# NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT
# BOARD MEETING MINUTES
## Wednesday, August 13, 2025

The Board of Education of Nebo School District met in a Board meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, in the Boardroom of the Nebo District Administration Office located at 350 S Main in Spanish Fork, Utah. The meeting commenced at 3:03 PM. Board members present were Shannon Acor, Kristen Betts, Scott Wilson, John Taylor, Rick Ainge, Brain Rowley and Shauna Warnick. Staff members present were Superintendent Rick Nielsen, Michael Harrison, Reed Park, Ben Ford, Suzanne Kimball, Alicia Rudd, Frank Daybell, Mike Larsen, Dave Rowe, Bart Peery and Raquel Baum.

Shannon Acor welcomed everyone to the Board meeting.

1. Board Work Session
   Item 1A: Discussion of Board Meeting Agenda and Review of Consent Agenda.

   President Shannon Acor reviewed the Consent Agenda and inquired of any questions from the Board members. The Board had a brief discussion on the cell phone policy that is on for approval later in the meeting. The consensus is that students and faculty are adhering to the policy and it has been well received, however the Board is mindful that it is the first day of school. The Board also discussed the fee being charged for class schedule changes and will continue to have further discussion on this matter.

   Superintendent Nielsen mentioned that there will be a closed session after the general board meeting.

   Item 1B: Board Member Reports
   - Scott Wilson mentioned the excitement in Payson with the new Payson High School opening. It looks fantastic. Principal Jesse Sorensen mentioned to Superintendent Nielsen the possibility of holding another open house over Onion Days in September. Principal Sorensen also mentioned the positive feedback from alumni about the use of their tax dollars and doing good things for kids!
   - Shauna Warnick had some parents asking her about federal funding. She assured them that these funds were reinstated.
   - Shauna Warnick reported on her USBA Board of Directors meeting;
     - The JLC meeting will be held on August 29 from 10:00-12:00 PM. Two items for discussion will be Education Funding Framework and Student Attendance.
     - State Superintendent Hart has an initiative called "Everyday Counts."
     - September is "Lawmaker Month in the Classroom."
     - "Celebrate Public Ed" will be held on January 21, 2026 in the Capitol Rotunda from 3:00-6:00 PM
     - "Day on the Hill" is January 30, 2026.
     - Legislative Connections – The Board discussed ways to share the great things that are happening in Nebo with our legislators while also considering their time and being mindful of their preferences.
   - Shauna Warnick mentioned that she and Superintendent Nielsen will be co-presenting at the Leadership Academy. Their topic is "how to build consensus as a Board." Shauna will also be presenting on Board evaluations.
   - John Taylor mentioned the positive feedback in support of the cell phone policy.
   - John Taylor mentioned some negative feedback of school starting so early in August.
   - John Taylor expressed appreciation and trust in the Superintendent Staff commenting that "kids are in good hands."
   - Rick Ainge echoed Scott Wilson and added that the new Payson High School is gorgeous.
   - Rick Ainge mentioned the rave reviews from parents on the new Child Nutrition app. They are pleased with its ease.
   - Rick Ainge also commented on the positive feedback he has been hearing about the cell phone policy.
   - Kristen Betts shared positive feedback from employees about the Nebo Wellness Clinic and Nebo Fitness Center.

- Kristen Betts praised Superintendent Staff for their respectful and prompt responses.
- Kristen Betts mentioned that she truly believes in the "heads in and hands out" approach that was discussed by the Board, leaving the details to the specialist.
- Kristen Betts has visited several elementary schools the last couple of days. She witnessed excitement from teachers and principals. She also mentioned how beautiful and nicely kept the schools are.
- Kristen Betts shared positive feedback about the cell phone policy.
- Brian Rowley expressed his appreciation for the cell phone policy and elimination of gate receipts. He feels it is important that patrons know the purpose behind these changes.
- Brian Rowley mentioned the Payson High School baseball field. Superintendent Nielsen assured him that there will be more discussion later in the Board meeting.
- Brian Rowley shared some patron frustrations with a couple of teachers and counselors. Superintendent Nielsen encouraged him to route parents to their building level administrator or notify Superintendent Staff and they will follow up with school administration.
- Shannon Acor mentioned an email from a patron concerning the number of students assigned to a class.
- Shannon suggested that a "FAQ" section could be added to the monthly Board summary.
- Shauna Warnick expressed her gratitude and thanked Superintendent Staff for an awesome Opening Institute. "Chasing Excellence," our theme for the year, was introduced by the keynote speaker Sue Enquist.

