

UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY
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November 20, 1961

NO. 1661

1961
1954

Good morning. The Uintah High School was organized in 1923 when the state took over the Uintah Academy. W. A. Paxton was principal and he had eight teachers on his staff. The total enrollment of the four-year high school was one hundred eighty. George Bartlett was the first student body president. There was a band of fifteen members, an orchestra of eight members, a boys' glee club of eleven members, and twelve girls composed the girls' glee club. The basketball team won seventh place in the state tournament and Arthur Curtis won the state championship in discus throwing.

This year there are four hundred forty eight students studying under twenty one faculty members under the direction of Leland G. Rex, principal and administrator of the Uintah High School.

This is the seventh year since the high school was moved from what is now the Ashley Valley Junior High into the present building, and at that time it became a three year high school, leaving the ninth grade with the junior high school where it properly belongs. Before this time both the junior and senior high schools occupied the same buildings, Uintah is an accredited high school, and graduates can apply for entrance to any institution of higher learning in the nation. Uintah is recognized as one of the outstanding high schools in our state.

This is the fifth year that Mr. Rex has been principal of Uintah, and our entire district is proud of the strides the school has made under his direction. He is a fine administrator with fine facilities at his disposal, and the result is of real benefit to our young people.

The student body is governed by a council of thirteen elected officers working under the direction of Vice-Principal John Blazzard, and interpreting the Constitution and By-laws of the Uintah High School. These thirteen students attend a class in student government one period of each day instructed by Mr. Blazzard. The council's duties included helping with the planning of the school's activities, taking care of the school calendar so there will be no conflict of activities, serving as a clearing house for club and class requests for activities, and budgeting the appropriation for activities for the school year.

This year's student body officers are Gordon Gee, president, Dennis Oaks, vice-president, Jan Tate, secretary, Linda Pierce, historian, Floyd King, chief of police, Deanna Murray, business manager, and Eileen Searle, head cheer leader. The other members of the Student Council are Glendon Manwaring, senior class president, Roger Tullis, junior class president, Dennis Montgomery, sophomore class president, Annette Goodrich, yearbook editor, Curg Belcher, Boy's League president, and Shirley Erekson, Girl's League president.

Every assembly is previewed by this group of hard working students in order that they may be sure that each performance presented at the school is of a quality worthy of the school.

The other three cheer leaders who are elected by the student body but do not serve on the student council are Sue Parkinson, Donetta Brown, and Kathleen Jolley.

The attendance of the students is under the charge of Vice-Principal Blazzard, and his records show whether each student is in school each period of the day. At the beginning of the school year a letter is sent to each home setting forth the rules on attendance and absence and the parents are thus informed of the school's policies and can cooperate in the maintenance of the high standards of the school.

The students at Uintah are fortunate in having the services of a full time counsellor, Aaron Hansen, to help them through an organized guidance program. This program is designed to help the boys and girls plan their own actions wisely in view of all the facts that can be obtained concerning themselves and the world in which they will work and live. Some of the facets of the guidance program are vocational counseling, counseling on school and personal problems, and helping students with applications for college entrance and for scholarships.

The testing program at the high school is carried out by Mr. Hansen, and each year a number of tests are given to determine the students' potential and their vocational abilities in order that they may be guided toward a successful future.

Mr. Hansen has the files of personal data on all students, such as the registration card which provides the location of a student each period of the day; the report card which provides a current evaluation of the student in the area of academic achievement, attendance and attitudes; the permanent record card which provides a brief record of grades, tests,

health, family and personal data; and the permanent file which provides actual tests, health certificates, anecdotal records, and samples of work.

Ability grouping is being used in the English department on the basis of tests and grades and the recommendation of the teachers and counselor. The English teachers are Electa Caldwell, Harold Hopla, Estel Manwaring, and Ramond Peterson. Grouping is also done to some extent in the math and type classes. The mathematics teachers are Doyle Landon, Wells McInelly, Lynn Thomas, and Ray Udy. Patricia Campbell and Jean Peterson are the type instructors.

A well-rounded physical fitness program is included in the curriculum at Uintah as recommended by President Kennedy and his committee. All students are included in the physical education classes, with the exception of a few who are excused on doctor's orders, and formal instruction in body building exercises is given as well as competitive sports and creative dance. All students are required to enroll in a health class during their high school careers in order that they will receive information of such importance. The physical education and health instructors are Patricia Campbell, Coach Bart Johnson, and Coach Louis Mele. As you know, Uintah has a fine athletic program with football, basketball, track and wrestling teams competing for honors under the direction of the two coaches.

