

Approved

May 14, 2025

South Sanpete School Board Meeting  
39 S Main St  
Manti, UT 84642

Open Meeting Start Time	3:30 PM
Open Meeting End Time	4:49 PM
Closed Meeting Start Time	4:50 PM
Closed Meeting End Time	6:05 PM
Meeting Adjourned	6:07 PM

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by Board President Connor Thompson.

Reverence: Mark Olson

Patriotic Tribute: Connor Thompson led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Loni Hammond, Coleen Ogden, Connor Thompson, Mark Olson  
Board Member David Warren was excused from the meeting

Others Present: Jake Hill, Ralph Squire, Leslie Taysom, Sharon Mecham, Lori Dunne, Kris Pogroszewski, Michael Robinson, Michelle Dyreng, Lloyd Call

## RECOGNITION & ACHIEVEMENT

**Sterling Scholars**—Assistant Superintendent Trevor Powell presented a list of Sterling Scholar winners and runner-up candidates. The Board commended these students on their accomplishments.

**Elementary Reading Proficiency**—Assistant Superintendent Trevor Powell presented certificates from the Utah State Board of Education to all three elementary schools in recognition of their achievement in reaching over 90 percent progress monitoring for students performing below or well below average in reading proficiency.

**State Duck Stamp Winner**—Assistant Superintendent Trevor Powell recognized Kaden Dyreng for his duck stamp artwork, honoring him as the state winner.

**American Legion Winners**—Assistant Superintendent Trevor Powell presented a list of American Legion Auxiliary winners the Board commended these students on their accomplishments.

**Gunnison Valley Hospital Appreciation**—Superintendent Trevor Powell presented a letter of appreciation to Gunnison Valley Hospital in recognition of their community support for the new scoreboard at GVHS.

## CITIZEN DIALOGUE

None

## BUSINESS ITEMS

**Minutes**—The Minutes of the April 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting were presented for approval. After discussion, Mark Olson moved to approve the minutes as written. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Warrants**—Warrants #00033274 - #00033466 for \$1,383,768.04 were presented for approval. After discussion, Mark Olson moved to approve the warrants as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Budget Report**—Jake Hill, the Business Administrator, presented the Monthly Budget Report, which included a Year-To-Date Summary of Total Expenditures and Revenues, the Zions Bank Sweep Account, and the Utah Public Treasurers' Investment Fund. The year is projected to conclude positively and within the anticipated budget.

After discussion, Loni Hammond moved to approve the budget report as presented. Coleen Ogden seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

## **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**Connor Thompson**—Board President Connor Thompson reminded Board members about the upcoming graduations scheduled for May 23rd.

## **REPORTS**

### **Counselor Reports**

- **Gunnison Valley High**—Counselor Lori Dunne shared with the Board an overview of the school's initiatives, highlighting efforts focused on mental health and resilience. She recognized students who received Bulldog Pins for successfully completing resilience challenges and expressed gratitude for the support and contributions of the Teen Center.
- **Manti High**—Counselor Kris Pogroszewski provided an overview of MHS initiatives, highlighting efforts in information dissemination, student pathways, and participation in concurrent enrollment programs. She also expressed appreciation for the Teen Center, highlighted efforts during Utah College Application Week, and acknowledged initiatives promoting scholarship awareness and recognizing Sterling Scholars.
- **Gunnison Valley Middle**—Counselor Sharon Mecham shared key highlights, including efforts to reduce chronic absenteeism, foster stronger connections, engage with students and parents empathetically, promote a positive school climate, and implement restorative justice practices.
- **Ephraim Middle**—Counselor Michelle Dyreng presented on ongoing initiatives such as Wellness Wednesday, Teen Center resources, the Buffalo Den, and Mindfulness and Wellness groups, with a focus on resilience and stress management. She noted that the school is placing a strong emphasis on supporting ELL students, including hosting assemblies to foster inclusivity and encouragement.

## **INFORMATION**

**Personnel Updates**—Assistant Superintendent Trevor Powell presented a list of teacher hires and changes for the upcoming school year.

**Construction Project Updates**—Business Administrator Jake Hill presented updates on the construction projects throughout the District.

