

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

Continued USBE meeting, and
USBE Study Session

December 8, 2023
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

The Utah State Board of Education held an electronic state board meeting on December 8, 2023. As Utah Code 52-4 authorized, this meeting was held electronically with an anchor location at 250 E 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84114. Chair Moss presided. The meeting was streamed live to the public.

Members Present

Chair James Moss
First Vice Chair Molly Hart
Second Vice-Chair Jennie Earl
Member Christina Boggess
Member Natalie Cline
Member LeAnn Wood
Member Sarah Reale
Member Cindy Davis

Member Randy Boothe
Member Carol Barlow Lear
Member Kristin Norton
Member Emily Green
Member Brent Strate
Member Matt Hymas
Member Joseph Kerry

Executive Staff Present

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent
Angie Stallings, Deputy Superintendent
Leah Voorhies, Assistant Superintendent
Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent
Kelsey James, Board's Communications Coordinator

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Board Secretary

Others Present

Adam Herd, Elisse Newey, Michelle Beus, Royce Van Tassell, Jerry Record, and Greg Connell.



Opening Business

Chair Moss called the meeting to order, which began at 1:06 p.m.

5.1 ACTION: Annual Training Requirements Reduction Request

MOTION was made by Member Moss and seconded that the Board direct staff to amend the following training requirements in the Utah Code or Board Rule:

- Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Awareness (CODE) from every two years to every three years and before initial employment;
- Suicide Prevention (CODE) every three years to align with license renewal and initial licensure;
- Harassment (CODE) from every year to every three years and before initial employment;
- Personal Protective Gear and Blood Borne Pathogens (GUIDANCE) from annually to every three years;
- Assessment of Student Achievement and Utilization of Assessment Results to Inform Instruction (RULE) from annually to every two years and before initial employment;
- Ethics and UPPAC (RULE) from annually to upon initial licensure and upon renewal with written information provided in off years; and
- School Finance Policies (RULE) from annually to every three years and before initial employment.

MOTION TO AMEND made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board amends the training motion for each item to add a requirement for training also to occur: "when changes to law occur that impact practice;."

MOTION TO TABLE was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board table Annual Training Requirements Reduction Request until the January 11 board meeting.

The motion carried with Members Moss, Strate, Davis, Wood, Hymas, and Reale. Member Norton was absent.

MOTION was made by Member Hart and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board directs staff to evaluate current educator training requirements and provide recommendations on potential changes to the Committee.



MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board add “and provide information on pre-test logistics, content and the logistical commitments of the Board” to the motion.

The motion carried with Members Reale and Lear opposed. Member Davis abstained.

MOTION, AS AMENDED

The motion passed unanimously. Member Davis abstained.

5.2 ACTION: Other Reports & Requirements Task Force Recommendations

MOTION was made by Member Hymas and seconded by Member Hart: That the Board supports the remaining Reports & Requirements Task Force recommendations described in the document “Task Force Recommendations 2023” (items 1, 3, 4, and 5) and directs staff to work with the Legislature on statutory changes, prepare rule drafts, or begin implementation of the recommendations as described.

1. That the Board recommends that the Legislature and Board amend requirements for teacher training plans to be due at the end of September rather than August.
3. That the Board supports the staff’s decision for AP and Concurrent enrollment and International Baccalaureate applications to combine the report into one access point and reduce the questions to those only specified in the code.
4. That the Board amend R277-471-13 to remove the School Plant Capital Outlay report requirements.
5. That the Board support staff in using the Fiscal Note process to provide suggestions for a reporting review period or sampling for review and to provide an impact statement on proposed bills, with the purpose of better informing the legislature on the possible reporting burdens and FTE needs the proposed legislation would create.

The motion carried with Members Boggess and Cline opposed.



Study Session

INFORMATION: Strategic Plan Review and Revision

Board Strategic Plan Discussion

In 2018, the Board adopted a strategic direction for education in Utah.

The Utah Code 53E-2-S202 requires the Board to:

- (1) create, maintain, and review regularly a statewide, comprehensive multi-year strategic plan that includes long-term goals for improved student outcomes; and
- (2) report annually to the Education Interim Committee on or before the committee's November meeting on the strategic plan described in Subsection (1), including progress toward achieving long-term goals.

In April 2021, an audit was performed by the Office of the LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR GENERAL with these findings:

- USBE should better align its direction for public education with the direction provided by the Legislature in the statute.
- USBE should incorporate both its oversight responsibility of the public education system and its internal efficiency and effectiveness into its strategic plan.
- USBE can improve its culture by addressing onboarding and training issues across the office.
- Employee turnover has improved recently, though lingering impacts on leadership tenure are still felt.

Our Strategic Plan provides a shared vision for the future of Utah's education system. It identifies a vision for Utah students upon completion through a vision statement. Also, it orients USBE's efforts internally as we focus on creating the conditions for student success.

The Board has adopted the following new Strategic Plan: Mission and Vision.



USBE VISION

"Academic and organizational excellence in Utah education."

Utah Graduates are prepared to:

- Participate in civic responsibilities
- Uphold and strengthen our constitutional republic
- Provide for themselves and their families
- Engage in post-secondary opportunities
- Pursue personal goals
- Embody strong moral and social values

USBE MISSION

"To open doors of opportunity for all Utah children."

The Utah State Board of Education:

- Sets academic standards
- Protects information systems
- Manages public education funds
- Directs transparent operations
- Develops a policy for education
- Advocates for Utah students
- Provides support and oversight of schools

MOTION was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board approve the following as the USBE Strategic Plan - Values:

- System accountability;
- Personal responsibility;
- Communication;
- Academic rigor;
- Problem-solving
- Serving families; and
- The education system.

MOTION TO DIVIDE was made by Member Moss and seconded by Member Green.

The motion failed with Members Wood, Earl, and Moss in favor and Members Kerry, Reale, Lear, Green, Cline, Boothe, Boggess, Hymas, Hart, Davis, Strate, and Cline opposed.



MOTION was made by Member Cline and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board does not adopt Strategic Plan – Values.

The motion carried with Members Green, Davis, Strate, Earl, Boothe, Boggess, Cline, Hymas, Lear, Hart, and Kerry in favor and Members Wood and Moss opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

The Board secretary took the minutes.
The minutes are pending approval.