A fine science program is offered at Uintah under the direction of Mr. Blazzard, Mr. McInelly, and Mr. Thomas. The Science Fair for the entire Uintah Basin was organized by this department at Uintah and has grown until it is recognized as one of the finest in the state.

The speech department is under the direction of Aron Thedell, and a full program is well under way. They presented a children's theater production, Rip Van Winkle, to all of the elementary children of the entire district last week, and it was a highlight of the year for these young students. The school play is now in rehearsal, and debate and other activities associated with the speech department are uppermost in the minds of interested students. Mr. Thedell is also the talented instructor of the art department, and our budding artists are profiting greatly from his classes. They plan an exhibit of their

work in the spring, when you will be invited to an open house to view the things they have done. As head of the art department Mr. Thedell is advisor to the yearbook staff.

Uintah's home economics department is very outstanding, and is under the direction of Freda Davis. In addition to home economics, Mrs. Davis teaches classes in advanced clothing and home living. Her home living classes are taught for the benefit of the senior girls, many of whom will be managing their own homes before much time has elapsed, and these classes give them practical information on such things as budgeting, home decoration, the care of the home, family living, basic child care, and many others.

Charles Freeman is in charge of the Auto Mechanics department, and many of Vernal's mechanics received their first vocational training under his fine instruction.

The history teachers at Uintah are Harold Mullinger and Valda Massey, and here our students learn more of their proud heritage and study the world of the present. Students of the history department take part in the Model United Nations which is held at the University of Utah each spring. There they actually participate as representatives of an assigned country, and really learn of the problems faced in both the general assembly and the security council.

Weldon Kitchen is the industrial arts instructor, and included in his department in addition are mechanical drawing, woodwork, and a craft class for girls.

Doyle Landon is head of the vocational agriculture department and teaches agricultural science, farm mechanics, and a class in consumer's math. Stock and soil judging teams from Uintah have won national honors for their skill. Mr. Landon is, of course, advisor to the Uintah chapter of the Future Farmers of America.

Estel Manwaring is the instructor of the Spanish classes as well as an English teacher. The students of Spanish attend the meet at Provo each year, usually winning honors, and they also have a Spanish Club which meets regularly for conversation and fun as well as business.

The Uintah library is outstanding for a high school, with thousands of volumes offered the students for their study, research and pleasure. Wilma Webb is the librarian, and she also teaches the journalism class which publishes the Ute Pow Wow at intervals, and teaches a psychology class.

The music department is growing each year under the direction of Dean Pace. There is the remarkable band, newly uniformed, which has grown so in the short time Mr. Pace has been at Uintah. He also has a class of boys' glee, male chorus, two girls' glee classes and an orchestra. You will be invited to at least two concerts during the year, and we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity of enjoying an evening of music with these young people.

A program of distributive education is a part of Uintah's curriculum. With the cooperation of businessmen, qualified commercial students spend one or two periods each day actually working for a business firm. This is carried out during the second semester, and gives the students invaluable training.

One hundred and twenty nine students will graduate from the Uintah High School next spring. Having such a number of young citizens enter the adult life of the community each year makes us realize that a high school is not just a school, but is an integral part of the community, and a most important part, for here, in the main, our young people are trained in the way they will go, for the influence of the atmospheres of the school and the people under whom they learn is great.

The atmosphere of Uintah is a positive one. The school expects the students to do their best, to look their best, and to behave as ladies and gentlemen, and, by and large, they do. Uintah's students have a reputation for being neatly and suitably dressed and for good behavior, throughout the state. When Uintah's athletes travel they dress in white shirts with ties and in suits, not in jeans, and you will never see Uintah's girls in pin curls on campus or at any activity, nor will you see them in jeans. These are just some of the high standards that have been set by Principal Rix, and the students are proud that it is so.

The Uintah Basin Administrator's Association, which is composed of the administrators of all the high schools in Uintah, Duchesne, and Daggett counties, meets on the average of once each month to plan all of the extra-curricular activities for the Basin schools. This group schedules such events as the athletic program, the forensic and speech meets, the music festival, the commercial meet, and the forum and interpretive meet. The schools take turns in playing host to these groups, and a really cooperative attitude is present

at association meetings and among the schools represented.

