

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 25, 2025

The Board of Education of the Timpanogos School District met in a board meeting on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 5:00 PM. The board meeting took place in the Little Theater of Orem High School.

Board members present: Guy Fugal, Sterling Hilton, Jennifer Lyman, Grace Rex, David H. Smith, Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson.

Also present: There were approximately 118 others in attendance.

Ada Wilson called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Abril Feliz Marte and Rosales Disena.

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT OR REFLECTION

An inspirational thought was given by Naomi Wagstaff.

RECOGNITIONS

Sterling Hilton acknowledged the city officials in attendance, including members of the interlocal team who served as the governing body prior to the seating of the new board. He also recognized representatives from the Alpine School District who were present to provide support—Associate Superintendent of Elementary, Dr. Vicki Carter, Legal Counsel, Kraig Brinkerhoff, and Business Administrator, Jason Sundberg—and thanked them for their attendance and assistance in helping ensure a successful start. He expressed appreciation to Utah Valley University and Brigham Young University, noting that President Tuminez extended her congratulations. He thanked all individuals who submitted their names to run for the Timpanogos School District Board of Education and recognized their willingness to serve. Finally, he thanked Tamara Stewart, Principal of Orem High School, and her staff for hosting the meeting, noting that the school is anticipated to serve as the future location for all board meetings.

Grace Rex recognized the Orem High School football team for winning the 5A State Championship.

OATH OF OFFICE

Judge, Reed S. Parkin of the Orem City Justice Court, administered the oath of office to Guy Fugal, Sterling Hilton, Jennifer Lyman, Grace Rex, David H. Smith, Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson, who were appointed as Board Members of the Timpanogos School District, at 4:00pm at the Media Center in Orem High School, effective November 25, 2025.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Anna Greene of Orem congratulated the Board on being the first to serve the new school district. She expressed enthusiasm for the strength of the Board and stated she looks forward to the positive work they will accomplish moving forward.

Chuck Bearce of Orem thanked the Board for their willingness to step forward in service and to prioritize the well-being of students in the Timpanogos School District. He acknowledged the difficult decisions that lie ahead and expressed confidence that the Board will keep students and staff at the forefront as those decisions are made.

Cole Kelley of Vineyard congratulated the Board and expressed enthusiasm for the future of the Timpanogos School District. He noted that he serves as the state representative for the new district and looks forward to working with the Board moving forward.

Cissy Rasmussen of Orem congratulated the Board and expressed appreciation for their willingness to serve. She noted their courage, determination, and years of experience that have prepared them for this moment. She looks forward to seeing how they engage with their constituents and the employees of the new district. She encouraged the Board to balance the needs of both employees and parents, acknowledging the challenges experienced in recent years.

REPORT AND TRANSFERAL OF AUTHORITY

Guy Fugal, a member of the interlocal authority that assisted in forming the new Timpanogos School District, expressed gratitude on behalf of the four cities for the establishment of the new Board. He noted that the cities now formally relinquish their responsibility and extend their best wishes to the Board moving forward.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Election of Board President

Ada Wilson advised they would proceed with the election of the Board President but wanted to notate that this board leadership would be in effect for one (1) year until they get back onto the normal election cycle.

Guy Fugal nominated **Jen Lyman** as President of the Timpanogos School District Board of Education.

David H Smith commented on the knowledge and growth he attained in the campaign process and expressed appreciation for Jen Lyman and her presence of leadership after the elections were over.

Michele Sorensen commented on how she has served with Jen Lyman on the PTA and has come to know her as someone who is very invested in the new district and brings knowledge in the financial field and she will be an asset to the board.

Grace Rex advised that Jen Lyman has shown herself as being a great communicator not only within the board but with the other boards as well.

The board members who voted in favor were Guy Gual, Jen Lyman, David H. Smith, Ada Wilson, Michele Sorensen, Grace Rex, and Stirling Hilton.

Jen Lyman was elected as the President of the Timpanogos School District Board of Education in a unanimous vote.

2. Election of Vice President

Ada Wilson nominated **Sterling Hilton** as the Vice President of the Timpanogos School District Board of Education.

Ada Wilson noted that Sterling Hilton has served on numerous committees and is well respected among district leadership. She highlighted his extensive experience in education, his volunteer work within his local school community, and the significant impact he made at Lakeridge Junior High.

David H. Smith stated that he has been familiar with Sterling throughout much of his career and noted that those who work with him consistently speak highly of him. He added that Sterling brings a strong vision for education and emphasized the importance of having a leader who can provide that direction.

President Jen Lyman commented that she and Sterling complement each other well, noting that she brings expertise in finance and operations while he focuses on vision. She stated that both perspectives will be essential as the district moves forward in developing its direction.

The board members who voted in favor were Guy Gual, President Jen Lyman, David H. Smith, Ada Wilson, Michele Sorensen, Grace Rex, and Stirling Hilton.

Sterling Hilton was elected as the Vice President of the Timpanogos School District Board of Education in a unanimous vote.

3. 2025-206 Board Meeting Calendar

Michele Sorensen made the motion to approve the 2025-2026 Board Meeting calendar, and it was seconded by **Guy Fugal**.

Sterling Hilton asked for clarification on the meeting dates and whether they fell on Wednesdays.

President Jen Lyman confirmed that the meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays and will align with the Alpine School District calendar. She noted that study sessions will begin at 4:00 p.m., board meetings at 6:00 p.m., and that meetings will be held at Orem High School unless otherwise announced.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Initiation of District Naming process

President Jen Lyman advised a survey that will be available to the public until December 20, 2025.

