

Board Meeting Documents

January 27, 2026

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING– DECEMBER 9, 2025

The Board of Education of the Alpine School District held a public hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:21 PM regarding potential boundary adjustments between Black Ridge Elementary, Brookhaven Elementary, Pony Express Elementary, Silver Lake Elementary, and Thunder Ridge Elementary. The public hearing took place in the boardroom at the Alpine School District office.

Board members present: Board President Julie E. King, Vice Presidents Stacy M. Bateman and Emily B. Peterson, Sarah L. Beeson, Dr. Mark J. Clement, Joylin Lincoln, and Ada S. Wilson.

Also present: Interim Superintendent Robert W. Smith, Business Administrator Jason Sundberg, and members of the administrative staff. There were approximately 50 others in attendance.

Board member Lincoln made a motion to open the public hearing on the boundary change in Saratoga Springs, and it was seconded by Vice President Bateman. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Julie King, Emily Peterson, and Sarah Beeson.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Sara Payne of Saratoga Springs expressed appreciation for the work done on the boundary study. Her children attend Thunder Ridge, where her family has been for five (5) years. She noted that they are part of the rapid growth in the area, living in newly built homes, and her children are experiencing challenges related to overcrowding. With many new move-ins, several of their friends will be affected by whichever boundary option is selected. Ms. Payne expressed support for a decision that prioritizes long-term benefits for students. She mentioned that the study may not fully account for newly approved housing or the additional homes expected to be built in the next two (2) years. Ms. Payne voiced support for Option C, stating that it best reflects current growth patterns, provides room for continued expansion, and addresses safety concerns along Pony Express Parkway.

Whitney Colyar of Eagle Mountain was not present to comment.

Board president Julie E. King declared the public hearing closed at 6:24 PM.

MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION – JANUARY 13, 2026

The Board of Education of the Alpine School District met in a study session on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 4:00 PM. The study session took place in the boardroom at the Alpine School District office.

Board members present: Board President Julie E. King, Vice Presidents Stacy M. Bateman and Emily B. Peterson, Sarah L. Beeson, Dr. Mark J. Clement, and Joylin Lincoln. Arrived Late: Ada S. Wilson.

Also present: Interim Superintendent Robert W. Smith, Business Administrator Jason Sundberg, and members of the administrative staff. There were approximately 14 others in attendance.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Ryan Nield, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE), delivered a presentation outlining the CTE program, including its purpose, its role in enhancing student education, and the career pathways available to support student success. Mr. Nield also shared programmatic recommendations and guidance, from a CTE perspective, intended to assist the newly formed Boards in establishing CTE programs within their respective districts. The information provided included organizational structures, financial considerations, required meetings, and applicable grant opportunities.

Mr. Nield fielded questions from the Board of Education.

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 13, 2026

The Board of Education of the Alpine School District met in a board meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6:00 PM. The board meeting took place in the boardroom at the Alpine School District office.

Board members present: Board President Julie E. King, Vice Presidents Stacy M. Bateman and Emily B. Peterson, Sarah L. Beeson, Dr. Mark J. Clement, Joylin Lincoln, and Ada S. Wilson.

Also present: Interim Superintendent Robert W. Smith, Business Administrator Jason Sundberg, and members of the administrative staff. There were approximately 65 others in attendance.

Board President Julie E. King conducted the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eric Woodhouse.

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT OR REFLECTION

An inspirational thought was given by Karie Cooper.

RECOGNITIONS

RISE AWARDS (Remarkable, Inspiring, Selfless, Encouraging)

Stacy Frye, a teacher from Aspen Elementary, was nominated by a parent, Allison Ferrell.

Maquel Owen, a teacher at Traverse Mountain Elementary, was nominated by a parent, Jenessa Clarke.

Carolyn Carter, a teacher at Springside Elementary, was nominated by a parent, Rachel Lindsay.

Alex Stevenson, a bus driver for East Transportation, was nominated by a colleague, Kindra Stewart.

