

April 4, 2025

Utah State Board of Education

The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format.

Members Present: Cole Kelley, Matt Hyman, Christina Boggess, and Randy Boothe (RB) – present unless noted

Committee Staff: Scott Jones, Deborah Jacobson, and Cammy Wilcox

Others Present: Ben Rasmussen, Leah Vorhies, Darin Nielsen, Paula Plant, Jared Felt, Sam Urie, Brad Wilkinson, Christelle Estrada, Cory Kanth, Elisse Newey, Gina Smith, Greg Connell, John Palmer, Katie Hill, Katrina Brinkley, Laurie Baefsky, Malia Hite, Megan Menlove, Michael Iwasaki, Noralee Green, Patricia Franks, Quinn Kellis, Rhett Larsen, Tanya Albornoz, John Palmer, Scott Crapo, Erica Horsley, Royce Van Tassel, Megan Lopez, Katy Challis, Rick Gaisford, Amber Wright, Julie Clark, Don Modde, Kimberly Loveland, and Matt Ferris

Committee Vice Chair Kelley called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Public Comment

The Committee heard public comment from Royce Van Tassell, Executive Director, Utah Association of Public Charter Schools, on the following agenda items:

- 1.4 - R277-726, [Statewide Online Education Program](#)
- 1.5 - R277-632, [Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English](#)

6.3 R277-407, School Fees (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: Amendments to Section 6 of this rule were approved by the March Board and published in the April 1, 2025, Bulletin, with a first possible effective date of May 8, 2025. (HB 76 and HB 344)

Staff presented R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 2](#); [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53G-7-503](#)

Committee Action:

Member Hymas Motion:

That the Committee amend R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, line 379 to read as follows:

(10) (a) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, each LEA ~~[that awards credit toward graduation]~~ shall ensure that each school within the LEA that awards credit toward graduation provides at least one

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option for each graduation requirement that: - RB absent

The motion passed unanimously.

Member Kelley Motion:

That the Committee forwards R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, as amended, with a neutral recommendation. - RB absent

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-407, School Fees, Draft 2, on final reading.

6.4 R277-725, Statewide Online Education

Committee Discussion: SB 137 changed the process for providing online services to private school students. The bill directs the Board to manage the program in accordance with contract and statute but expressly prohibits use of rule to manage the program. Accordingly, staff recommends repeal of R277-725.

Staff presented R277-725, Statewide Online Education Program Contractor Requirements, Repeal, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401](#) (4); [Title 53F, Part 4, Chapter 5](#)

Committee Action:

Member Hymas Motion:

That the committee repeal R277-725, Statewide Online Education Program Contractor Requirements, on first reading and recommends the Board repeal the rule on second and final reading. – RB absent

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board repeal R277-725, Statewide Online Education Program Contract Requirements, on second and final reading.

6.5 R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP) (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: Staff recommends amending R277-726 to reflect changes made in the legislative session, including HB246 and SB137.

Staff presented R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, Draft 1, for

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consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53F-4-510](#); [53F-4-514](#); [53E-3-401](#)

Committee Action:

Member Kelley Motion:

That the Committee approves R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, Draft 1, on first reading and recommends the Board approves the rule on second and final reading. – RB absent

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approves R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

6.6 R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English (New)

Committee Discussion: The committee recommended Board adoption of this rule to establish requirements for the At-Risk Add-On Funding Report. Prior to filing, staff recommend updating the new rule to also include provisions from 2025 HB 42 establishing funding for schools serving students learning English. Section 4 of the rule includes requirements of the new law.

Staff presented R277-632, At-Risk Add-On Funding Report, Draft 2, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Article X, Section 3](#); [53F-2-314](#)

Committee Action:

Member Boggess Motion:

Without objection, the Committee postponed discussion of the rule to a subsequent committee meeting. – RB absent

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion from the committee.

6.7 Minimum School Program Local Education Agency Legislative Estimates

Committee Information: Staff prepared legislative estimates for local education agencies (LEAs) based on legislative budget actions in the 2025 session. These estimates are critical for LEA budget setting and LEA allocations for the first few months of the coming fiscal year until actual October counts are received.

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6.8 State Fiscal Year 2026 Public Education Budget Review and Recommendation for Adoption

Committee Discussion: In accordance with the Budgetary Procedures Act and the Money Management Act, the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) sets the public education budget for the upcoming state fiscal year. The budget is a compilation of the appropriations from the Utah State Legislature and may include both supplemental and newly appropriated funds to the public education base budget. The Financial Operations section meets with section directors immediately following the legislative session to review appropriations and ensure a common understanding of the section budget (both new and ongoing balance).

The budget was compiled and presented to the USBE Finance Committee for their review and recommendation to the full Board.

Dashboard Link: [USBE FY2026 Budget Dashboard](#)

Committee Action:**Member Kelley Motion:**

The Finance Committee recommends that the Utah State Board of Education adopts the 2026 State Fiscal Year budget.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board adopts the 2026 State Fiscal Year budget.

6.9 School Children's Trust Quarterly Report

Committee Information: The School Children's Trust section provided a quarterly update including legislative action impacting the public school trust, School LAND Trust Carry-over of Funds Procedure and Corrective Action, and Legislative Advocacy Study Group.

6.10 Recognition of Progress, Achievements, or Improvements**6.10.1 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on USIMS**

Committee Information: The USIMS is an ongoing project that will modernize USBE legacy data systems and enable real-time access to data to inform decision making at all levels of the education system while also safeguarding against data breaches.

As part of the ongoing USIMS project, staff presented a summary of the USIMS highlights to the Committee. Members had an opportunity to ask questions.

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6.10.2 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on Utah Grants

Committee Information: Utah Grants is the Electronic Grants Management System utilized by the USBE for managing the full life cycle of grant funding. Utah Grants is used by USBE staff as well as LEAs and CBO partners for managing grant applications, awards, payments, and monitoring activities. The USBE works closely with system developers to continue to meet the expanding needs of the agency, while maintaining proper safeguards in the use and distribution of grant funds.

The Finance Committee receives monthly updates on the progress of Utah Grants development, with a more detailed presentation once per quarter. staff presented a summary of project milestones. Members had an opportunity to ask questions.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.