Item 1C: Committee Reports & Board Training

2. Items for Board Discussion

Item 2A: Items from Superintendent

- The Superintendent turned the time over to Michael Harrison, Business Administrator, to discuss the bond sale that occurred earlier in the day. Michael introduced Nate Robertson with LRB Public Finance and Nate reviewed the bond sale details and mentioned that the District has an AAA with Fitch Ratings, and that the District recently received a rating upgrade from Moody's from Aa2 to Aa1.
- Assistant Superintendent Ben Ford reviewed the proposed amended calendar for the 2026-2027 Academic School Year and the tentative calendar for the 2027-2028 Academic School Year. These calendars will be on for approval in the September Board meeting.
- Student Services Coordinator Everett Kelepolo reviewed the Open Enrollment General Report. Overall, the total of Open Enrollment applications received to date is 1,243 of which 985 were approved.
- Student Services Coordinator Everett Kelepolo reported on Title IX Athletics for 2024-2025. The Board thanked Secretary Beki Huffman and secondary schools for providing and compiling the necessary information.
- The Superintendent shared information on Student Educational Travel for 2024-2025.
- Business Administrator Michael Harrison shared the School Fee Information for secondary schools with the Board.
- The Superintendent shared and reviewed a report on 9$^{th}$ graders playing up.
- The Superintendent gave an overview of the items discussed with high school principals.
  - High School Logos
  - Booster Clubs
  - School Fees
    - Class Change Fees
      - Eliminated or provide guidance on implementation.
    - $500.00 Summer Football Camp
      - All programs must have a spend plan.
  - Student Education Travel and Fees
  - Facility Use/Rental

President Shannon Acor announced at 5:28 PM that the Board meeting was temporarily adjourned until 6:00 PM.

The Board of Education of Nebo School District reconvened the Board meeting at 5:59 PM. Board members present were Shannon Acor, Rick Ainge, Kristen Betts, Brian Rowley, John Taylor, Shauna Warnick and Scott Wilson. Staff members present were Superintendent Rick Nielsen, Michael Harrison, Reed Park, Ben Ford, Suzanne Kimball, Alicia Rudd, Frank Daybell, Mike Larsen, Dave Rowe, Bart Peery and Raquel Baum.

The agenda was as follows:

1. OPENING
   A. Pledge of Allegiance

2. AGENDA APPROVAL
   A. Approval of Board Agenda

3. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Financial Report
   B. Claims
   C. Minutes of the Work Session and General Board Meeting held on July 9, 2025.
   D. New Employees and Separations
   E. Requests for Leave Without Pay
   F. Requests for LAND Trust Amendments
   G. Student Educational Travel

4. PROGRAM REVIEW AND REPORT
   A. Volunteer for Good

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
   A. Public Opportunity to Address the Board

6. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

7. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION
   A. Consideration of Quit-Claim Deed with Springville City.
   B. Consideration of Easement with Santaquin City.
   C. Consideration of Policy JDE – Student Electronic Devices.
   D. Consideration of JDD-GBEA – Prohibition of Bullying, Hazing, and Retaliation.
   E. Consideration of Policy JOA – Student and Family Privacy.
   F. Consideration of Repealing the following Policies GBB – Staff Involvement in Decision Making, GCB – Professional Staff Contracts, Compensation and Benefit Plans and GBF - Staff Participation in Community Activities.
   F. Consideration of Request for Early Retirement Incentive Plans.

8. SPECIAL BUSINESS
   A. Motion & Vote – Board Closed Session
   B. Board Closed Session (Legal, Property, Personnel and/or Other Closed Session Issues)

Agenda Item 1: OPENING

Item No. 1A: Pledge of Allegiance – Kristen Betts

Agenda Item 2: AGENDA APPROVAL

Item No. 2A: Rick Ainge presented a motion to approve the Board Agenda. He mentioned that there will be a closed session after the general meeting.
Kristen Betts seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Agenda Item 3: CONSENT AGENDA

Item No. 3: John Taylor reviewed items listed on the Consent Agenda and inquired of any questions from the Board. He then presented a motion to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda:

A. Financial Report
B. Claims
C. Minutes of Work Session & General Board Meeting held on July 9, 2025.
D. New Employees and Separations
E. Requests for Leave Without Pay
F. Requests for LAND Trust Amendments
G. Student Educational Travel
Shauna Warnick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Agenda Item 4: PROGRAM REVIEW AND REPORT

Item 4A. Student Success Coordinator RaShel Shepherd shared information, celebrations and highlights pertaining to the "Volunteer for Good" Program. This service pilot initiative aims to create meaningful opportunities for students to explore how service impacts their academic growth, social connections, civic engagement, and mental well-being.