John Brown, a teacher at Skyridge High School, was selected as the 2025 Theatre Educator of the Year, an honor awarded by the UHSAA Distinguished Service Award Committee.

ENERGY STAR CERTIFICATION AWARDS

Cenergistic representatives Cari DeBose, Aaron Emens, Lynn Pace, and Art Dominguez gave a brief presentation and recognized the 72 schools that received the 2025 Energy Star Award: Aspen Elementary, American Fork High School, American Fork Jr High, Barratt Elementary, Belmont Elementary, Black Ridge Elementary, Bonneville Elementary, Brookhaven Elementary, Cascade Elementary, Cedar Ridge Elementary, Cedar Ridge Elementary, Cedar Valley High School, Centennial Elementary, Cherry Hill Elementary, Deerfield Elementary, Dry Creek Elementary, Eaglecrest Elementary, Foothill Elementary, Fox Hollow Elementary, Freedom Elementary, Frontier Middle School, Greenwood Elementary, Grovecrest Elementary, Harbor Point Elementary, Harvest Elementary, Hidden Hollow Elementary, Highland Elementary, Horizon School, Lake Mountain Middle School, Lakeridge Jr High School, Legacy Elementary, Lehi Elementary, Lehi High School, Lehi Jr High School, Liberty Hills Elementary, Lindon Elementary, Lone Peak High School, Manila Elementary, Meadow Elementary, Mt. Mahogany Elementary, Mountain Ridge Jr High School, Mountain Trails Elementary, Mountain View High School, North Point Elementary, Oak Canyon Jr High School, Orchard Elementary, Orem Jr High School, Parkside Elementary, Pleasant Grove Jr High School, Pony Express Elementary, River Rock Elementary,

Riverview Elementary, Rocky Mountain Elementary, Sage Hills Elementary, Saratoga Shores Elementary, Sego Lily Elementary, Shelley Elementary, Silver Lake Elementary, Skyridge High School, Snow Springs Elementary, Springside Elementary, Thunder Ridge Elementary, Timberline Middle School, Timpanogos High School, Trailside Elementary, Traverse Middle School, Viewpoint Middle School, Vineyard Elementary, Vista Heights Middle School, Westfield Elementary, Westlake High School, Westmore Elementary, and Windsor Elementary.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Victoria Bahoravitch of Pleasant Grove addressed the Board regarding student safety to and from school. She reported multiple serious incidents occurring in school crosswalks, including one fatality, two students who sustained traumatic brain injuries, and four additional students who have been struck. Ms. Bahoravitch emphasized that the Board has the authority to advocate with city officials to implement safety improvements, approve school sites, and establish safety protocols on behalf of thousands of families. She requested a formal evaluation of school zones, the implementation of enhanced safety measures, and public accountability regarding how student safety is being addressed. She noted that schools are expected to conduct safety reviews and coordinate with municipalities but stated this is not occurring. She urged the Board to prioritize prevention to better protect students.

Becca-Jane Waite of Lehi serves as the librarian at North Point Elementary and a Board member of ESS. She recognized Danette Chugg, the kitchen manager at North Point Elementary for her efforts to learn the names of new students and for her commitment to helping students feel welcomed and supported. Ms. Waite noted that Ms. Chugg is one of many individuals whose dedication contributes to student success within the schools.

MINUTES

Board President King recommended the approval of the December board meeting minutes. Vice President Bateman made the motion to approve the December board meeting minutes, and it was seconded by Ada Wilson. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

CLAIMS

Interim Superintendent Smith recommended that the Board accept the December claims report. Check numbers 00293940 through AZQA1QNR totaling \$33,866,690.52 and 00006947 through 00007522 totaling \$813,363.18 for a grand total of \$34,789,134.50 were presented for the Board's acceptance. **Dr. Mark Clement made the motion to accept the December claims report, and it was seconded by Vice President Peterson. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.**

ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Monthly Budget Summary

The latest budget report was included for the Board's review.

