

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 23, 2025

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study, general, and closed sessions on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at JATC South (Board Conference Room), 12723 S. Park Avenue (2080 West), Riverton, Utah. The sessions were also provided electronically via YouTube.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Carolyn Gough, Administrator of Teaching & Learning
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Dave Rostrom, Director, Facility Services
Kaye Rizzuto, Consultant, Teaching & Learning
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. America 250 Activities

Dr. Godfrey invited Teaching & Learning Consultant Kaye Rizzuto and Administrator of Teaching & Learning Carolyn Gough to share information about upcoming America 250 activities.

Ms. Rizzuto explained September is American Founders and Constitution month and this year marks the 250th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence. She gave suggestions for student activities, including patriotic programs, concerts, book clubs, and celebrations for veterans. She said Teaching & Learning has developed a student award that can be earned through participating in optional activities. April 10, 2026 is the submission deadline for the America 250 award, and an awards ceremony will be held in May, 2026.

Mr. Robinson encouraged Board members to participate in celebration activities and Mr. Dunford read Utah code 53G-10-204, which specifies the constitutional responsibility of public education.

B. Discussion on Administrative Policy AA453 *Use of Personal Electronic and Communication Devices*

President George said this discussion is to follow up on Policy AA453, which was created and put into practice about a year ago.

Superintendent Godfrey expressed gratitude for parents, teachers, and staff who adopted the policy and implemented it after the school year had already begun. He said there has mostly been a positive impact with more student engagement and interaction. He made the following recommendations:

- More communication about what the policy means for parents and students
- Clarifying the use of smartwatches, particularly at the elementary level
- More consistency with implementing the policy at the secondary level

Dr. Anderson, Associate Superintendent, said there has been positive feedback so far. He said the policy states that School Community Councils can decide if there should be additional restrictions on personal electronic devices, but so far none have done this. It was decided that staff will remind principals that they have the power to move forward with additional restrictions in their schools.

Ms. Dean asked about training for substitute teachers, and Dr. Godfrey said he will work with the Human Resources department to make sure this is happening.

Ms. Barrow suggested a refresher video be created to explain the policy. Administration agreed to produce a short video for students, parents, and employees on the use of cellphones in schools.

C. Field House Follow Up

At Board members' request, Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services, and Dave Rostrom, Director of Facility Services, shared pictures of fieldhouses that were built in neighboring school districts.

Business Administrator John Larsen shared a possible bond timeline, explaining the latest date to submit a bond would be August 4, 2026, with the bond election to follow by November, 2026. Mr. Rostrom said the design and bid process could take about six weeks, and construction would take about six to eight months.

Mr. Larsen added that prior to submitting the bond, a recommendation was made for a patron survey including possible focus groups. District budgets would also need to be adjusted to include maintenance costs for each field house, which could amount to approximately \$200,000 per year.

Board discussion ensued which included the following possibilities:

- Finding sponsors to partner with Jordan for building field houses
- Using the Capital projects budget to pay for field houses (forgoing projects for the next few years)
- Initiating Patron surveys and focus groups
- Considering a Property swap in exchange for sponsoring a field house
- Working with the Jordan Education Foundation on donation options
- Upcoming legislation that might impact how school buildings are managed and controlled
- Examining what is being spent in rental costs for facilities outside the District

It was decided staff will reach out to the Jordan Education Foundation regarding the idea of recruiting sponsors for the field houses. They will also pursue the option of a property swap in exchange for sponsoring a field house. In addition, administration will begin the process of bidding for a survey and focus groups; and compile cost savings information on how much is being spent renting outside facilities, that could be saved by using a school field house.

D. Boundary Change Update

Dr. Anderson gave an update on the current boundary change process. He said notices were sent to parents via ParentSquare as well as 16,229 postcards mailed to individual households in affected areas. The information specified that only 1259 households would be impacted by possible changes and gave instructions on accessing a boundary survey.

Dr. Anderson said so far, 316 Midas Creek and 900 northwest area households have participated in the online survey, which will remain open through October 2, 2025. In addition, two open houses were held, at which eight people in the Midas Creek area and 21 people in the northwest area attended.

Dr. Anderson said a public comment opportunity will be held October 28 and the public boundary hearing is scheduled for November 11, 2025, with the anticipation of a potential vote by the Board at the November 18, 2025 Business meeting.

Dr. Anderson said School Community Councils (SCC) are being elected and will be trained soon. Staff agreed to encourage principals to contact newly elected SCC members to hold meetings in time to hear boundary presentations and ask questions prior to the public comment period.

E. Discussion on Administrative Policy AA419 Student Conduct, Dress, and Appearance

President George said it was decided to revisit Policy AA419 prior to graduation season to determine if changes are needed.

Secondary Administrator of Schools Brad Sorensen said he met with principals and assistant principals and made preliminary changes to policy AA419 that are reflective of their concerns and Board recommendations. These include changing wording to be an active, not passive voice and eliminating the words "without alterations" from expectations about wearing the cap and gown.