In addition to the art exhibit and concerts I have already mentioned, you will be invited to a number of interesting and varied activities at the high school during this school year. The industrial arts students are planning an open house with displays of the work done in the areas covered by this department.

There will be an open house to demonstrate the physical education programs of both the boys and girls, and the girls' department will present a dance review in the spring.

There are two school plays in your future, and the Science Fair is always worthy of your time and attention. We hope you will watch for and participate in these activities.

The high school building with its beautiful and large auditorium is in constant use by the community. At least one community activity is scheduled there each week, and this does not include our adult education program, for we utilize the school's facilities several nights each week, and for sever classes each night.

The work of the school could not be carried out without the crew of willing dustodians who are charged with the maintenance and care of the building. Lowell Wardle is head custodian, and he is ably assisted by Arnold Perry and William Richardson.

Lynn Hardy is school secretary and office manager, and a mighty busy lady she is!

Oral Goodrich is head of the school lunch unit and her assistants are Ellen Haws, Marvel Perry, Pearl Simper, and Claudia Eaton.

Approximately two hundred fifty members of Uintah's student body are transported to school each day.

Uintah has a number of social and service organizations in addition to the two I have already mentioned. These are the U'Ettes, the group that helps keep the school spirit soaring, the Varsity Club whose members are the lettermen of the athletic department, the Commercial Club, the Future Homemakers of America, and the Thespian, Key and Science Clubs.

I realize that I couldn't possibly give you a complete picture of such a large and complex operation as the Uintah High School in this short time, but I hope you have gained a little understanding of the kind of things they are accomplishing for your students.

It is a fine school with a fine faculty, and we are fortunate to have it in our community. I am indebted to Mr. Rex for the time he spent to give me this information, and to the Builders of Uintah for the brief historical sketch.

And so to the Uintah High School, her student body, her officers, her principal and staffs, our Salute of the Week!

Nov 20, 1980



AS WAS FEARED, tree planters along Main Street are not holding up. Most are not as bad off as the planter in front of the post office which is receiving the worst punishment.

Uintah drill team invited to Ireland

The Uintah High U'ettes Drill team has received an invitation from Fergus O'Brien, mayor of Dublin, Ireland, to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, March 17.

"We are really excited," Mrs. Christine Kearl, instructor of the U'ettes said. "I've been corresponding since this summer with those in charge of the parade, but I never expected the invitation."

The trip to Ireland will cost each of the U'ettes about \$1,300.

Mrs. Kearl said each of the 24 U'ettes will be responsible for raising enough funds to make the trip, and she hopes for some state money to help cover the costs.

"As far as I know, we're the first group from Utah to ever be invited," Mrs. Kearl said. "Of course we will have to have the school board's approval before we can go ahead."

Nov. 1 the U'ettes traveled to Cyprus High School, Magna, Utah and took first place in the dance routine and best of show overall.

According to Mrs. Kearl, the U'ettes performance at Cyprus didn't have anything to do with being invited to Ireland.

If the U'ettes are allowed to travel to Ireland, they will join a number of other drill teams and bands from the U.S. and Europe who participate in the St. Patrick's Day event which is nationally televised.

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Dec 4, 1980



MRS. CLAUS GIVES her visitor a few hints about being good until Christmas. The Clauses visited with 550 youngsters last Saturday before calling it a day.

Ireland trip approved, bids opened on buses

In a special school board meeting last Tuesday, Nov. 25, the board approved a trip to Ireland for the Uintah High drill team and accepted bids on two new school buses.

Last month the U'ettes, Uintah High drill team, was invited by the mayor of Dublin, Fergus O'Brien to participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Ireland March 17.

After the school board verified that it was a bona fide invitation, they unanimously voted to allow the drill team to prepare for the competition in Ireland with certain criteria in mind.

According to John Smith, school board president, the trip is to be "a learning experience."

He indicated that the drill team will be required to report back what they learned during the trip to various

organizations. Jan. 1, 1981 the drill team will report to the board the progress of raising the funds for the trip and acquiring parental permission.

The board also opened the bid for two diesel buses. The board accepted the low bid of \$47,400 a piece for two Blue Bird buses.

Stan Allen, school transportation, said he hoped to get better mileage and longer life from the new diesel buses over gas buses. The buses can be used as activity buses as well as to and from school.

Presently there are 53 buses transporting 5,000 students 430,000 miles a year in the Uintah School District. There are 22 bus drivers, four female, employed by the district.

