MINUTES OF THE WORK STUDY SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE HEBER-OVERGAARD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6

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July 9, 2025

High School Bathroom Renovation Plans

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The board discussed district goals and priorities, focusing on projects at various campuses. They reviewed fire alarm systems and planned bathroom renovations at the high school, with a particular focus on updating stalls and improving the overall appearance of the facilities. The board also considered alternative materials for stalls, such as a durable vinyl product that could be customized with colors and designs to deter vandalism.

School Facility Maintenance and Upgrades

The meeting focused on facility maintenance and improvements at the school district. They discussed submitting projects to the SFB for funding, including HVAC units and classroom renovations. The group also addressed parking lot issues, landscaping needs around the high school gym, and playground surface concerns. They decided to get bids for artificial turf and rubberized playground surfaces, with plans to potentially implement these changes this year for the high school and in the following year for Capps. Additionally, they discussed removing old vehicles from the fleet and the acquiring a new snow plow for \$9,000.

School Surplus Property Auction Plan

The meeting discussed plans to auction surplus school property through the state's public surplus website, allowing for broader exposure and flexible bidding. They also addressed ongoing maintenance issues, including refrigerator and freezer problems, and discussed applying for equipment grants to replace these appliances. Additionally, the group explored the possibility of installing Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats to improve energy efficiency by remotely controlling temperatures during breaks, with potential funding through a grant program.

District Energy and Water Solutions

The district discussed their negative experience with Sylvania and explored alternative energy and water conservation options. They considered working with companies like Mid State, Climate Tech, or Pueblo Mechanical for building automation and energy control systems. The district also discussed financing options for projects and potential solar installations. Additionally, they learned about water conservation grants from the water company, which could help fund projects like artificial grass for football fields and other watered areas.

Artificial Turf and Solar Projects

The group discussed two main topics: artificial turf and solar projects. They explored the benefits and challenges of artificial turf, including reduced maintenance and improved aesthetics. The conversation then shifted to solar projects, with participants sharing experiences about the costs, benefits, and complications of solar installations. Finally, they discussed plans for a large flagpole project at the football field, aiming to have it completed by 2026, and the need to fast-track an agreement for a garden project.

District Priorities and Communication Updates

The board discussed several district priorities, including student and teacher centers, with a focus on showcasing high schools and training new teachers in September. They addressed communication improvements through websites, social media, and a parent app, and agreed to post summer office hours (8am-4pm, Monday-Thursday starting July 21st) to help with enrollment. The board also discussed plans to improve reading and math scores, with

Mr. Stoelk planning to observe teachers in the Vail School District, though specific goals have not yet been established.

Improving Math Performance and Goals

The district discussed student performance on standardized tests, noting that while ELA goals were met, math goals were not, with only 56% of students passing. They plan to set specific SMART goals for the upcoming year and will work with Bell to identify "power standards" and create instructional calendars. The district acknowledged challenges in balancing test preparation with quality teaching and student relationships, particularly given the limited 150-day instruction period, and discussed the need to focus on quarterly growth and progress toward clear learning objectives.

Enhancing Education and Student Safety

The board discussed several key topics including student safety, sportsmanship, and innovative recruitment strategies. They addressed challenges with special education students and the implementation of Al in teaching, including lesson plan generation and plagiarism prevention. The board also reviewed plans for professional development, teacher handbook updates, and communication improvements between teachers, students, and parents. Additionally, they discussed policies regarding ESA participation for homeschool students and the need for proper documentation and verification of student status.

Dated this 9th day of July, 2025.

Board President, Tim Leedy; Adopted August 12, 2025.