



CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The following minutes are a summary of the October 16, 2025, Canyons Board of Education Public Hearing.

To listen to the entire board meeting, including all comments made during the meeting, please go to Diligent Community at <https://canyonsdistrict.community.highbond.com/Portal/>

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a public hearing on Tuesday, October 16, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm at Bell Vista Elementary, 2131 East 7000 S., Salt Lake City, UT 84121.

Those in attendance were:

Amber Shill – Board President
Amanda Oaks, Vice President
Andrew Edtl, Vice President
Jackson Lewis, Board Member
Holly Neibaur, Board Member
Karen Pedersen, Board Member
Rick Robins, Superintendent
Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

Excused: Katie Dahle – Board Member, Daniel Harper – General Legal Counsel, Charlie Evans – Director of External Relations, McKay Robinson – Assistant Superintendent

1. Public Open House – 6:00 p.m.

A public open house was held with information displayed for patrons to regarding the boundary study.

2. Presentation/Patron Comments – 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Wilcox reviewed information regarding the boundary changes and school consolidation/closures. The District is studying boundaries to maintain optimal class sizes and a full menu of academic opportunities for every child.

The District's funding is based on state-legislated formulas. The largest funding sources is the Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU). For every student enrolled for 180 days in 2024-2025, the District will receive \$4,674 per student from the state for the 2025-2026 school year. With an estimated 659 fewer students for the 2025-2026 that equals \$3.2 million less funding for the district in 2026-27..

Mr. Wilcox reviewed where the District has been preserving funding for schools through absorbing district level administrative position, reassigning district office employees to work in the schools, delaying technology and equipment replacements to extend their use, placing a hiring freeze and prioritizing positions for employees if schools are consolidated.

Canyons has been subsidizing small schools to maintain staffing. Continuing to do so long term pulls funding away from other schools affecting class sizes, electives and student support elsewhere.

The Northeast Region proposal recommendation would include the westernmost portion of Ridgecrest Elementary School's boundary (West of 1300 E.) and would shift to East Midvale Elementary to align with Midvale Middle School's boundaries. This recommendation would close Bella Vista Elementary and combine with Ridgecrest Elementary in the Ridgecrest building. Alignment of middle school feeders would include Oakdale Elementary would have two feeder patterns (Oakdale>Albion>Brighton) and (Oakdale>Union>Hillcrest). All of Brookwood Elementary students would attend Albion Middle. All of Silver Mesa Elementary would attend Union Middle.

Considerations for combining schools include the capacity Bella Vista is 53,400 sq feet with 21 classrooms and Ridgecrest is 61,500 sq feet with 28 classrooms. These plans would require transportation for Bella Vista students to Ridgecrest and for Ridgecrest students to East Midvale.

Preschool and Special Education units are currently under review to explore where to locate early childhood classrooms and SPED unit to best serve families and balance enrollment.

Future planning considerations include school rebuilds under study. There are many factors that this decision would depend on such as construction costs, interest rates, enrollments, building age and condition, debt repayments, taxable values of property etc.

School choice permits and proposed boundary changes to accommodate the school-transfer request for students impacted by boundary changes or school consolidations were reviewed.

The following patrons commented:

1. Public Comment - Yen Chu
2. Public Comment - Kristin Smith and John Smith and Ryan Foote
3. Public Comment – Thomas Barnes
4. Public Comment – Ellie Nielson
5. Public Comment – Ryan Scully
6. Public Comment – Analaya Pappadakis
7. Public Comment – Kallista Pappadakis
8. Public Comment - Rebecca Adamson
9. Public Comment - Brad Jensen
10. Public Comment - Tricia Jensen
11. Public Comment – Melanie Hobbs
12. Public Comment - Mary Bailey
13. Public Comment - Travis Bailey
14. Public Comment - Jodie Jensen
15. Public Comment – Tracy Keck
16. Public Comment - Ian Harris
17. Public Comment - Lyn Dixon
18. Public Comment – Carrie Christensen
19. Public Comment - Paul Stewart
20. Public Comment - Eleanor
21. Public Comment - Alisha Ackerman
22. Public Comment - Amber Sposeto
23. Public Comment - Daren Wagner
24. Public Comment - John Kurtz
25. Public Comment - Vanessa Patterson
26. Public Comment - Aubri Evans
27. Public Comment - Daisy Phillips
28. Public Comment - Richard Kelsey
29. Public Comment - Sadie Tucker

- 30. Public Comment - Rachel Carruth
- 31. Public Comment - Drew Bentenson
- 32. Public Comment - Juliana Jackson
- 33. Public Comment - Natalie Thomas
- 34. Public Comment - Anna Whiteley
- 35. Public Comment – Verral Hagues

The presentation is available on [Diligent Community](#).

3. Closing Items

- A. Adjourn 8:10 pm

/cc

ATTEST

Amber Shill Board President

Rick Robins Superintendent