Agenda Item 5: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Item No. 5A: Public Opportunity to Address the Board

| Name | City | Schools | Topic |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aaron Houser | Payson | PHS | PHS Baseball |
| Darren Collins | Santaquin | PHS | PHS Baseball |
| Sam Prestwich | Santaquin | PHS, PJHS | PHS ball field |
| Nick Lemon | Payson | PHS, APA | PHS ball field |

Agenda Item 6: ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Agenda Item 7: ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

Item No. 7A: Kristen Betts made the motion to adopt the resolution approving the Quit-Claim Deed between Nebo School District, as Grantor, and Springville City Corporation, as Grantee; conveying 0.042 acres of land located at approximately 443 South 200 East in Springville, Utah.
Rick Ainge seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7B: Scott Wilson made the motion to adopt the resolution approving the Temporary Vehicular Turn-Around Easement between Nebo School District, as Grantor, and Santaquin City, as Grantee, providing for a temporary turn-around across a portion of the school district's property located in Santaquin, Utah.
Brian Rowley seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7C: Shauna Warnick made the motion to approve Policy JDE – Student Electronic Devices.
John Taylor seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7D: Rick Ainge made the motion to approve Policy JDD-GBEA – Prohibition of Bullying, Hazing, and Retaliation.
Scott Wilson seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7E: John Taylor made the motion to approve Policy JOA – Student and Family Privacy.
Kristen Betts seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7F: Kristen Betts made the motion to approve the repealing of Policies GBB – Staff Involvement in Decision Making, GCB – Professional Staff Contracts, Compensation and Benefit Plans and GBF – Staff Participation in Community Activities.
Shauna Warnick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

Item No. 7G: Scott Wilson presented the motion to approve the Request for Early Retirement Incentive Plans.

Brian Rowley seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

President Shannon Acor announced at 6:35 PM that the Board had need to return to items listed on the 3:00 PM agenda to finalize discussion.

Item 2A: Items from Superintendent continued;

- The Superintendent continued with the overview of the items discussed with high school principals.
  - 9th Grade Participation in High School Sports.
  - Cheer/Drill
    - Extra-Curricular vs Co-Curricular status
  - Advanced Conditioning Class
- The Superintendent mentioned the Kindergarten Half-Day and Full-Day Enrollment Trends 2025-2026. 82% of kindergarten students are full-day. The Board discussed mid-day busing of half-day kindergarten students. Since mid-day busing is no longer a requirement, it was proposed that mid-day busing not continue after this 2025-2026 school year.
- The Superintendent shared the Board Committee Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026.
- The Superintendent shared the email explaining eligibility for the "Support Professional Stipend" This email will go out to all employees the first part of September.
- The Superintendent mentioned "Rooms" in Apptegy. It is active and employees are required to use it as their communication tool with the exception of Fall sports. Winter sports will be required to use this tool.
- The Superintendent mentioned the UHSAA passes that are in Board member folders.
- The Superintendent mentioned that Operations Director Frank Daybell brought PHS bricks for Board members who want them.
- The Superintendent reported that the Salem Hills High School PE building is delayed for a short time due to a supply issue.
- The Superintendent mentioned that Rep Owens will be at the Advanced Learning Center on August 27.
- The Superintendent shared that Payson High School has an advanced animal science service dog training class. Secondary Director Bart Peery will continue to work with Principal Jesse Sorensen and the teacher to remind them that the dogs are not allowed in other areas of the school besides the designated classroom. Bart will gather more information for the Board.

Agenda Item 8: Special Business

8A. Consideration of convening a closed session to discuss matters related to legal/litigation issues, real property transactions, procurement, and student or personnel issues involving a person's character, competence, or health.

John Taylor presented the motion to convene a closed session.
Kristen Betts seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

President Shannon Acor announced at 7:23 PM that the Board meeting was temporarily adjourned.

The Board convened the closed session at 7:31 PM.

President Shannon Acor announced at 8:38 PM that all items of the closed session were covered and adjourned the closed session.

The Board reconvened the Board meeting at 8:38 PM.

President Shannon Acor announced at 8:38 PM that all items on the agenda were covered and asked for a motion to adjourn the Board meeting.

Shauna Warnick presented the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Kristen Betts seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.