

# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING 92 Lodestone Way – Tooele, Utah

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025** 

## THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE JUNE 10, 2025, BOARD MEETING

The public session was held in the boardroom at the district office.

#### **Board Members Present:**

Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Scott Bryan, Todd Thompson, Elizabeth Smith, ValaRee Shields

#### **Administration Present:**

Superintendent Ernst, Lark Reynolds, Jackie Gallegos, Marissa Lowry, Charles Hansen, Brad Hranicky, Terry Christensen, Dr. Sarah Jarnagin, Andy Peterson, Dr. Jeff Hamm, Brett Valdez, Angie Gillette, Ian Silva, Dr. Cody Reutzel

President Rich conducted the meeting. Notice of the time, place, and agenda had been given to the Transcript-Bulletin and each governing body member more than two days before the meeting. The agenda was also published on the Utah Public Access Website. Support documentation for this meeting can be reviewed at: <a href="https://www.boarddocs.com/ut/tooelesd/Board.nsf/Public">https://www.boarddocs.com/ut/tooelesd/Board.nsf/Public</a>

## 1. Executive Session (Closed to the Public)

1.1 <u>Personnel / Negotiations / Property / Litigation</u> At 5:15 pm, a motion was made.

## **MOTION:**

Enter Executive Session held in the executive conference room at the district office to discuss the following:

- Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation
- Collective Bargaining
- Purchase, Exchange, or Lease of Real Property and
- Character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual

Motion by ValaRee Shields, second by Scott Bryan

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Vote by Name:

Yea Emily Syphus

Yea ValaRee Shields

Yea Scott Bryan

Yea Todd Thompson

Yea Robert Gowans

Yea Melissa Rich

Yea Elizabeth Smith

#### **MOTION:**

Motion at 5:58 pm to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Public Session in the boardroom at 6 pm.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by ValaRee Shields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Vote by Name:

Yea Robert Gowans

Yea ValaRee Shields

Yea Melissa Rich

Yea Elizabeth Smith

Yea Scott Bryan

Yea Emily Syphus

Yea Todd Thompson

# 2. Business Meeting, 6 pm (Start of Public Meeting)

## 2.1 Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

President Rich called the business meeting to order in the boardroom at 6:02 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

## 3. Recognition and Good News

# 3.1 <u>District Recognition for May-Valedictorians and Salutatorians</u>

The following Valedictorians and Salutatorians were recognized:

#### **Dugway High**

Meredith Whalen, Valedictorian

Charity Salas, Salutatorian

## **Grantsville High**

Isabelle Lewis, Valedictorian

Greenlee Huffaker, Co-Salutatorian

Ethan Mouritsen, Co-Salutatorian

## Stansbury High

Bowen Thomas, Valedictorian

Rosemarie Dangerfield, Co-Salutatorian

Erik Obray, Co-Salutatorian

## **Tooele High**

Jacob Jenkins, Valedictorian

Nick Reynolds, Salutatorian

# Wendover High

Raul Valle, Valedictorian

Maria Fernanda Carillo, Salutatorian

# 4. Open Forum (Limited to three minutes per individual and a total of 30 minutes for all comments. To speak, sign up at the clerk's desk prior to the start of the open forum.)

- 4.1 Patron Comments
  - Mitzi Belverstone, SPOTSD
  - Becky Darling, TEA
  - Derek Darcy, Parent

- 5. Consent Items (Routine items not requiring public discussion by the Board may be adopted by a single motion. A Board member may request to remove an item from the consent agenda for individual discussion and consideration.)
  - 5.1 Minutes
  - 5.2 Expenditure Report
  - 5.3 Revenue Report
  - 5.4 Disbursement Report
  - 5.5 Personnel Decisions
  - 5.6 Financial Reports
  - 5.7 Surplus
  - 5.8 Request for Proposal(Pulled from Consent Items)

Board Member Bryan requested that Item 5.8 – Request for Proposal – be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration. He further requested that each of the three components within the item be discussed and voted on individually.

## **Desert Peak High Pianos**

An Invitation for Bid was presented for pianos for Deseret Peak High. Board Member Bryan expressed concerns regarding the Deseret Peak piano proposal, noting a lack of clarity around the total projected expenditure. He also indicated that the process for selecting the lowest qualifying bids was not clearly outlined, and the final approved amount remained uncertain.

#### **MOTION:**

Move the Deseret Peak Piano IFB to next month for a second read.

