were followed, many of the problems which currently exist would take care of themselves.

15. Charlotte Graham asked about the Title 1 funding. Tracy Cowdell explained how the Title 1 funding followed the schools where the need was located. The Interlocal Committee also addressed the rumor that there would be no associations in the new district.

16. Mayor Dolan reiterated that it is not the intent of the Mayors to be in charge of any aspect of the school district after the new board takes office on July 15, 2008.

17. Mayor Smith asked the JCPA representatives how their association membership was changing. Bryan Sprague explained various aspects of the membership and how they have changed over time.

18. Mayor Cullimore discussed a conversation he had with Mayor Money. Mayor Money was concerned that the school district division was creating a lot of east-west tension and hard feelings and that those were being exacerbated by going to arbitration on the division of assets. Based on their conversation, Mayor Cullimore asked the opinion of committee members regarding an allocation adjustment from the West side to the East of only \$60-70 million rather than \$112 million in order to keep this division of assets from going to arbitration. This would be conditioned on west side participants agreeing to embrace the settlement as fair instead of criticizing it. All of the Interlocal Committee Members felt that this was not a fair compromise and that the east side shouldn't be asked to forego assets due to them because the west side has hard feelings about this issue. It was further stated that many were incredulous that any embracing of a settlement requiring an allocation from West to East would occur despite representations to the contrary.

19. Mike Shelton discussed how the School Board's continuance to sign contracts for new construction could potentially create problems for both school boards once the assets are divided, whether by negotiation or arbitration.

20. Mayor Seghini made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4-28-08 meeting. Mayor Dolan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

21. Korban Lee raised the issue of a retreat for the new school board once they are elected. The Education Team was assigned to coordinate determining a date and location for such a retreat.

22. Mayor Smith made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Dolan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.