Allen said that the district usually gets 150,000 thousand miles per bus.

Jan 8, 1981

New board members to take oath

The Uintah School Board will meet Thurs., Jan. 8, at 5 p.m. in the district office to swear in new board members, hear a Uintah drill team report, and discuss adjustments due to 3½% and 1½% budget cuts.

Representing District No. 4, Blayne Morrill, who defeated incumbent Max Todd last November, will be sworn to office. Gary Taylor, who has been serving on the school board since John Millecam resigned more than six months ago, will also be sworn to office. Taylor ran unopposed last November in District No. 5.

The board will also hear a report from Bill Caldwell, principal at Uintah High, and Chris Kearn, drill team instructor, on the progress of the drill team in raising funds to travel to Ireland to perform. The Uintah High drill team was invited by the Mayor of Ireland to participate in the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration, March 17. Since that time the drill team has been engaged in several activities to raise the money required for the trip.

The board will be looking at areas to cut back \$298,236 from their budget as mandated from the special session of the State Legislature, 3½%, and the State School Board overrun, 1½%. The major area where the suggested cuts will come are in the Maintenance and Operation budget which could be cut \$115,000. Other areas to be affected are special education, vocational summer agriculture, vocational programs, summer school, field trips, recreation, remaining textbook fees and supplies.

The board will also discuss school food prices increase, mineral leases, and school bus inspection.

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NO. 1429

Jan 15, 1981

Moon Lake Project official makes offer to school board

representative of Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative school board officials an offer to refuse—\$1.5 million toward a plant to handle the impact of the Moon Lake Power Project near Bonanza.

Blayne Merrill, Deseret Generation, told the board that his firm was willing to pay "the full share" of the impact of the project to be brought into the area by the power plant.

Merrill said he felt confident the bond issue would pass last Nov., and he would pay his share through taxes; but it is so we've considered alternatives," Merrill said.

He said they had looked at putting in mobile schools or adding a wing to a present facility, but desired to participate with the board to provide front money for a new school in the Vernal area.

"Each would have an undivided interest in the school and the school board could lease with an option to purchase our portion of the building with taxes collected from the project," Merrill suggested.

Merrill said they expect the power plant, to be located six miles north of Bonanza, to be online in early 1985. We've already awarded contracts for

condensers, pumps, and boiler at a cost of \$10 million.

"We can't stand still and wait," Merrill said.

Despite the fact that officials in Rio Blanco County, Colo. have said they will not grant right-of-ways if the power plant is located in Utah, Merrill said "we must build in Utah because of the water availability."

He said that Deseret Generation was purchasing land in the Naples area for possible mobile homes to house a peak of 750 workers on the project.

"We don't intend to form a company

town," Merrill said. "The reason we purchased land in Naples is to keep speculators honest."

Answering a question by Blayne Merrill, new board member, Merrill said he would leave it up to the board whether to build the school, but he didn't want to build in the Bonanza area.

The school board assigned Blayne Merrill and Dr. Ed Oscarson to work out an agreement with Deseret Generation to build a new school.

In other action, Gary Taylor, board member, read a letter of resignation from John Smith, board president, who was not present at the meeting having undergone open heart surgery. Smith indicated the reason for his resignation was health and other responsibilities. The board moved that Elouise Turbe be appointed president and Dr. Oscarson as vice president. The board chose Garth Atwood to replace Smith on the school board. Blayne Merrill was also sworn in replacing Max Todd.

The board also heard an update on the progress of raising funds for the Uintah High School drill team to perform in Ireland March 12.

Chris Kearl, drill team instructor, reported they had raised \$2,400 from raffles, donations and hours work. She said that they needed about \$26,000 for the 24-member drill to make the trip to Ireland.

During the next month the drill team will sponsor the Harlem Clowns, have a slave auction, dance clinic and other activities to raise funds for the trip.

Several of the board members were concerned whether the drill team could raise the remaining cost of the trip; suggested that parents or others could pay the balance.

Mrs. Kearl said she felt the group could raise the remaining cost of the trip. "We hate to ask for parents' help financially," she said. The board set a goal of \$20,000 to be raised by the first meeting in February.

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NO. 1429

Handling of Ireland trip questioned at board meet

The Uintah School Board stood 100% behind the decision to cancel the Utes Drill Team's trip to Ireland, despite "feelings of dismay, anger, and disgust" by several Vernal residents present at last week's meeting.