#### **DISCUSSION TO MOTION:**

Board Member Shields pointed out that a spreadsheet was provided outlining quantities, unit prices, and extended totals; however, discrepancies remained regarding the number of pianos and the overall cost. These inconsistencies raised concerns among Board members about approving a financial request lacking full clarity. Board Member Syphus inquired about the potential consequences of postponing the decision until the following month. While some members acknowledged the urgency of securing the pianos before the start of the school year, there was a shared emphasis on the importance of transparency and accuracy in budget approvals

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Elizabeth Smith

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

#### **Assessment Solution**

An RFP was presented for a Student Data Management, Reporting, and Assessment Solution. Board Member Bryan noted that the proposal recommended awarding the contract to the same vendor currently in use, but with an approximate cost increase of \$35,000. He expressed concern that no clear justification for the increased cost had been provided..

#### **MOTION:**

Move the Assessment Solution forward to next month, pending more information.

#### **DISCUSSION TO MOTION:**

Board President Rich inquired whether postponing the approval of the Student Data Management, Reporting, and Assessment Solution RFP to the next Board meeting would have any negative consequences. In response, Andy Peterson, Assessment Director, provided clarification on the scope of the RFP and the added value of the proposed solution. He explained that the new features would enhance data integration capabilities, allowing for more detailed insights down to the teacher level.

Mr. Peterson noted that while a delay would not result in significant consequences, it would bring the district closer to the system rollover deadline of June 30. He emphasized that the district's educational technology team is already scheduled for training with the vendor on June 17. This training, originally included with the current system, would also cover the new features if the RFP is approved. If the RFP is not approved in time, the district may need to consider extending the current contract for another year, which could impact the planned reimplementation process.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Todd Thompson

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yea: Robert Gowans, Scott Bryan, Todd Thompson

Nay: Melissa Rich, ValaRee Shields, Emily Syphus, Elizabeth Smith

## **MOTION:**

Approve the Assessment Solution RFP.

## **DISCUSSION TO MOTION:**

Board Member Bryan emphasized the importance of fostering a culture of fiscal responsibility and thoughtful decision-making within the district. He expressed concern over the lack of detailed justification for the increased cost and advocated for a more thorough review of alternatives before approval. He noted that while consent items have historically been approved quickly, this instance highlighted the need for greater scrutiny and transparency in financial decisions.

Board Member Shields acknowledged Bryan's concerns and expressed appreciation for the discussion. She supported the proposal, citing its potential to improve student achievement and district systems, but agreed that more detailed information and removing such items from the consent agenda in the future would be beneficial.

Board Member Syphus echoed the importance of transparency but felt the process had been sufficiently thorough based on the explanations provided. He noted that while presentation could be improved, staff appeared well-prepared and knowledgeable about the proposal's details and implications.

President Rich concluded by recognizing the value of the discussion and the evolving culture of accountability within the Board and district staff. He expressed appreciation for the staff's efforts and acknowledged the need for improved communication and documentation in future proposals to ensure clarity for both the Board and the public.

Motion by ValaRee Shields, second by Elizabeth Smith

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Todd Thompson, ValaRee Shields

Nay: Robert Gowans, Scott Bryan

## **Comprehensive Communications Platform**

An RFP was presented for a Comprehensive Communications Platform for the district and schools to communicate with and send alerts to its stakeholders via voice calls, 2-way SMS messages, email, website, and social media. Board Member Bryan stated that although it shows

we are saving some money, he is not comfortable with the proposed solution being selected as compared to the least costly solution.

#### **MOTION:**

Move the Comprehensive Communication Platform RFP to a second read.

## **DISCUSSION TO MOTION**

Board Member Smith requested clarification on the rationale for selecting the recommended communications platform over lower-cost alternatives. Board Member Syphus inquired about the potential consequences of delaying the decision to the next Board meeting. Brett Valdez, Director of Communications, explained that postponing approval could impact staff training scheduled for the coming weeks, which is critical for successful implementation before the new school year.

Mr. Valdez outlined the district's efforts over the past 18 months to consolidate multiple communication tools—such as School Messenger, TalkingPoints, PeachJar, and AlertSense—into a single, streamlined platform. The goal is to improve communication efficiency, ensure supervisory oversight, and enhance safety by providing staff with a secure, centralized system for interacting with students and parents.

He noted that while the recommended platform was not the lowest-cost option, it best met the district's needs. The lowest-cost alternative was primarily designed for emergency notifications and lacked essential features for parent communication. The selected platform also offers cost savings by replacing several existing tools, some of which have seen significant price increases.