Following the survey, they plan on hosting a public kick-off event.

Michele Sorensen reported that the survey will remain open through December 20, 2025, to gather extensive public input. In early January, the Board will narrow the submissions to 3–4 options and release a Name Choice Survey. The Board will then lead the development of the official name and logo in mid-January. In early February, the district will host a kick-off event to unveil the new name and branding to the community.

Ada Wilson emphasized that the Board is seeking extensive community participation throughout this process. She noted that no decisions have been finalized, as the outcome will be shaped together with the community, though the final decision ultimately rests with the Board. She also expressed her interest in serving on the committee.

Grace Rex expressed appreciation for the plan to survey the community to encourage participation in unifying around the newly selected name. She noted that she is excited to see the creativity that will emerge and looks forward to the work ahead.

Michele Sorensen advised she would like to participate in the committee.

David H. Smith advised he would like to participate in the committee.

a. Formation of Kickoff Committee

President Jen Lyman appointed David H. Smith, Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson to the Kickoff Committee.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Process and Timeline for Hiring Superintendent and Business Administrator

Vice President Sterling Hilton advised that they would like to immediately start the process and begin discussions on posting the positions for the Superintendent and Business Administrator.

Ada Wilson questioned if there was a meeting set up with their representative from the USBA. **Vice**

President Sterling Hilton advised one was scheduled for the following morning. **Guy Fugal** interjected and advised that due to the holiday, the meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday morning, December 2.

Vice President Sterling Hilton asked **Guy Fugal** if they will be able to move quickly after the meeting.

Guy Fugal advised that they do a great job and they will have recommendations on how they can move forward. **President Jen Lyman** requested that **Guy Fugal** and **Ada Wilson** provide details for a timeline.

President Jen Lyman advised that USBA will be utilized as a head hunter and then facilitate the posting on the district's behalf. **Ada Wilson** will ask questions regarding parameters and ask for a job description, they will advertise the position, they will receive applications, the Board will then nominate members of the community to review the applications and provide nominations, and then the Board will review the candidates and make a decision. The Board discussed proceeding on the hiring of the Superintendent and Business Administrator at the same time and stressed the urgency to fill those positions in a responsible manner. **Ada Wilson** advised that the Superintendent needs to be selected first and then the Business Administrator second and they should not be hired at the same time. **Michele Sorensen** clarified if the

application process can be done simultaneously and then hire the Superintendent first; **Guy Fugal** confirmed this.

Ada Wilson made a motion to form a sub-committee to streamline this process and nominated **Guy Fugal** to head that committee, and he advised that **President Jen Lyman** and **Vice President Sterling Hilton** should be the other two individuals on that committee. **President Jen Lyman** appointed herself, **Vice President Sterling Hilton**, and **Guy Fugal** to the sub-committee to start the hiring process for the Superintendent and Business Administrator search.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Guy Fugal shared his passion for education and reflected on his nineteen (19) years of prior school board service. He expressed enthusiasm for the work ahead and noted that the process of establishing the new school district would be both meaningful and enjoyable.

Ada Wilson shared her enthusiasm for the opportunity to collaborate closely with two universities. She noted her positive experiences with UVU and her admiration for its president's leadership in the state. She expressed confidence in the potential for meaningful partnerships that will benefit both K-12 and higher education, supporting students in achieving successful futures. She also spoke of her appreciation for BYU's training programs that assist school staff and districts in fostering principled leadership. Finally, she expressed gratitude for her fellow Board members and the opportunity to serve with them.

Michele Sorensen expressed appreciation for the interlocal team's work over the past year, including their decision to hire a lobbyist who provided valuable support to the four (4) cities. She noted that this effort has positioned the Board well as they move forward in building a strong future. She highlighted that the Board collectively represents more than 250 years of service and shared her enthusiasm for collaborating with her fellow Board members and the success they will achieve together.

Grace Rex expressed her gratitude and enthusiasm for the opportunity to represent Seat 6 and serve in the new district. She noted her confidence in their ability to be successful and acknowledged the interlocal team's work in demonstrating the district's financial viability. She emphasized the importance of community support in building a strong district and stated that her door is always open.

David H. Smith expressed appreciation to the interlocal teams, city council members for their support, the voters across all four (4) cities for their engagement, and his fellow Board members for the knowledge they have shared with him. He also thanked all meeting participants for their involvement and continued support.

Vice President Sterling Hilton shared his enthusiasm for the formation of the new school district, noting that "learning is life-giving" and a central part of his life's work. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity for the community to come together in building this district for their children and future generations. He stated that his vision is for the district to support every student in achieving high levels of learning, emphasizing that this commitment extends to all adults working within the district as well—because learning is a lifelong process. He also advised that they plan on visiting every single school within the district.

President Jen Lyman noted that this is a historic moment, as the Board is laying the foundation for a district that could last a century or more and impact future generations. She expressed appreciation for her fellow Board members, observing that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, and stated that the Board is working collaboratively to establish a foundation that prioritizes the education of both students and staff.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Vice President Sterling Hilton and seconded by Guy Fugal and Michelle Sorenson, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 PM. The Board Members who voted in favor were Guy Fugal, Vice President Sterling Hilton, President Jennifer Lyman, Grace Rex, David H. Smith, Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson.

APPROVED