



**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

440 East 100 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
801.578.8351

October 20, 2022

Council Member Victoria Petro-Eschler  
Council Member Alejandro Puy  
Office of the City Council  
451 South State Street, Room 304  
PO Box 145476  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5476

Dear Council Members Petro-Eschler and Puy,

On behalf of the Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District, I want to thank you for your thoughtful letter of October 15, 2022 wherein you asked that the Board “consider exploring a Westside [high] school.” I know from discussions with Board members that they have read the letter carefully and points you make resonate with them. I am pleased to respond on their behalf.

Your letter is timely; in January we will begin a process to study population projections and trends, enrollment, boundaries and facility conditions. Underlying each step of the process will be consideration of best instructional practice, a large part of which will certainly be supporting students and their families in a context greater than individual classrooms. As you may know, the Board will also welcome new members onto the Board in January following next month's election. For several Board members, it will be their first opportunity to wrestle with the issues and sometimes competing concerns – several of which you address in your letter.

Please be assured that we will take steps to inform and invite city leaders regarding the process and I encourage you to feel free to attend Board and community meetings and take opportunities to participate.

I thank you again and look forward to working together with Salt Lake City as we jointly serve our constituents.

Sincerely,

Martin W. Bates, Ph.D., J.D.  
Superintendent

cc. Mayor Erin Mendenhall