Board Member Shields emphasized the importance of providing staff with a secure and reliable communication method, particularly to protect students and ensure accountability. Mr. Valdez confirmed that the platform allows for multiple communication formats and provides administrative oversight, supporting both safety and transparency.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Todd Thompson

Final Resolution: Motion Fails Yea: Scott Bryan, Todd Thompson

Nay: Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, ValaRee Shields, Robert Gowans

#### **MOTION:**

Approve Comprehensive Communication Platform RFP

Motion by ValaRee Shields, second by Emily Syphus

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, ValaRee

Shields

Nay: Todd Thompson

## 5.9 Vote on Consent Items

#### **MOTION:**

Remove Item 5.8 and approve the consent items.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd Thompson, ValaRee Shields

#### 6. Action Items

## 6.1 Revised Policy 11010, Alternate Diploma, 1st Read

Kristen Linares, Special Education Supervisor for Secondary, presented the revised Policy 11010 Alternate Diploma to the Board for a first reading. The updated policy incorporates language aligned with USBE's Portrait of a Graduate and reflects anticipated state-level changes, including the civics exam, required coursework, and credit requirements. It also strengthens guidance on special education transition planning, grading practices, and the use of substitutions within the IEP process. Additionally, the policy now includes explicit references to state-assigned exit and graduation codes. These district-driven revisions aim to proactively support compliance with upcoming state mandates and enhance clarity and consistency in implementation..

#### **MOTION:**

Approve Revised Policy 11010, Alternate Diploma for implementation.

Motion by ValaRee Shields, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.2 New Policy, Special Education and Adult Education Dual Enrollment, 1st Read.

Kristen Linares, Special Education Supervisor for Secondary, presented a new policy titled Special Education and Adult Education Dual Enrollment to the Board for a first reading. This district-driven policy establishes guidelines for supporting students with disabilities who seek to complete graduation requirements through Adult Education. It outlines eligibility criteria, including residency within TCSD boundaries and academic need. It defines dual enrollment procedures for students aged 16–19, allowing them to receive specially designed instruction while TCSD retains WPU funding. For students aged 20–22, the policy specifies the use of the AS exit code, indicating continued special education services through Adult Education and transferring WPU funding accordingly.

#### **MOTION:**

Approve the new policy, Special Education and Adult Education Dual Enrollment, for implementation.

Motion by Elizabeth Smith, second by ValaRee Shields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.3 Revised Policy 4009, Educator Evaluation, 1st Read

Chantel Cowan, Assistant Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, presented the revised Policy 4009 on Educator Evaluation, following updates to Utah Code 53G-11-520 and Board Rules R277-323 and R277-330. In accordance with Utah Code 53G-11-506, the Joint Education Evaluation Committee—comprising equal representation from parents, teachers, and administrators—reviewed the new legislative requirements alongside the district's existing policy. Their review identified areas in need of revision, which were subsequently proposed to the Board for implementation. The primary change involved transitioning from percentage-based evaluation categories to a point-based system, intended to emphasize the full evaluation process rather than focusing solely on formal observations. Additionally, the rating scale was updated to

three levels: Level 1 "Not Effective," Level 2 "Partially Effective," and Level 3 "Effective," with clearer procedures outlined for addressing ratings at Levels 1 and 2.

#### **MOTION:**

Move Revised Policy 4009, Educator Evaluation forward for a second read.

Motion by Robert Gowans, second by ValaRee Shields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.4 Revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.5 New Policy 3035.1, Credit Cards, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.6 New Policy 3035.2 Travel, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the

USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.7 New Policy, 3035.3 Reimbursement Requests, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.8 New Policy 3035.4, Purchase Orders, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

#### 6.9 New Policy 3035.5, Issuance of Checks, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.10 New Policy 3035.6, Journal Entries and Electronic Fund Transfers, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with newly developed policies 3035.1 through 3035.6. These new policies consolidated elements from the previous Policies 3034 and 3035 to address inconsistencies identified during the recent Activities Internal Audit. Initially, the district had adopted the USOE model policies for Cash Disbursements (3034) and Cash Receipts (3035), but later transitioned to the USBA model policies for purchasing, which created conflicts with portions of Policy 3034 and 3035.

#### **MOTION:**

Move revised policy 3035, Cash Receipts and Expenditures, along with new policies 3035.1, 3035.2, 3035.3, 3035.4, 3035.5, and 3035.6 forward for a second read.

Motion by Emily Syphus, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.11 Revised Policy 4014, Employee Leave, 1st Read

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented the revised Policy 4014, Employee Leave, for a first reading. The revisions incorporated provisions for paid parental and postpartum leave in compliance with Utah Code 63A-17-511, as mandated by HB192 from the 2024 legislative session. This legislation, effective July 1, 2025, required school districts to align their leave policies with those of the State of Utah under the specified code. Although the mandate was unfunded, it was compulsory. Under the updated policy, parental leave was expanded from the previous five days to three weeks, with an additional three weeks granted to birth mothers, totaling six weeks of leave.