Ms. Wood suggested changing the wording in section D1 from "In order to maintain dignity" to "dignity is expected."

It was decided that administration will make further revisions to the policy and bring the proposed changes to the October 28, 2025 business meeting for a final vote.

Due to the time constraint, it was decided to discuss agenda item F. *District Enrollment Trends* after the General session.

At 6:16 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The general session started at 6:32 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Norm Emerson, Consultant, Fine Arts
Jason Skidmore, Director, Applied Technology Education
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Janet Sanders, President, Jordan Education Association

President George presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. Adriana Garcia, Kenzie Shaw, and Ryker Densely, Student Body Officers at Sunset Ridge Middle School, conducted a flag ceremony and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Rylee Mciff, Sunset Ridge Middle School.

Celebrating Sunset Ridge Middle School

Nicole Stradley, Student Body Officer of Sunset Ridge Middle School, presented information to the Board about the good things happening at this school and reviewed some of the programs and activities in which students and faculty members participate. In addition, Song Birds, a musical performance group directed by Patricia Rogers, performed a musical number.

Resolutions of Appreciation

Lisa Dean read a Resolution of Appreciation for the following former Jordan District employees who recently passed away:

Frank Ray Goodman – employed by Jordan District from 1971 to 1977
Joreen Marjorie Hall – employed by Jordan District from 1974 to 1979
Keleen Leslie – employed by Jordan District from 2007 to 2025
Jason Norman – employed by Jordan District from 2017 to 2025

Board Member Recognitions

Lisa Dean attended the Hidden Valley Middle School annual Sunrise Salute on Patriot Day and expressed gratitude for the unity and patriotism it promotes. She attended a ribbon cutting for the Innovation Learning Lab at Juniper Elementary School and thanked the District's community partners for creating opportunity for students to be "curious thinkers" and "problem solvers." Ms. Dean attended a home visit training and a West Jordan High School People of the Pacific ceremony and thanked all those involved for creating a culture of belonging.

Erin Barrow attended the Juniper Elementary School ribbon cutting for the Innovation Learning Lab as well as the Fall Family Fair hosted by the Language and Culture Services department. She gave a shoutout to bus drivers for their hard work and dedication.

Darrell Robinson attended the Fall Family Fair, which he said was a fun community event. He recently toured the new Jordan Learning Center and said the District does a great job of repurposing properties. Mr. Robinson also attended a Color Fun Run at Foothills Elementary School.

Niki George attended Induction Ceremonies for the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) and the National Honor Society (NHS). She is proud of the academic success, scholarship, leadership and service that students experience when they are involved in Honor Societies in Jordan schools. She thanked everyone involved in School Community Councils for their time and commitment. In addition, Ms. George gave a shoutout to the Copper Hills High School HOSA chapter for their successful blood drive and to Antelope Canyon Elementary community and volunteers for their support of the school's Fun Run.

Superintendent's Recognitions

Dr. Godfrey said it was exciting to celebrate the opening of the Innovation Learning Lab at Juniper Elementary School. He thanked the Smith Entertainment Group and America First Credit Union for their partnership and generous funding for the lab. Dr. Godfrey expressed pride in the newly opened Jordan Learning Center (JLC), noting it will serve thousands of families with services offered there. He said there will be a tour and ribbon cutting later this year for the JLC, and thanked the Board of Education for their support of both of these Jordan additions.

I. Public Comments

A. Public Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

Callean Laird, a patron, asked the Board to reconsider the West Jordan Elementary School land swap with Ivory Homes due to possible plans for high density housing on the site.

Jeff Rifleman, a patron, expressed concern over safety and discipline of students in schools. He said he previously emailed Board members about an incident with a student that occurred last year, where he believes sanctions were inadequate.

Eric Smith, a patron, said he is concerned about the property formerly occupied by the old West Jordan Elementary School, which he said was a retention basin area that may accumulate water.

Richard Packer, a parent, thanked the District and Board for taking care of the now vacant West Jordan Elementary property. He said he is concerned with the possibility of high density housing that could be built there in the future.

Shawn Mathis, a parent, expressed concern about student access to a website through counseling centers.

Trevor Kitchen, a resident in the old West Jordan Elementary School area, said he is concerned about the land swap with Ivory Homes. He wants to make sure the plan for new homes will be similar to existing homes.

II. **General Business – Consent Agenda**

A. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Minutes**

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held August 26, 2025 were presented to the Board of Education for approval.

2. **LEA Specific Licensing**

It was recommended that License and Endorsement Applications submitted by educators be approved (Administrative Rule R277-301-7).

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Suzanne Wood to approve Consent Agenda items A1 through A2, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

B. **Motion to Accept Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Expenditures**

Expenditures for the month of August 2025 were provided to the Board of Education.

2. **Financial Statement**

The financial statement through August 31, 2025, was provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 1)

3. **Personnel – Licensed and Education Support Professionals**

Personnel changes for the month of August 2025 were provided to the Board of Education.

