

MINUTES OF THE UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 2025

10008 Creek Run Way, Sandy, UT, 84070

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Members Present:

- Chair Stephanie Speicher
- Vice Chair Erik Olson
- Member Susan Pulsipher
- Member Krystle Bassett
- Member Stacey Hutchings
- Member Nathan Marshall

Members Excused and Not Present:

- Member Clint Biesinger

Staff Present:

- Marie Steffensen
- Andrea Jones
- Amber Hellstrom
- Lisa Cooper
- Smriti Dhakal
- Brendan McGinn
- Betty Jimenez
- Amy Pace

Staff Excused:

- Jenna Magnetti
- Dr. Paul Kremer

Others Present:

- USBE Liaison Rod Hall
- AAG Darin Goff

(9:00AM) MEETING BEGINS

Public Comment (0)

Consent Calendar

Member Krystle Bassett: "I will make a motion to approve the consent calendar."

Member Susan Pulsipher: "I will second."

New Member Nathan Marshall recused himself from the voting of the Providence Hall Charter School Charter Agreement.

All members present say "Aye." Motion passed unanimously.

Swearing in of New Board Members

Chair Stephanie Speicher provided brief biographies for each new member, followed by Dr. Richard Nye administering the oath of office to the newest Utah State Charter School Board Members, Stacey Hutchings and Nathan Marshall. The board meeting was attended by family, staff, and is now composed of a fully staffed board.

Introduction to new Assistant Attorney General

The SCSB welcomed new AAG Darin Goff, while Chair Stephanie Speicher thanked former AAG Kurt Bradburn. Darin Goff introduced his background and experience. The Board and staff appreciate the contributions the new AAG will bring.

Executive Director Report

During Dr. Paul Kremer's absence from the board meeting, Associate Executive Director Marie Steffensen presented updates on the board, team, SCSB goals, new school applications, and IT developments.

USBE Liaison Report

USBE Liaison Rod Hall provided the SCSB Board and team with an update regarding significant matters recently voted on by the USBE, as well as items subject to future votes that may affect charter schools and all insights as a board member.

Board Committee Reports from, Finance, Authorizing, Legislative, Innovation, Oversight, Executive

Committee chairs or their representatives shared news about recent projects: the Finance Committee worked with the School Land Trust, the Authorizing Committee looked into charter agreements, Legislative interim activities were discussed, and the Executive Committee making arrangements to welcome new members. The Innovation and Oversight Committee did not meet during this time, so they did not present.

(Board Member Stacey Hutchings has excused herself from the remaining of the board meeting)

Discussion and Action Item: Proposal and Application Administrative Denial Policy

The Board discussed this action item and offered their opinions, suggestions, and possible edits.

Member Susan Pulsipher: "I make a motion that we move the proposal and application administrative denial policy forward to the 30-day period with the adjustments of 48 hours to 5 days."

Member Krystle Bassett: "I second."

All members present say "Aye." Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports to the Board: FY 2026 Charter School Original Budget Review Summary and Analysis of Prior Periods Budget-Related Findings and FY 2027 Charter School Enrollment Projections

In response to the Board's request for additional staff reports, Audit Manager Smriti Dhakal provided an overview of the FY 2026 Charter School Original Budget Review Summary. Subsequently, IT Analyst II Amber Helstrom presented the FY 2027 Charter School Enrollment Projections.

Annual Board Trainings: Open Public Meeting Act, Conflict of Interest, and Travel Policy

Both the board and staff took part in annual training on the Open Public Meeting Act, Conflict of Interest (including updates to forms), and SCSB staff member Lisa Cooper-Loock provided a short session on newly revised travel policies.

Staff and Board Reflections: Reporting Back from NACSA Conference and Strategic Plan and Goal Setting from October Board Meeting

Board and Staff who attended the NACSA Conference in Houston, TX shared key takeaways and later participated in strategic planning and goal-setting sessions with the National Charter Schools Institute in October.

(1:38PM) ADJOURN

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