2. Alpine Foundation Report Summary

The latest Alpine Foundation report was included for the Board's review.

3. Personnel Hiring and Releasing

Personnel Actions – Certified

Certified Employee – New Employees

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Adams, Jade	SPED Life Skills	Sage Canyon MS	01/05/26
Allred (Morris), Quincee	SPED Small Group Autism	Northridge ES	01/05/26
Anderson, Kristen	Grade 6	Legacy ES	01/05/26
Barnes, Isabelle	Grade 2	Centennial ES	01/05/26
Barnwell, Amy	Math Teacher	Frontier MS	01/05/26
Bird, Teresa	SPED Resource	Hidden Hollow ES	01/05/26
Bragg, Skyler	Grade 6	Hidden Hollow ES	01/05/26
Brodrick, Seth	School Counselor	East Shore	12/10/25
Brown, Virginia	PE Specialist	Manila ES	01/05/26
Castillo, Antonio	SPED M/M Resource	Frontier MS	01/05/26
Daniels (Moore), Cali	SPED APE Teacher	Special Ed	01/05/26
Decker, Melissa	Earth Science Teacher	Summit HS	01/05/26
Ecalono, Kayla	SPED Life Skills	American Fork JH	01/05/26
Jeffs(Tyler), Mary	CTE Teacher	Sage Canyon MS	01/05/26
Lopez, Esmeralda	Pre-Kinder	Westmore ES	01/05/26
Michaelis, Laura	Computer Specialist	Snow Springs ES	01/05/26
Mildenstein, Kira	Social Studies Teacher	Orem HS	01/05/26
Nielsen, Blanca	Grade 4 DLI Spanish	Windsor ES	01/05/26
Wolford, Bailey	Math Teacher	Frontier MS	01/05/26

Certified Employee – Interns

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Hokama, Brianna	Counseling Intern	Lehi JH	01/05/26

Certified Employee – Resignations

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Cook, Martin	Grade 6	Snow Springs ES	12/19/25
Edmunds, Kelly	SPED Autism	Northridge ES	01/09/26
Graver, Benjamin	US Government	Orem HS	12/30/25
Peterson, Marisa	Reading Specialist	Westmore ES	12/19/25

Personnel Actions – Classified**Classified Employees – New Employees**

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bjarnson, Cally	N.S. Traveling Sub - ES	Elementary	12/05/25
Larsen, Mason	Custodian	Viewpoint MS	12/11/25
Thompson, Shantell	General Secretary	Frontier MS	12/01/25
Vasquez, Christina	Office Technician, ES	Mt. Mahogany ES	12/17/25

Classified Employees – Changes/Transfers

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bird, Gary (Kevin)	Construction Coordinator	Physical Facilities	12/22/25
Carling, Marcela	Admin. Secretary - ES	Mt. Mahogany ES	12/15/25
Davis, Brooke	SIS Secretary	Data Services	12/01/25
Holman, Drake	Custodian Lead	Orem HS	11/24/25
Mortensen, Michael	Electrician	Physical Facilities	12/01/25
Prior, Jed	Construction Supervisor	Physical Facilities	12/01/25
Riley, Tracie	Lead Cook	Lake Mountain MS	12/15/25

Classified Employees - Resignations/Terms

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Thornton, EJ	SIS Secretary	Data Services	12/31/25
Hunt, Elwood (Craig)	Bus Driver	Transportation	12/19/25
Krohn, Anita	Library Assistant	Frontier MS	12/05/25
Peay, Mitzi	General Secretary	Orem Jr	12/19/25
Strauss, Michael	Office Tech	Mountain View HS	12/19/25
Wilson, Scott	Bus Driver	Transportation	12/19/25

4. LEA Specific Licenses

The LEA license applications were included for the Board's review.

5. School LAND Trust Amendments

The LAND Trust Amendments were included for the Board's review.

