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CITY OF
MOAB
UTAH

Mayor: Emily S. Niehaus
Council: Tawny Knuteson-Boyd
Rani Derasary
Mike Duncan
Karen Guzman-Newton
Kalen Jones

February 9, 2019

To: The Honorable Members of the Utah Legislative Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee
From: Mayor and City Council of Moab, Utah
Subject: Endorsement of USU Southeast Utah Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Expansion

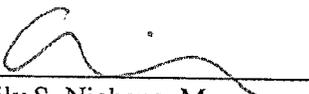
Honorable Members of the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

We enthusiastically endorse the appropriations request from Utah State University (USU) to expand its Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in southeast Utah.

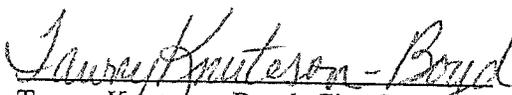
We realize it is difficult to decide which competing higher education requests to fund, and appreciate your consideration of this one. We are confident this proposal offers an excellent return on investment in that:

- By helping the Moab, Blanding and Price campuses expand CTE programs, funds will provide more residents the opportunity to train in well-paying technical trades in industries such as health, manufacturing, engineering and business. Many of these programs come with pathways to higher degrees (should the student so choose). The education will regardless enable graduates to provide for their families and bring needed skills to our communities.
- By making it possible for students in southeast Utah to pay similar rates for their training as Utah technical colleges charge, we will level the playing field. USU has noted that students in southeast Utah currently pay far too much by comparison.
- By working in collaboration with high schools, eg by using existing high school facilities for CTE labs where possible, USU endeavors to avoid duplication and invest funds efficiently.
- By working closely with each community, USU ensures the CTE programs offered locally reflect market and industry needs specific to that city. Funds are focused on training that has a realistic pathway to a local job, thereby helping residents live where they work, and helping younger people raise families where they grew up.

On behalf of the City of Moab, thank you again for considering USU's request to fund and expand their Career and Technical Education programs here in Moab, and in the neighboring communities of Blanding and Price. We wholeheartedly support allocation of these funds.

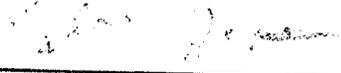

Emily S. Niehaus, Mayor

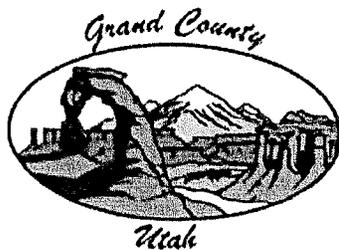

Mike Duncan, City Council


Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, City Council


Karen Guzman-Newton, City Council


Rani Derasary, City Council


Kalen Jones, City Council



GRAND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS
Evan Clapper (Chair) · Terry Morse (Vice Chair)
Mary McGann · Greg Halliday · Jaylyn Hawks
Curtis Wells Rory Paxman

February 8, 2019

To: The Honorable Members of the Utah Legislative Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee

From: Grand County Council

Subject: Endorsement of USU Southeast Utah Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Expansion

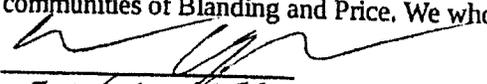
Honorable Members of the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

We enthusiastically endorse the appropriations request from Utah State University (USU) to expand its Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in southeast Utah.

We realize it is difficult to decide which competing higher education requests to fund, and appreciate your consideration of this one. We are confident this proposal offers an excellent return on investment in that:

- By helping the Moab, Blanding and Price campuses expand CTE programs, funds will provide more residents the opportunity to train in well-paying technical trades in industries such as health, manufacturing, engineering and business. Many of these programs come with pathways to higher degrees (should the student so choose). The education will regardless enable graduates to provide for their families and bring needed skills to our communities.
- By making it possible for students in southeast Utah to pay similar rates for their training as Utah technical colleges charge, we will level the playing field. USU has noted that students in southeast Utah currently pay far too much by comparison.
- By working in collaboration with high schools, e.g. by using existing high school facilities for CTE labs where possible, USU endeavors to avoid duplication and invest funds efficiently.
- By working closely with each community, USU ensures the CTE programs offered locally reflect market and industry needs specific to that city. Funds are focused on training that has a realistic pathway to a local job, thereby helping residents live where they work, and helping younger people raise families where they grew up

On behalf of the Grand County Council, thank you again for considering USU's request to fund and expand their Career and Technical Education programs here in Moab, and in the neighboring communities of Blanding and Price. We wholeheartedly support allocation of these funds.


