

# UTAH COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

## AGENDA ITEM

### UCAT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11 June 2015

ITEM: III.R

TOPIC: Developing Joint Education Meeting, September 2015

#### BACKGROUND

A recent meeting was held between Legislature and Education leaders to discuss a possible Joint Education Meeting in September. As indicated in the accompanying email from Benjamin Leishman of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Office, this is an effort to re-schedule the Joint Education Meeting that was canceled last fall.

Current dates being considered are September 2-4 (W,Th,F) or September 24-25 (Th,F) in Cedar City.

UCAT's September meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> in Lehi. As the Joint Education Meeting information becomes more finalized, it is possible that the Trustees might consider holding the currently scheduled September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting at SWATC on a date that coordinates with the Joint Education meeting.

Information Only

Attachment:

Email from Benjamin Leishman, Joint Education Planning





Brems, Robert <rbrems@ucat.edu>

## Joint Education Meeting Planning

Benjamin Leishman <bleishman@le.utah.gov>

Tue, Jun 2, 2015 at 8:49 AM

To: Allyson Goldstein <agoldstein@le.utah.gov>, Ann Millner <amillner@le.utah.gov>, Benjamin Leishman <bleishman@le.utah.gov>, Brad Last <blast@le.utah.gov>, "Brems, Robert" <rbrems@ucat.edu>, Dave Crandall <crandall@xmission.com>, Dave Buhler <dbuhler@ushe.edu>, Howard Stephenson <hstephenson@le.utah.gov>, Jennifer Johnson <jj@jenniferajohnson.com>, Jon Stanard <jstanard@le.utah.gov>, Keith Grover <keithgrover@le.utah.gov>, Mike Kennedy <mikekennedy@le.utah.gov>, "sjenkins@ushe.edu" <sjenkins@ushe.edu>, "Smith, Brad C." <Brad.Smith@schools.utah.gov>, "Spencer C. Pratt" <spratt@le.utah.gov>, Steve Eliason <seliason@le.utah.gov>, Steve Urquhart <surquhart@le.utah.gov>, Sydnee Dickson <sydnee.dickson@schools.utah.gov>, Tami Pyfer <tpyfer@utah.gov>, "Thomas, David" <dthomas@summitcounty.org>, Tiffany Stanley <tiffanystanley@le.utah.gov>, "Tom Bingham (tom@umaweb.org)" <tom@umaweb.org>, "V. Lowry Snow (vlsnow@le.utah.gov)" <IMCEAEX-ou=ExchangeLabs\_ou=Exchange+20Administrative+20Group+20+28FYDIBOHF23SPDLT+29\_cn=Recipients\_cn=36fbb466980d4bf78b212e8effbe2e1f-vlsnow@namprd07.prod.outlook.com>, Victoria Ashby <victoriaashby@le.utah.gov>

Good Morning,

Many were not able to attend the first planning session for the Joint Education Meeting held on May 20, 2015. This is an effort to re-schedule the joint education meeting canceled last fall. The following is a summary of this meeting and some information on how we will proceed in the planning process.

Members in attendance selected two potential date ranges for the meeting: September 2-4 (Wed/Thurs/Fri) or September 24-25 (Thurs/Fri). The preferred meeting location is at SUU in Cedar City but we still need to confirm availability with SUU.

The meeting will be held over two days, with potentially 3-4 segments:

1. Legislative Committees & State Board of Education
2. Legislative Committees & State Board of Regents
3. Legislative Committees & UCAT Board of Trustees
4. Joint Meeting of All Groups

The following concepts for the meeting were discussed:

- There was general understanding that this joint meeting should focus on finding solutions to issue, not developing them. There was interest in using preceding Education Interim, Charter School Taskforce, and Appropriation Subcommittee meetings to develop issues prior to this meeting.
- During the combined session, generally over lunch, Senator Stephenson recommended two potential keynote speakers:
  - Marc Tucker – National Center on Education & the Economy — Since 1988, NCEE has been researching the world's best performing education systems to unlock their secrets. We focus on their standards, instructional systems and assessment designs. We look at the way they govern, finance and organize their systems. We use this information to provide groundbreaking designs for high performance education systems at the national, state and local levels. For much better student performance. For all of our students.

Marc has done extensive work evaluating the education systems of high performing countries on the PISA. He created the Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce and co-authored its report, America's Choice: high skills or low wages!, which called for a new high school leaving a certificate based on standards; currently has an appointment as a Visiting Distinguished Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He is willing to work with Utah in developing a "Gap Analysis" of our education system strengths and weaknesses and develop a plan for elevating education outcomes based on the data.

- Tom Vander Ark – author of Getting Smart: How Digital Learning is Changing the World and Smart Cities That Work for Everyone: 7 Keys to Education & Employment. He is CEO of Getting Smart, an education advocacy firm and a partner in Learn Capital, an education venture capital firm investing in edtech startups. Previously he served as the first Executive Director of Education for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Tom served as a public school superintendent in Washington State and has extensive private sector experience

As an expert in education reform Tom is aware of Utah's leadership in Digital Learning and would like to assist in our pioneering efforts to transition from SAGE high-stakes end-of-level testing to a competency-based education model. (The group preferred this option)

- Other potential discussion topics:
  - Straighter Line – Competency-based education model for general education courses in higher education. Provide content only. Requires institutions to acknowledge competencies with credit.
  - Post-secondary Preparation
  - Teacher Preparation – Have a more active role of K-12 education in the design of teacher preparation programs, ability to have do-not hire lists for non-conforming programs, etc.
  - UCAT Items (Brems) – Mastery Learning, enhancing the ability for students going to charter schools, home schools, and private schools to participate in programs, developing more early or late programs to attract high school students, Board of Regents policy change and articulation agreements, Newmont University model.
  - Legislature/School Board Relationship (Kennedy) – How do we work better with the State School Board? How do we make it easier to interact?
  - Topics should focus on the integration of the entire education system. (Last)
  - Strategic Planning (Karras) – Discuss preliminary efforts in developing a statewide strategic plan for education. Hear progress reports from the three systems.
  - Higher Education Issues (Urquhart) – Performance-based funding update, engineering programs, how to fund buildings in higher education, math competency (Sen. Millner's bill).
- Others?

We are looking into ways to start an online discussion forum as a way to continue planning. Once we find the best method to do this, you will be invited by e-mail to join the forum.

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Thanks,

Ben

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**R. Benjamin Leishman**

Fiscal Analyst, Public Education

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst

House Building, Suite W310

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Phone: (801) 538-1034