6. PBIS School Grants

The PBIS School Grants for the District were included for the Board's review.

Interim Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the routine business. Sarah Beeson made the motion to approve the routine business, and it was seconded by Dr. Mark Clement.

Ada Wilson commented that Business Services established three separate accounts for each of the new school districts and that funds are now being distributed accordingly.

Jason Sundberg confirmed that funds for the three new districts have been fully set up and are available for use by each district.

The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

ACTION ITEMS1. Notification for Potential Elementary Boundary Adjustment in Lehi/Saratoga Springs

Eric Woodhouse, Executive Director of Operations presented the formal boundary adjustment study for Lehi and Saratoga Springs. He emphasized that the absence of a school from the study does not indicate it is being overlooked; monitoring occurs continuously and timing is a key factor. Mr. Woodhouse noted that conducting this study now is essential, as it will impact two districts and aims to create a long-lasting boundary solution rather than a temporary fix. He also acknowledged the extensive effort the team has dedicated to this work.

Derek Farnes, Director of Operational Analytics reviewed the timeline for the Dry Creek boundary study, which spans January through March 2026, culminating in a Board vote on the proposed changes. He noted that school staff, district staff, the boundary committee, area board members, parents and more are all engaged in this process. Due to current and projected enrollment growth, immediate relief is necessary. The changes may also impact Springside, Saratoga Shores, Sage Hills, and Harbor Point, and adjustments to these boundaries are also planned. Coordination is ongoing with both the Aspen Peaks and Lake Mountain School Boards with the boundary line that will inevitably separate their districts and impact these families.

Board President King raised a question regarding the Dry Creek boundary, noting a portion that appears to be carved out of Lehi. She requested clarification on whether this area falls within Lehi or Saratoga Springs. **Mr. Farnes** confirmed that the area in question is currently part of Snow Springs Elementary but is within Saratoga Springs, not Lehi, and that there are no homes currently in this area. **Board President King** verified that notifications will be sent to families tomorrow and noted that this change only affects

elementary schools. **Mr. Farnes** added that a secondary boundary study will be conducted later, in light of the upcoming new high school. When **Board President King** requested a timeline, **Mr. Farnes** stated that Frank Pulley has projected a 2028 high school opening, with a secondary boundary study scheduled for this fall, and implementation anticipated in 2027 to align with the high school opening. **Board President King** requested clarification that secondary boundaries should be resolved within the current calendar year. **Mr. Farnes** acknowledged the complexities associated with the district split and noted that the high school is not scheduled to open until 2028. He explained that while a portion of the boundaries will change once the high school opens, the study conducted this fall could be implemented in 2027, with the remaining adjustments made upon the high school's opening. **Board President King** further noted that part of the delay is likely due to the protections under SB 188, which allow secondary students to attend the secondary school of their original location for up to six years. **Mr. Farnes** confirmed this understanding was accurate.

Joylin Lincoln noted that there are no homes in the Snow Springs boundary area in question and inquired whether they were legally required to include it even though there is no impact to students just the boundary area. **Mr. Farnes** responded that it should be included because it would need to be implemented by 2027. He advised that it could be done in 2027 along with the boundary studies the new districts intend to do. Even though there are no homes in that area, state statute requires they have to notify everyone in the school of the boundary study. **Ada Wilson** expressed concern that including the area might unnecessarily alarm the community. **Mr. Farnes** agreed, noting that Snow Springs recently completed a boundary study and adjustment. He raised the question of the longevity of that change given the potential construction of Cold Springs and the potential of additional development in the area. He recommended either excluding that area from consideration at this time, or including it with clear communication to Snow Springs that it would be the only area affected by the change.

Board President King stated that the issue was raised during the campaign and does not believe the notification will be unexpected. Emphasis was placed on ensuring that the community is notified accurately. **Joylin Lincoln** noted that some individuals may be surprised, as not everyone was expecting a boundary study. **Board President King** noted that the Springside community should be ready for this change.

