



DRAFT MINUTES

EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 | 9:15 a.m. | Davis Catalyst Center 1265 W Sportsplex Dr, Kaysville, UT 84037

Members Present:

Sen. John D. Johnson, Chair
Rep. R. Neil Walter, Chair
Sen. Heidi Balderree
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe
Rep. Tiara Auxier
Rep. Ariel Defay
Rep. Joseph Elison
Rep. Sahara Hayes
Rep. Michael L. Kohler
Rep. Carol S. Moss
Rep. Clinton D. Okerlund
Rep. Karen M. Peterson
Rep. Val L. Peterson

Rep. Candice B. Pierucci
Rep. Jason E. Thompson
Rep. Doug Welton

Members Absent:

Sen. Chris H. Wilson
Rep. Karianne Lisonbee

Staff Present:

Finn Andrew Rose, Managing Policy Analyst
Micah Ann Wixom, Policy Analyst
Mike Curtis, Managing Associate General Counsel
Tyler Keetch, Associate General Counsel
Jeff Van Hulten, Associate General Counsel
Amy Hawkes, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Walter called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

1. Davis School District and Davis Catalyst Center Introduction

Superintendent Daniel Linford, Davis School District, welcomed the committee to the Davis Catalyst Center.

2. Public Education: Utah State Board of Education Legislative Priorities

3 - 2026 Legislative Requests (Utah State Board of Education (USBE))

Matt Hymas, Chair, and Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent of Policy, Utah State Board of Education (USBE), reviewed USBE's legislative priorities for 2026 and answered committee questions.

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to open a committee bill file to address USBE's legislative priorities. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 14

Sen. H. Balderree
Rep. A. Defay
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Fillmore
Rep. S. Hayes
Sen. J. Johnson
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. C. Okerlund
Rep. K. Peterson
Sen. K. Riebe
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 5

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Sen. C. Wilson

Micah Wixom answered a committee question.

[3 - 2026 Prioritized Funding Requests \(USBE\)](#)

Matt Hymas and Elisse Newey went through USBE's funding priorities for 2026 and answered committee questions.

3. Committee Business

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5.

Yeas - 14

Sen. H. Balderree
Rep. A. Defay
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Fillmore
Rep. S. Hayes
Sen. J. Johnson
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. C. Okerlund
Rep. K. Peterson
Sen. K. Riebe
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 5

Rep. T. Auxier
Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Sen. C. Wilson

4. Public Education: Utah State Board of Education Attendance Audit

[4 - Data Reliability Audit - Graduation and Student Data \(USBE\)](#)

[4 - Attendance Audit \(USBE\)](#)

Debbie Davis, Chief Audit Executive, introduced Kevin John, Deputy Audit Executive, Utah State Board of Education (USBE). They shared findings from the data reliability audit and the attendance audit and answered committee questions.

Matt Hymas and Elisse Newey responded to the attendance audit findings.

5. Draft Legislation: Public School Attendance Amendments

[**5 - Draft legislation "Public School Attendance Amendments" \(V005\)**](#)

Sen. Fillmore presented draft legislation "Public School Attendance Amendments" (V005) and answered committee questions.

6. Draft Legislation: School Fee Waiver Amendments[**8 - Draft Legislation "School Fee Waiver Amendments" \(V006\)**](#)

Rep. Welton presented draft legislation "School Fee Waiver Amendments" (V006).

7. Draft Legislation: Education Board Amendments[**7 - Draft legislation "Education Board Amendments" \(V007\)**](#)

Rep. Norm Thurston presented draft legislation "Education Board Amendments" (V007) and answered committee questions.

8. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Hayes moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 4.

Yeas - 15

Rep. T. Auxier
Sen. H. Balderree
Rep. A. Defay
Rep. J. Elison
Sen. L. Fillmore
Rep. S. Hayes
Sen. J. Johnson
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. C. Okerlund
Rep. K. Peterson
Sen. K. Riebe
Rep. J. Thompson
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. D. Welton

Nays - 0Absent - 4

Rep. K. Lisonbee
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. C. Pierucci
Sen. C. Wilson

Chair Walter adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.