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Block schedule at high school is a go for 2012-2013 school year

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

It's called 5 X 5 Block Scheduling and it is coming to Juab High School next fall.

Derrin Owens, Juab High School Counselor, and Dr. Rick Robins, Juab High School Principal, met with the school board on Wednesday.

The two talked about the implementation of the new block scheduling to be put into practice in school year 2012-2013.

It is a type of academic scheduling in which each student has fewer classes per day but more each week. That is because each class is scheduled for a longer period of time and because the classes will follow an A, B schedule. More classes are taken in a week than on the traditional 55-minute daily class schedule and that allows for more concentrated experiences of subjects and more subjects in one school year.

"In the 5 X 5 form, daily classes rotate through a two-day cycle," said Owens. "A student will take 10 classes, five each day."

After two years of meetings, deliberations, community input and board and educational staff considerations, Juab High School has determined to implement a 5 x 5 block schedule for the coming school year.

"This represents two years worth of hard work," said Jim Shank, superintendent.

However, a variety of factors prompted the need for changing schedules. The 5 X 5 offers several benefits over the traditional



JUAB HIGH SCHOOL AT START OF DAY • 5 X 5 Block Scheduling is coming to Juab High School next fall. It is a type of academic scheduling in which each student has fewer classes per day but more each week. That is because each class is scheduled for a longer period of time and because the classes will follow an A, B schedule. More classes are taken in a week than on the traditional 55-minute daily class schedule and that allows for more concentrated experiences of subjects and more subjects in one school year.

55-minute schedule. There will be more time for concentrated instruction, time for interventions and time for more class choices.

Students will attend 5 classes at 70 minutes each. The 10 total classes will be divided into 5 classes on A-Day and 5 classes on B-Day.

"Lunch time has been the biggest challenge," said Owens. "We will have two 35-minute lunch times. The first will be at 11:40 a.m. and the last will be at 12:55 p.m."

He said that was a long time for the second shift to last after

breakfast but the times will switch.

The new schedule has opened the door for several new course offerings, such as another foreign language, and more advanced math and science classes.

Gym space, especially in the winter time, had been limited and the new schedule should help solve that problem.

"Right now, there are not a lot of class choices for students," said Robins. "Our schedules are so tight that students take what is required and do not have much time for elective classes." The new schedule allows for

more enrichment and intervention opportunities that were not possible in the traditional schedule. There will be more help available for struggling students and there will be more opportunities for them to seek and receive that help.

"We have watched the 4 X 4 in some of the state's districts but when we studied the 5 X 5, we decided that was the best for our district," said Owens.

Some district staff and administrators have had the opportunity to visit two high schools using the 5 X 5 schedule and to learn from them. The board de-

served thanks for allowing that to happen, he said.

The beginning budget and teacher/pupil ratio should be good under the plan. For example, the school will use the existing staff and each teacher will be responsible for approximately 108 students.

Owens and Robins had been able to work out a schedule that would allow the shared staff to still perform at the two schools they were now working at. In

See 5x5 on page 3



REGION 12 CHAMPIONS • Juab High School ProVita were named the Region 12 Champions on Thursday, January 26. They placed 1st in Military and Character, and 2nd in Dance. They will compete at the State Championships next Saturday at UVU. Come out and support your Region Champs! Photo Rebecca Dopp.

Region 12 Champions

The Juab High School ProVita danced their way to the Region 12 drill team championship on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012. The competition was held in the JHS gym to a capacity crowd of fans cheering on their favorite teams from Juab, Spanish Fork, North Sanpete, Carbon, Payson and Delta High Schools. This will make 15 Region Drill Team Championship Banners for JHS.

Juab Placed 1st in Military, 2nd in Dance, 1st in Character. Earning them the Region Championship Title. Spanish Fork came in 2nd place. Payson 3rd, Delta 4th, North Sanpete 5th, all qualifying for the State Drill Team championships that will be held at Utah Valley University on Saturday, Feb. 4, beginning at 9:00 a.m. You

may purchase tickets on line by going to the Uhsaa Association website and clicking on the drill team link.

Earning a spot on the All-Region Drill Team were Hayley Robinson, Lexi Allred, McKenzie Shaw.

The Academic All-Region Team was comprised of 8 members, Juab was represented with six of the eight. Kalee Smith, Hayley Robinson, McKenzie Morris, McKenzie Shaw, Kinley Olpin and Ashley Nelson. In order to be considered for the Academic All-Region Team the dancers must have a GPA of 3.75 or better. The members of the Academic All-Region Team will be considered for Academic All-State Honors to be announced at the State awards ceremony on Satur-

day.

The team is 30-members strong and includes: Seniors: Hayley Robinson, Kalee Smith, McKenzie Morris, McKenzie Shaw, Brittany Tatton, Brittney Chapple, Kinley Olpin, Lexi Allred, Jodi Fulton, Chelsea Roper. Juniors: Tayler Jones, Hailee Garrett, Kennedy Cowan, Korryn Luker, Rachelle Terry, Alexis Finch, Kamaree Jackman, McKenzie Tangren. Sophomores: Savannah Behrmann, Ashley Whimpey, Jessika Kenison, Michelle Kramer, Megan Rowley, Megan Foster, Karson Dansie, Bailey Nuzman, Kynlee Sessions, Kelsey Adams. Jaimee Beard is Team Manager. The team is coached by Lisa Blackett and Marci Rasch.

School district gets a clean opinion in annual audit

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

The best grade a school district budget can get is an unqualified clean opinion.

Juab School District received just that opinion from Dave Brown, CPA with Squire & Company, PC, during the audit review on Wednesday evening during board meeting.

"An unqualified or clean opinion is the best grade we can give as auditors," Brown said.

He said that Management's Discussion and Analysis, a letter of reporting the district's performance during the year ended June 30, 2011, was the spot where the budget would be best explained in a nutshell. That letter is prepared by Darin Clark, business director, on an annual basis and accompanies each audit.

"Two financial highlights of the management letter", he said, "are that the district's assets exceeded liabilities by \$16.3 million at the close of the most recent fiscal year and that during 2011, the district's expenses were \$0.7 million less than the \$18.6 million generated in taxes and federal, state, and other revenues for governmental activities."

"Everything was in good order," he said.

Brown spoke briefly about the Recovery Act and its effect on the audit process.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and commonly referred to as the Stimulus or The Recovery Act, is an economic stimulus package en-

acted by the 111th United States Congress in February 2009 and signed into law on February 17, 2009, by President Barack Obama.

To respond to the late-2000s recession, the primary objective for ARRA was to save and create jobs almost immediately. Secondary objectives were to provide temporary relief programs for those most impacted by the recession and invest in infrastructure, education, health, and 'green' energy.

"This year, you will recall, we had a conversation about GASB 84," said Brown. "We did implement a GASB fund."

The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) was created in 1984 to establish generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for state and local government entities.

"It is a rainy day fund and it takes action by the board to use that fund," said Clark.

The district maintains six individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the general fund, the debt service fund and the capital projects fund, each of which are considered major funds.

Data from the other three governmental funds are combined into a single aggregated presentation.

The district adopts an annual

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