UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

INFORMATION: Attendance Audit

Agenda item type:

Information Item

Recommended Action:

N/A

Purpose of Memo:

Staff recommendation

Background:

Mission and Vision: AEIOU and Y (Why)

The Internal Audit Department's mission is Analyzing Education Independently and Objectively for Utahns.

WhY: To support the Board's strategic vision and mission.

The Public Education System The public education system (System), and other taxpayer funded education options, specific to student enrollment, attendance, and membership, are outlined in complex state laws and local policies. The laws and policies include varying roles and responsibilities for multiple parties. The result of current laws and policies—and the implementation or unwillingness to implement and enforce them—is a System rife with inconsistency, contradictions, confusion, and noncompliance.

Without accountability for responsibilities at each level, casualties of the System may include: • students and parents—as the ones engaging with the System to support achievement, future opportunity, and success, • taxpayers—as the ones funding the educational services with an expectation of student success that benefits both the individual and the state, and • other parties (e.g., policymakers, administrators, educators)—as the ones providing oversight of the System, facilitating System operations, or providing services.

Impacts to the System may include, but are not limited to: • fraud, waste, abuse, and misuse of resources, including time and effort, • increased risk and liability (e.g., political, reputational, legal), • heightened stress with deteriorating morale, and • an unequal or inappropriate allocation of funds based on unreliable and invalid data.

Attendance (25-01)

Contact:

Molly Hart, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
molly.hart@schools.utah.gov
(801) 538-7510 office

Elisse Newey Deputy Superintendent of Policy elisse.newey@schools.utah.gov cell: 646-280-7839

Attachments:

- 1. Board Meeting Attendance Audit Discussion
- 2. Attendance Audit Response November Board 2025