4. **Non-Compliance Report**

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Suzanne Wood to accept Consent Agenda items B1 through B4, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

III. **Bid Recommendations**

A. School or Department
Instructional Support Services Items for Bid
Follett Destiny Software

<u>Bidders</u> Follett Software, LLC	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$86,293.19
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Purpose: Annual Renewal of Follett Destiny District Member Library License & Resource Manager Software.

Budget: Instructional Support Services, Instructional Media Software Budget

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the order with Follett Software, a sole source provider, who met the specifications, terms, and conditions of the bid.

MOTION: It was moved by Erin Barrow and seconded by Lisa Dean to approve the bid for Follett Destiny Software for Instructional Support Services, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

B. School or Department
Special Education Items for Bid
Private School Services

<u>Bidders</u> Bridgeway Integrated Healthcare Services (formerly Utah Behavior Services Inc.)	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$125,000.00
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Purpose: To provide private school placement services for special education students.

Budget: General Special Education Funds

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to Bridgeway Integrated Healthcare Services, as they provide the best value and could best fulfill the requirements of the District.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Erin Barrow to approve the bid for Private School Services for Special Education, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

C. School or Department
Teaching & Learning Items for Bid
Classroom Management Software

<u>Bidders</u> Blocksi GoGuardian Hapara Linewize Managed Methods Securly Sergeant Labs/Aristotle K12	<u>Amount of Bid</u> Total Awarded Expenditure: To be determined by School Enrollment to Program
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Purpose: To provide classroom management software solutions for District schools. A multiple award is given to allow schools to choose the best solution for their location.

Budget: This is a school site decision as to which budget will be used.

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding contracts to the best value providers, Blocksi and GoGuardian. They complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in bid

documents. An evaluation committee made the recommendation based on the results of the evaluation process and final ratings of the proposals.

MOTION: It was moved by Darrell Robinson and seconded by Suzanne Wood to approve the bid for Classroom Management Software for Teaching & Learning, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Special Business**

No special business items requiring Board approval were received since the last meeting.

V. **Information Items**

A. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Godfrey reported on a recent visit to the Three Dimensional Education (3DE) headquarters in Atlanta, a program by Junior Achievement. He said he was encouraged by the model and plans to pursue the program, which he believes makes learning more meaningful. He expressed appreciation for the Board's support of this idea.

VI. **Discussion Items**

A. **Committee Reports and Comments by Board Members**

Brian Barnett said he is concerned with allowing content from the executive branch of the government into the classroom. His concerns stem from a recent video from the Governor which was sent to the District with instructions to share it in classrooms. He said he believes there should not be partisan or political influence in schools.

Bryce Dunford explained Finance Committee documents shared with the Board. He explained to the Board tax increment proposals from cities. He said the South Jordan Redevelopment Committee met recently to report on the progress of current projects.

Suzanne Wood informed everyone of the book study in which the Jordan Education Access Committee (JEAC) is participating. She recommended the book they are reading, *Lenses of Humanity* by Kyle Reyes, to Board members.

Brian Barnett reported the Facilities Committee met recently with the Call to Action Foundation who is proposing to utilize some of Jordan's vacant properties as low income housing. The Facilities Committee disagrees with this proposal.

Lisa Dean said Salt Lake County Parks and Rec saw an increase in My County Rec pass distribution and use this past year. She said the Jordan Education Foundation recently toured the Jordan Learning Center and their Christmas for Kids program, which is in need of volunteers and donations, will be held December 6, 2025.

Bryce Dunford encouraged Board members to review the Preliminary Results for the 2024-25 School Year document attached to BoardBook. This explains the current status of District fund balances.

Niki George said the Joint Legislative Committee, in preparation for September's Legislative Month in the Classroom, has invited Representatives in Jordan boundaries to visit schools in the District. She also gave a reminder about the USBA Leadership Conference being held September 25 through 27, 2025 at Bryce Canyon National Park.

At 8:01 p.m., President George declared the meeting adjourned and announced that the Board would return to study session.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Janet Sanders, President, Jordan Education Association

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued its study session to discuss the following:

F. District Enrollment Trends

Dr. Godfrey gave information on enrollment trends, indicating that overall the District is experiencing diminished kindergarten enrollment numbers. He noted the capacity percentages at all school levels: high school is 85, middle schools are in the lower eighties, and elementary schools are in the seventies. He said that there are 67,000 seats in the District including 250 portable classrooms, but many factors need to be considered when balancing enrollment, such as: moving students, closing schools, realigning boundaries, altering districtwide calendars, etc.

Dr. Godfrey said growth factors like birthrate and the economy could change the projection, but overall there is a downward trend in enrollment.

MOTION: At 8:30 p.m., it was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Brian Barnett to go into closed session. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; property, potential litigation, negotiations, and security measures. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

MOTION: At 9:45 p.m., it was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Brian Barnett to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

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Attachments