

Southwest Educational Development Center
Executive Board Meeting
520 West 800 South
Cedar City, Utah 84720
9:30 A.M.
September 10, 2025
9:30 A.M.

Garfield District

John Dodds

Beaver District

David Long

Iron District

Lance Hatch

Kane District

Ben Dalton - Excused

Millard District

Randy Hunter

Washington District

Richard Holmes

SUU

Pamela Powell

State School Board

Emily Green

Joann Brinton - Excused

Charter Schools

Ben Kaufman- Excused

SEDC

Joe B. Wright

Melissa Van Horn

I. Welcome & Call to Order

Superintendent John Dodds called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Visitors: Chris Haight, SEDC's Media & Tech Mentor/Autism Assistant

Excused: Superintendent Ben Dalton, Kane District, Joann Brinton, State School Board, Ben Kaufman, Charter Schools.

II. Board Annual Organization: New Board Chair:

Following the rotation as outlined in SEDC's Policy, Superintendent John Dodds will serve as the Board Chair for the 2025-2026 school year. Superintendent David Long made the motion. Seconded by Superintendent Lance Hatch and passed unanimously by all Board members present. Superintendent Ben Dalton excused.

III. Information Item:

TeachFX Presentation: TeachFX is an app that staff can utilize to record while teaching that gives them instant feedback regarding their interaction with the students. The feedback will tell them how much they spoke versus how much the students spoke. It will let them know how often they asked a closed or open ended question, along with how much praise was given to the students during the lesson. At this time Iron County and Garfield County are using this app. Superintendent Hatch from Iron County spoke on the positive benefits he has seen in ICSD. SEDC requests that any interested LEAs work through the RESA for contracts with TeachFX.

Southwest Health Department - Measles Outbreaks: Dr. Blodget spoke about the recent

outbreaks of Measles across the state and region. The Southwest Region has the lowest vaccination rates in the state. He encouraged the Superintendents to send home letters prior to any outbreak and then to send home a letter in the case of an exposure at school. Dr. Blodget is not currently interested in keeping unvaccinated students home. He is willing to let parents make those decisions. He asked each district for a point of contact.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the Executive Board of the Southwest Educational Development Center meetings held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, and Thursday, June 19, 2025, were approved on a motion made by Superintendent Lance Hatch, seconded by Superintendent Richard Holmes and passed unanimously by all Board members present. Superintendent Ben Dalton excused.

V. Approval of Check Register Reports

Motion: Approval of Check Register Report:

Mr. Joe Wright explained a few of the many items in the report. The check register reports for May 12, 2025, through August 26, 2025, were approved on a motion made by Superintendent David Long, seconded by Superintendent Richard Holmes and passed unanimously by all Board members present. Superintendent Ben Dalton excused.

IV. Reports/Board Discussion Items

A. SEDC Staff Report

1. Chris Haught – Media & Tech Mentor/Autism Assistant: Mrs. Haught has been working at SEDC for 13 years and really enjoys her job. She gave a summary of the projects she is involved with and explained a few in depth. Mrs. Haught has also written multiple grants for libraries in the region. She shared her goals for the year. The Board is amazed by Mrs. Haught and is grateful for all she does for the region. <https://sedck12.org/Haught2025>

B. Executive Director Report:

Joe B. Wright – SEDC Executive Director:

1. Foundations of Behavior Training: Mr. Wright discussed that SEDC has developed a video training to meet the new state requirements.. So far SEDC has distributed it to Kane, Iron, Washington and Millard districts. SEDC made the offer to Garfield and Beaver to personalize the video based on the policy they want referenced.

2. Evaluator Training: Mr Wright discussed the annual training for new administrators held last week. There were participants from Kane, Garfield and Washington districts. He discussed the benefit of doing 3 evaluations with a qualified evaluator as part of the certification process after the instruction.

3. CSTAG Training: Mr. Wright discussed that last year SEDC trained everyone in each district that needed training. He discussed doing regional training here at SEDC for anyone new. Superintendent John Dodds suggested Mr. Wright do a follow-up with his district, possibly at a principals' meeting.

4. Strategic Planning for SEDC: SEDCs Strategic Plan is close to being complete. Mr Wright let everyone know how much SEDC appreciated all the Board's feedback. Mr. Wright shared that in SEDC's opening institute meeting the staff discussed the strategic plan and spent time working on it as a team.

5. Cooperative Purchasing: Mr Wright discussed looking into purchasing custodial and office supplies in a cooperative contract to bring down the cost. This will be explored more this school year.

6. Expanded K-16 Luncheon – November 12, 2025: All board members agreed to the meeting date. Mr Wright discussed that there is an organization that would like to come discuss promoting students gaining skills and staying in their communities. The Board agreed that this meeting would not be the place for that discussion.

7. Courageous Principals: More principals signed up than there were scholarships available, so they will need to reapply next year. The members of the Board who have participated in this training discussed what an amazing opportunity it was for them.

8. Legislator Day in the Classroom: The Day in the Classroom is actually the entire month of September. The Board discussed the variety of plans that each district has for the legislative visits. Mr. Wright is happy to help coordinate if needed.

9. Legislative Luncheon: Will be held December 10, 2025 in Washington County. Invitations will be sent to Legislators and School Board members.

10. USBE Updates: No updates at this meeting as Mr. Wright wanted to give Board Member Emily Green time to discuss USBE items with the Board.

C. Board Requested Items:

Collaboration with Builders on School Safety:

D. Utah State School Board Items:

Joann Brinton - State School Board: Not present

Emily Green - State School Board: Discussed the new State Superintendent and what she has been up to since she started. She discussed that they are working on the legislative funding requests and she invited the Board's feedback. She discussed asking for an Audit for the Federal funding. USBE is in the process of reviewing the math standards and is accepting feedback until September 17, 2025. The Board shared with Board Member Green the different ways they have been celebrating the 250th in their districts.

E. Southern Utah University Items:

Pamela Powell - Southern Utah University: SUU is exploring a new 90-hour bachelor's degree plan designed to prepare individuals for careers in early childhood. This degree would prepare a variety of learners to work with children and families in a variety of occupations outside of teacher licensure.

F. Charter School Items:

Ben Kaufman – SUCCESS Director - Charter Schools Representative: - Not Present

VI. Board Dialogue: None

VII. Adjourn:

Superintendent David Long moved to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Richard Holmes seconded the motion and passed unanimously by all Board members present. Superintendent Ben Dalton excused. The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.