EVAN CLAPPER
Grand County Council Chair

Council's Office · 125 E. Center St. · Moab, UT 84532 · (435) 259-1346 · www.grandcountyutah.net

GRAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Melissa Byrd, Board President
Peggy Nissen, Board Vice President
Britnie Ellis, Board Member
Jim Webster, Board Member
Kathy Williams, Board Member
JT Stroder, Superintendent
Robert Farnsworth, Business Administrator

February 11, 2019

To: The Honorable Members of the Utah Legislative Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee

From: Superintendent and Board of Education, Grand County School District

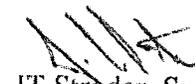
Subject: Endorsement of USU Southeast Utah Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program Expansion

We strongly support the appropriations request in front of you from Utah State University (USU) to expand its Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in southeast Utah.

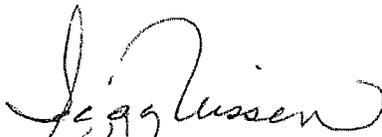
This request, if funded, would have significant positive economic and educational impacts for residents of Grand County and northern San Juan County. Our area has been chronically underserved in post-secondary CTE program offerings, and we believe this funding will go a long way in improving access for citizens and graduating seniors from our high school. It also finally puts our community on more financially equitable standing with all other regions of Utah in terms of cost of tuition (see number 1 below) and improving the public school/secondary to post-graduation/workforce transition (see number 2 below):

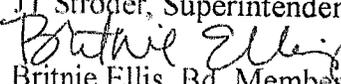
1. This appropriation request will offset tuition for adult students (an approximately 7-fold reduction) and allow graduates to complete degrees and certificate programs at a price point that is aligned with technical college tuitions across the state. Grand County has not been served by a UTECH college for many years, and the current high cost for instruction through USU has been a real barrier for our citizens. This will be a more affordable path to certificates, many of which can stack into USU degrees, as people train for local jobs.
2. Improved CTE at the post-secondary level brings benefits to Grand County high school students as well. CTE programs are a significant part of high school concurrent enrollment offerings today, and the public school (secondary) to post-secondary CTE pathway will be more seamless and affordable, with opportunity for expanded course offerings. In addition, it should prevent duplication of services and courses.
3. A better technical education model for southeast Utah means a better, locally trained workforce. Unemployed and underemployed workers in the county will have improved access to industry-aligned and employment-ready opportunities.
4. Potential employers in Grand County are ready to commit to relocating or expanding with a well-prepared workforce. Improved CTE programs for new and expanding industries are an essential part of the community's economic development plan.

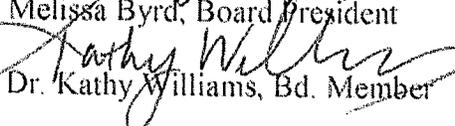
Sincerely,

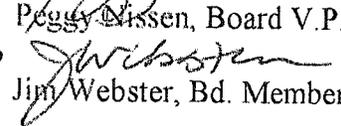

JT Stroder, Superintendent


Melissa Byrd, Board President


Peggy Nissen, Board V.P.


Britnie Ellis, Bd. Member


Dr. Kathy Williams, Bd. Member


Jim Webster, Bd. Member

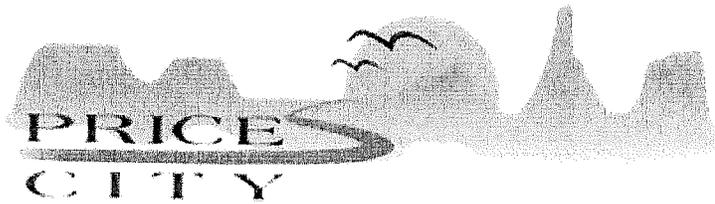
Mayor
MICHAEL KOURIANOS

City Attorney
THOMAS SITTERUD

City Recorder
SHERRIE GORDON

City Treasurer
SHARI MADRID

Finance Director
LISA RICHENS



City Council

RICK DAVIS

AMY KNOTT-JESPERSEN

LAYNE MILLER

BOYD MARSING

TERRY WILLIS

185 EAST MAIN • P.O. BOX 893 • PRICE, UT 84501
PHONE (435) 637-5010 • FAX (435) 637-2905

February 11, 2019

Utah Legislature
Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee,

I just want to say thank you to the committee for looking at how a program at our university can help our community.