Board President King referenced a 2021 study targeting Snow Springs and Sage Hills, which focused on shifting residents southward in response to growth in Dry Creek. The goal is to be fiscally responsible while seeking a long-term balance that serves the entire community. She noted that residents of Saratoga Springs and Eagle Mountain are aware of ongoing growth, and boundary adjustments will be an ongoing necessity. While no one wants to implement these changes, they are a reality, and it is important to prioritize the needs of both students and teachers.

Mr. Woodhouse acknowledged that no one wants to leave their current school, as they are highly valued. He expressed confidence that, even with an aggressive boundary study approach, the district can address the issue without constructing a \$40 million school. He emphasized that it is in the district's best interest to continue evaluating boundaries and recommended moving forward with the proposed boundary study.

Joylin Lincoln made the motion to initiate the notification process to parents, as required in Utah State Code, that the school board is considering school boundary changes for Dry Creek Elementary, Springside Elementary, Saratoga Shores Elementary, Sage Hills Elementary, and Harbor Point Elementary, and the motion was seconded by Vice President Bateman. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Policy 5410 – Dispensing Medication in School (Renew and Revise)

Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services, advised an update required under HB 333, which added provisions related to anaphylactic shock medication options, specifically the use of a nasal spray. He noted that several items discussed during the committee meeting earlier that day were stricken from the policy as well as concerns regarding the use of EpiPens in emergency situations. Mr. Brinkerhoff stated he is willing to take the policy back for further review or revision, noting that while it generally reflects the requirements of HB 333, there are elements that are not explicitly defined or included in the statute.

Ada Wilson noted that Section 2.4.1 was discussed by the committee, highlighting a notification and council received from professional nurses. She stated that certain language had been struck from the policy and it should not have been. The nurse's recommendation is to retain the language pertaining to secondary schools (grades 7–12) and adding any exceptions for grades K-6 must be defined in a health plan. This item pertains specifically to non-medications sent by parents. The committee was notified that it would be preferable to remove the blanket parental permission for non-prescribed medications from the policy as it applies to grades K-6.

Mr. Brinkerhoff advised they received consultation from Kim Lowe, the Head Nurse, who recommended not striking that excerpt from the policy. He explained that the verbiage was added in response to some parents wishing to send vitamins or non-prescription medications with their children. However, the district's intention is to follow the nurses' recommendations. He noted that if a Health Plan is in place, this variance can be accommodated.

Board President King expressed appreciation that the language in Section 3.6 was struck. As a parent of a child with a life-threatening food allergy, she noted her frustration with the existing policy. She emphasized that EpiPens are not narcotics and misuse is highly unlikely and the same in Section 4.6. She questioned why the language in Section 2.6 was not removed from the portion pertaining to asthma.

Mr. Brinkerhoff acknowledged that it was an oversight and stated that the section can be reviewed and adjusted to ensure consistency. He will defer to Kim Lowe and review this portion with her.

Board President King stated that if students are permitted to self-administer medication, the policy should explicitly clarify that nothing in it will prevent a student from receiving lifesaving treatment from a staff member or another student. She emphasized that, in cases such as severe allergies, a diabetic incident, or an asthma attack, a student may reach a point where self-administration is not possible, and the policy should provide clarity for emergency situations.

Mr. Brinkerhoff referenced HB333, noting that part of the requirement for Immunity from Liability involves proper training. He clarified that while this does not guarantee coverage under the statute, individuals could be protected under Good Samaritan provisions. He referenced the distinction between students receiving assistance from a qualified adult versus a non-qualified adult and emphasized that these issues should be addressed and incorporated into the policy.

Board President King noted that the policy does not specifically address Narcan. **Mr. Brinkerhoff** clarified that, while Narcan is not listed by name, it is covered under the policy's provisions for opiates in Section 7.2.

