

**Uintah School District
Board of Education
Uintah County, Utah**

Approved Annual Impact Aid Meeting Minutes

Date: November 13, 2024
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 6:04 p.m.
Location: Eagle View Elementary
301 N. 5750 E. Roosevelt, UT 84066

Board Members Present:

- Dave Chivers, President
- Tawnya McKee, Vice President
- Todd Massey
- Denise Maynard
- Robin McClellan

Executive Staff Present:

- Dr. Rick Woodford, Superintendent
- Troy Timothy, Business Administrator

Others Present:

- Chris Jones, Principal, Eagle View Elementary
- Emily Arnold, Principal, Lapoint Elementary

Minutes recorded by Holly Chivers, Business Administrator's Secretary.

1. Annual Impact Aid Meeting

A. Welcome

President Chivers called the Annual Impact Aid Meeting to order and announced adjustments to the agenda. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the scheduled Red Spirit singers and Tribal Royalty were unable to attend, and the planned program was canceled. He stated that the meeting would proceed with its intended business. Superintendent Dr. Rick Woodford then offered opening remarks.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Principal Mallory Hoffart, Maeser Elementary, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. School Reports

Eagle View Elementary

Principal Chris Jones presented on behalf of EVE and expressed appreciation for the meeting attendee's understanding regarding the unfortunate program cancellations due to a funeral.

Principal Jones reviewed the purpose of Impact Aid, explaining that these federal funds offset local tax revenue not collected from federal lands—including Tribal trust lands and military installations—to ensure equitable educational opportunities for students residing on those lands.

He highlighted several student opportunities from the year, including meeting astronaut Ricky Arnold at UBTech, a recent trip to Utah State University, and an upcoming student-led food drive that aligns with the school’s service-learning goals. He noted that the Ute Indian Tribe donated five Thanksgiving dinners in support of this project.

Principal Jones then presented student performance data. He shared recent RISE ELA results and multi-year proficiency trends, emphasizing steady growth as the school continues recovery efforts following COVID-19 learning loss. He addressed Native American student proficiency specifically, noting that scores remain lower than overall proficiency rates. To improve outcomes, the school has expanded Tier 1 instructional interventions, incorporated support from outside specialists, and adopted strategies designed for language development. He observed that some students face articulation challenges or are nonverbal, which affects learning, and described instructional adjustments underway to address these needs.

He also reported a decrease in bullying incidents following implementation of the Second Step program districtwide. Only one qualifying bullying report has been received this year, noting that bullying requires repeated incidents to meet the definition.

Lapoint Elementary

Principal Emily Arnold presented Lapoint Elementary’s updated mission statement and highlighted schoolwide and community activities, including the annual “Walk to School” event and student gardening projects. She discussed professional learning efforts focused on supporting singleton teachers within the PLC framework.

Principal Arnold provided student achievement data showing consistent upward trends in math and reading, including Acadience Reading results. She outlined current intervention practices and recent celebrations, such as visits from local veterans and the Red Spirit Drum Group. In response to questions, she stated that approximately 30% of Lapoint’s students are Native American.

Dr. Woodford commended both principals for their leadership and the progress demonstrated in their schools.

D. Impact Aid Report

Mr. Timothy presented the annual Impact Aid report and read a prepared statement outlining the purpose of the program and the District’s required consultation with Tribal officials and parents of Native American students residing on Indian lands.

He summarized results from the 2025 Impact Aid Survey. Initial participation was low, with one response received before the deadline extension; seven responses were ultimately submitted.

Respondents generally indicated that they feel welcome visiting their child's school and maintain positive relationships with staff. Areas identified for improvement included:

- Strengthening communication between teachers and parents
- Providing more timely updates on school events
- Increasing awareness of counseling, tutoring, and extracurricular services
- Improving access and responsiveness of school staff

Troy noted that survey participation continues to be a challenge. Although email is the Tribe's preferred communication method, responses have been limited. The District will revisit communication strategies, including expanded in-person outreach.

In response to the feedback, the District will:

- Reinforce staff communication and parent engagement expectations
- Enhance online communication through social media and new school messaging software
- Publish a summary of student services available at each school
- Review front office accessibility for parent meetings
- Continue professional development in cultural competency and equitable practices

Mr. Timothy thanked the Ute Indian Tribe Education Department and families for their partnership and emphasized the District's commitment to continued collaboration through Impact Aid and Title VI programs.

E. Patron Input

No patron comments were submitted.

Principal Jones noted that, in discussions regarding low participation from the Native community, EVE has a high eligibility rate for students with autism across all populations. He expressed appreciation for ongoing collaboration with Tribal leaders and partner agencies to better support students with disabilities.

Dr. Woodford added that the Impact Aid Policy had been reviewed earlier during the work session and would proceed to a formal motion during the following business meeting.

F. Adjournment

President Chivers entertained a motion to close.

Motion: Vice President McKee motioned to close, with Member Massey seconding.

Vote: Five in favor; Members Chivers, McKee, Maynard, McClellan, and Massey.

The motion carried unanimously, and the Impact Aid Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.