As Mayor of Price City, we have prospered because of the abundant natural resources. I recognize that the world is changing. Coal and coal-powered electricity has a limited life. Our economy must diversify if we are to survive.

With that said, I know that programs like Career and Technical Education that Utah State University Eastern is offering, will help change the future of our economy. I give my full support to this program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Kourianos".

Mayor Mike Kourianos
Price City, UT



CARBON SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 11, 2019

Utah Legislature, Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee,

I wish to thank you and your committee for your commitment to ensuring that Utahns have options for furthering their education. In particular, rural areas face specific challenges in regards to technical training. Carbon County, for example, does not have an Applied Technology Center. In the absence of the options provided by Applied Technology Centers elsewhere in the state, Utah State University Eastern has stepped up to try to fill that role.

Unfortunately, the amount students pay to receive technical training and certificates from USU-Eastern is substantially more than what our Carbon County citizens would have to pay if they lived near an ATC. For one of the Utah counties facing serious economic challenges, this simply doesn't make sense. The citizens with the greatest economic challenges are forced to pay almost triple the cost.

Carbon School District is committed to provide more options for technical training to our students. With USU-Eastern being our greatest partner in providing these options, we are hopeful that you will support the new model for post-secondary CTE funding that has been designed to bring the costs of these programs down to the level other Utahns experience throughout the state where Applied Technology Centers are accessible.

Ongoing funding is essential to maintain opportunities for our high school students and others. As we make technical training more accessible, we believe we will see improved access to employment ready opportunities for our population. As one of the counties with high intergenerational poverty, we believe technical training is a viable solution.

From the level of larger scale economic development in Carbon County, we know that there are many potential employers ready to commit to relocating or expanding if they knew they could have access to well trained potential employees. The economic development of Carbon County is dependent on a workforce that meets the needs of industry.

Your support for this funding will result in positive opportunities that will not exist without your help. Thank you for taking the time to consider this important request.

Sincerely,

Lance Hatch, PhD
Superintendent

EMERY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

120 North Main • Box 120 • Huntington, Utah 84528



Feb. 12, 2019

Utah Legislature
Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee

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Elementary Education

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Supervisor of
Instructional Technology

Jeneane Warren,
Director of
School Food Service

Roger Swenson,
Supervisor of
Transportation

Kerry Lake,
Supervisor of
Buildings and Grounds

Subcommittee Members:

Exciting things are taking place at Utah State University Eastern with respect to Career and Technical Education, and the Emery School District is proud to be part of that movement. Furthermore, the Emery District is pleased to endorse the university's efforts toward gaining financial support from the Utah Legislature to advance these visionary CTE goals.

Over the last three years our district has been part of this endeavor which has resulted in great gains in building our secondary pathways. Unfortunately, we have gotten to the point where we cannot advance beyond the status quo due to financial restraints both in public ed as well as higher ed. This has left our district with several partial pathways which have provided only limited opportunity for our students.

Under the USU-Eastern proposal, complete CTE programs will become available through high school and college. Many courses will offer concurrent enrollment credit which will give our students a fast track to certification while making post-high school training more affordable.

Funding for the USU-Eastern CTE Program will have very broad and positive outcomes for our local economy which is currently suffering from high unemployment from loss of energy-based jobs. By targeting specific needs in our area, secondary schools can build pathways that will lead to relevant local jobs which will not only keep our high school graduates from leaving the area, but will also serve as enticement for those who have left but want to return.

What USU Eastern is building, in partnership with our school district, is exactly what is needed to not only redefine our economy, but to give hope to those who want to remain in Emery County or return to their roots. On behalf of the Emery School District, I am pleased to support this new CTE model for USU Eastern, and encourage the subcommittee to do the same.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Davis, Superintendent
Emery School District

CC: Tracey Johnson