**Risk Management Newsletter**—Business Administrator Jake Hill presented information from Risk Management to Board Members. This information was also shared with school principals at their last meeting.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**2025-26 School Calendar Update**—Superintendent Ralph Squire presented the revised 2025–26 school calendar, highlighting a key change: the cancellation of the district-wide professional development day, which will now be replaced with an instructional day. It is anticipated this professional development will occur every other year going forward. After discussion, Mark Olson made a motion to approve the change in the 2025-26 school calendar as presented. Coleen Ogden seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**2025-26 School Board Meeting Schedule**—Superintendent Ralph Squire presented the 2025-26 School Board Meeting Schedule. After discussion, Coleen Ogden made a motion to approve the change in the 2025-26 School Board Meeting Schedule as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Suburban Purchases**—Business Administrator Jake Hill proposed the purchase of four new Suburbans—two for each high school. These vehicles are used to transport teams and activity groups, and in many cases, they offer a more cost-effective alternative to using a bus. After discussion, Loni Hammond moved to approve the purchase of four new suburbans. Coleen Ogden seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

## **Policies—**

Superintendent Ralph Squire presented the following policy for approval:

- *GCHA Comparability Policy*
- *KCB Family Engagement Policy*

After discussion, Loni Hammond moved to approve Policy GCHA and KCB as presented. Coleen Ogden seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Director Leslie Taysom presented the following policies for approval:

- *GCBD-AA Family and Medical Leave Policy*
- *GCBD-B Postpartum and Parental Leave*

After discussion, Mark Olson moved to approve Policy GCBD-AA and GCBD-B as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Business Administrator Jake Hill presented the following policies for approval:

- *GCS Time and Effort Reporting*
- *GCS-SP Time and Effort Reporting Form*

After discussion, Coleen Ogden moved to approve Policy GCS and GCS-SP as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Superintendent Ralph Squire presented the following policy for approval:

- *ECC Student/Parent iPad/Internet Policy Handbook*

After discussion, Coleen Ogden moved to approve Policy ECC as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**School Fee Schedule 2025-26**—Business Administrator Jake Hill presented the 2025-26 school fee schedule. After discussion, Mark Olson moved to approve the 2025-26 fee schedule as presented. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Motion for Closed Meeting**—Mark Olson moved to adjourn into Closed Session at 4:49 PM to discuss items outlined in Utah Code, Section 52-4-5. The items were: the character and professional competence of several employees. Coleen Ogden seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the following Board Members voted in favor: Connor Thompson, Coleen Ogden, Mark Olson, and Loni Hammond. Motion passed.

The following items were discussed in Closed Session: the character and professional competence of several employees. Loni Hammond moved to adjourn from Closed Session at 6:05 PM. Mark Olson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the following Board Members voted aye: Connor Thompson, Coleen Ogden, Loni Hammond and Mark Olson. Motion passed.

**Hire Recommendations**—Loni Hammond moved to approve the following individuals for employment.

**1. New Teacher Recommendations**

a. Joshua Olsen	Band/Choir Teacher	GVHS
b. Margaret Peskov	English Teacher	CUA
c. Elizabeth Coltharp	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher	EMS
d. Simon Quinn	Band/Choir Teacher	GVMS
e. Amber Sorensen	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	MES

**2. Para-educator Recommendations**

a. Brynn Pace	SPED	EES
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**3. Transfer Recommendations**

a. Kyle Merchant	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher	GVMS
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**4. Other Hire Recommendations**

a. Keisha Otten	Girls Head Wrestling Coach	GVHS
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**5. Resignations/Retirement**

a. Charae Moon	Elementary Teacher	Retirement	MES
b. Tessa Whitaker	Band/Choir Teacher	Resignation	GVMS
c. LuDon Augustus	Music Specialist	Retirement	MES
d. Bryan VanTassell	Wrestling Coach	Resignation	MHS

Mark Olson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**Insurance Coverage Change**—Mark Olson moved to approve the transition from EMI Health to PEHP for insurance coverage starting with the 2025–26 school year. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

**FY26 Compensation Package**—Coleen Ogden moved to approve the compensation package as presented. Mark Olson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

### **Adjourn**

Mark Olson moved to adjourn the South Sanpete School Board Meeting. Loni Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 3:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

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President

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Business Administrator