#### **MOTION:**

Move Revised Policy 4014, Employee Leave forward for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Read.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by ValaRee Shields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

# 6.12 2025-2026 Student Fees, 3rd Read

Rebecca Leakehe, Accountant, presented the 2025–2026 Student Fees for a third reading to the Board. She highlighted the impact of HB 344, recently passed by the legislature, which mandates a free graduation pathway beginning with the 2026 school year. The bill eliminates general fees and requires that any course- or activity-related fees be clearly disclosed in registration materials. It also prohibits local education agencies (LEAs) from charging students fees for designated non-fee courses, imposing general fees, or increasing fees to offset those fees the LEA is no longer permitted to charge. In compliance with these new requirements, the district has eliminated science and physical education (PE) fees as part of its implementation efforts.

## **MOTION:**

Approve 2025-2026 Student Fees as presented

Motion by Robert Gowans, second by ValaRee Shields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.13 Trustlands Plans SY 2025-2026

Area Directors presented their areas' Trustlands Plans for SY 2025-2026.

**MOTION:** Approve the 2025-2026 Trustlands Plans as presented, with the exception of DPHS Honest Game software.

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Emily Syphus

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

## 6.14 Revised Policy 4006, Criminal Background Checks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Read.

Charles Hansen, Director of Human Resources, presented the revised Policy 4006, Criminal Background Checks, to the Board for a second reading. The revisions included updated fee collection procedures aligned with the new state code adopted in May 2024. A major update was made to the section on reporting arrests and convictions, consolidating separate requirements for licensed and non-licensed employees into a unified, clearer section titled Employee Reporting of Arrests and Convictions. These changes were guided by both model policy and Utah Code 53G-11-402 to simplify language and reduce redundancy. The district had already implemented the updated fee collection practices the previous year, and the policy was revised to reflect those procedures. No changes were made to the policy since its first reading.

#### **MOTION:**

Approve revised policy 4006, Criminal Background Checks for implementation.

Motion by ValaRee Shields, second by Todd Thompson

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Robert Gowans, Emily Syphus, Melissa Rich, Elizabeth Smith, Scott Bryan, Todd

Thompson, ValaRee Shields

#### 7. Information, Discussion, or Calendar Items

## 7.1 Business Administrator Report

Lark Reynolds, Business Administrator, presented a report to the Board outlining property tax revenue projections and financial planning considerations for FY26. The FY25 budgeted property tax revenue is estimated at \$36.58 million, a \$2.78 million decrease from FY24 due to county valuation adjustments. FY26 estimates are based on anticipated new growth and adjusted valuations.

Revenue by levy indicates reductions in the Capital and Voted levies, with a slight increase in the Board levy. The Basic Levy rate, which impacts the Basic Levy Offset and WPU funding from the Minimum School Program, is currently estimated using last year's rate of 0.001408, pending finalization in June.

State guarantees for FY26 reflect a \$1.5 million increase across the Voted and Board Guarantee Programs. However, this is nearly offset by a projected \$1.66 million reduction in state income tax revenue, resulting in a near net balance in overall funding.

In light of these financial dynamics, the Board discussed the Truth in Taxation process, which is required if the district seeks to increase property tax revenue beyond the certified tax rate. The process includes public notification, a formal hearing, and Board approval. Should they choose to proceed, board members expressed interest in holding a Truth in Taxation hearing on August 5. They also discussed the possibility of hosting the hearing at a larger venue than the District Office to accommodate greater public attendance.

#### 7.2 Board of Education Committee Reports

Board Members provide updates on various committees they serve on.

• Insurance and Wellness-. Board Member Syphus stated that we are currently in the second year of a three-year contract with Select Health, so our focus remains on monitoring trends rather than making changes at this time. However, we are actively exploring new options for dental insurance. Additionally, the Wellness team continues to do an excellent job organizing engaging activities such as pickleball tournaments and other wellness initiatives.

At 9:07 pm, a motion was made to adjourn the public session and return to executive session at 9:10 to discuss collective bargaining.

## **MOTION:**

Adjourn

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Vote by Name:

Yea Emily Syphus

Yea Scott Bryan

Yea Todd Thompson

Yea Robert Gowans

Yea Melissa Rich

Yea Elizabeth Smith

ValaRee Shields (not present at vote)

## 8. Adjourn (10 pm Curfew)

8.1 Adjournment

At 9:34 pm, a motion was made to return to public session and adjourn.

## **MOTION:**

Return to the public session and adjourn

Motion by Scott Bryan, second by Robert Gowans

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Vote by Name:

Yea Robert Gowans

Yea Melissa Rich

Yea Elizabeth Smith

Yea Scott Bryan

Yea Emily Syphus

Yea Todd Thompson

Yea ValaRee Shields