Elouise Turner, board president, told those present at the board meeting Feb. 12, that the board is 100% behind the decision of the principal, Bill Caldwell, to cancel the trip to Ireland because the principal is better qualified to make the decision.

"It needs to be made perfectly clear the decision to cancel the drill team's trip to Ireland was in the hands of the administration of Uintah High School," Superintendent Wayne Reid said. "Decisions of this type are not easy to come by."

"Our presence here tonight is not to request a change in the decision to cancel the drill team's trip to Ireland," said K. Dirk Everisen, chairman of the parent's committee.

"What we have come for is to present the feelings of anger, dismay and disgust of the community at the way the entire matter was handled," Everisen said at the meeting.

After reading a three-page statement on the cancellation of the trip to Ireland which stated the whole thing "devolved into a set up," Everisen asked the board to respond to three questions. Will an apology be given to the drill team, Mrs. Keartl and the community?

Will the money and donations made be returned in full? Will something be done to shift emphasis in our education to a more central position and show some emphasis on cultural education?

"I feel that the administration owes the girls, Mrs. Keartl and the community an apology," Everisen said. "If it were not appropriate to allow the girls to go to Ireland on Feb. 2, then it was also not appropriate for them to go last November when the board was first contacted." (The complete statement by Everisen can be read on the Editorial page of this week's Express.)

"I feel whole heartedly that it is a disgrace," said Woodley B. Searle who was at the meeting.

Searle indicated that he would lend to any of the girls the money needed for the trip, interest free, and if the girls would have raised money within a few thousand dollars of the needed amount, he would have donated the rest.

Mrs. Turner said that the board would make no decision on the matter in the meeting, but would discuss it in executive session, with the board's decision to be made public later.

In other business, the board heard the concern of Art Allred on corporal punishment at the Uintah High School. Allred said that his son was swatted at the high school and was caught high in the back with the paddle which caused considerable pain.

(Dan Good, assistant principal, in a

written statement to the board on swats at the high school said, "When I came to Uintah, there was definite need of more and a different approach to discipline."

Good said that the in school suspension used the previous year proved extremely expensive, and a rather ineffective method of discipline. "Tardies and stuffing were abundant and some action needed to be taken."

The discipline policy of the school as stated in the student handbook, is detention for tardies, stuffing, insolence, etc.

"Tardies became the main problem," Good reports, "and after the first quarter we reduced the detention for four tardies in various classes from two to one hour detention, and changed the number of tardies from four tardies in various classes to three per class before detention is assigned."

According to school policy corporal punishment, (swats) has never been assigned to a student. If the student desires the swat, then one swat makes up for one hour of detention.

The board referred Allred to the report by Good, and told Allred to come back if he had further complaints.

The board also moved to drop the mid-year conference and President's Holiday from next year's school calendar and to start school two days later than this year.

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Feb 19, 1981

Night and Day

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H. C. C. C.



30 Utah students to visit China

Thirty Utah high school students and seven chaperons will tour China this spring - a tour that is the first of its kind organized in the United States.

The trip was negotiated and organized by Dr. Walter D. Tulbot, state superintendent of public construction, and Dr. W. Dean Helms, chairman of the Utah State Board of Education, who will accompany the students April 22-May 15.

According to Linda Pearson, a Utah educator on sabbatical leave from Granite School District—who will also be a chaperon on the tour—students statewide were invited to make application, and were accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Twice as many students applied than could be seated via air under the Chinese government's imposed quota. The only requirement was an ability to pay for the trip, and Mrs. Pearson said many businesses have generously given financial assistance.

"None of us speak Chinese, but we will have Chinese guides the entire trip," she said.

The Lith group will be met by their escorts in Hong Kong. They will then travel to Peking to visit the Great Wall and the seat of the government for four days. Their next stop will be Xi'an, site of one of the big archaeological discoveries of China, then on to Nanjing to visit the Ming tombs and to see the Yangtze River.

Mrs. Pearson said they will also tour silk worm factories and see the industrial areas, temples and gardens of Shanghai before returning to Hong Kong.

This Space Purchased by Woodey B. Searle

Mar 12, 1981

Money refunding

Dear Editor:

The refunding of money donated to support the Drill Team Ireland trip is almost complete. If we have missed anyone who is entitled to a refund, we would appreciate your contacting the school so that we can return your donation to you.

We are grateful to those who contributed and to our entire community for their willingness to help our students and support our school.

Sincerely,

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