Vice President Peterson expressed appreciation for the training provided on Narcan and EpiPens. She recommended that the policy explicitly state that if a child is experiencing anaphylactic shock, staff are authorized to take any necessary actions to preserve the child's life regardless if the medication involves a needle. **Sarah Beeson** noted that this issue is addressed in Section 7.1.1.5.

Mr. Brinkerhoff explained that the language was removed from that section because it pertains to diabetes, and the district does not want employees administering this type of medication. However, he stated that the language can be reinserted in the appropriate section if the Board wishes.

Sarah Beeson noted that the copies appeared inconsistent. **Board President King** clarified that the review is based on the Board Documents, not the official policy documents.

Board President King asked for clarification, noting that if Narcan is provided in needle form, staff would not be authorized to administer it.

Mr. Brinkerhoff noted that if the medication is not a pre-prepared single dose, it could present an issue. He recommended reviewing and discussing the matter, adding that there is no concern if the medication is already prepared for administration.

Board President King concluded that sufficient feedback had been given and that no action would be taken at this meeting.

Sarah Beeson thanked everyone for their feedback, noting that this is an ongoing discussion. She invited additional feedback to be submitted to her via email.

2. Combination of Policies 4713 and 4721 – Professional Development Opportunities

Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services, noted that the two policies are brief and closely related, making them suitable to combine into a single policy. He proposed adopting a consolidated policy, which, if approved, would retire Policy 4713 and continue Policy 4721. He also mentioned that a statement of policy was added and some verbiage was refined.

Vice President Bateman suggested that in Sections 1.2.2 and 1.2.4, references to “Cabinet” be replaced with “DLT.”

Board President King recommended changing the wording in Section 1.2 from “shall” to “may,” noting that national travel has been suspended with certain exceptions. **Board President King** asked for clarification on whether only “DLT” is being substituted and not “Advisory.” The response was affirmative.

Ada Wilson motioned to approve the consolidation of Policies 4721 and 4713 into a single policy designated as Policy 4721, as presented with the changes that were mentioned previously, and that Policy 4713 be retired, and it was seconded by Sarah Beeson. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

3. Combination of Policies 4732 and 4720 – Administrative Association

Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services, noted that the two related policies are better combined. The only changes made include updating Section 1.1 to serve as a statement of policy and removing language referencing certificated/classified administrator salaries, which was replaced with the verbiage currently being used.

Sarah Beeson requested an explanation of the changes to the statement of policy that were discussed during the meeting.

Mr. Brinkerhoff advised that the committee had discussed removing a section from the statement of policy regarding school district administrators representing the Board of Education and noted that the language will be updated.

Sarah Beeson motioned to approve the consolidation of Policies 4720 and 4732 into a single policy designated as Policy 4720, as presented, and removing the language “represent the Board of Education and” from the Statement of Policy, and that Policy 4732 be retired, and it was seconded by Ada Wilson. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

4. Policy 4713 – Certification: Retire (If combination of 4713 and 4721 is approved)
Policy 4713 was retired until Item 2 in this section.
5. Policy 4732 – Work Stoppages and Strikes: Retire (If combination of 4732 and 4720 is approved)
Policy 4732 was retired until Item 3 in this section.

REPORT

1. Membership Report

Interim Superintendent Smith reviewed the K–12 enrollment report, noting enrollment increases and decreases at several school sites.

2. New Legislation Impacting our Schools

Board President King provided a legislative update, including discussion of SB 97, a bill sponsored by Senator McKay that would cap annual property tax increases at 5 percent. She reported that she has met with Senator McKay, financial managers, and representatives from other districts, and that proposed language is being prepared for submission to Senator McKay. The proposed language would incorporate considerations such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and include provisions to exclude certain areas in order to avoid negatively impacting the state matching funds received from the Legislature. Board President King noted that several property tax–related bills are expected to be introduced, including one addressing property taxes abated for primary residences. She also reported that feedback has been provided to Representative Christopherson regarding a construction-related bill and to Representative Peruchi regarding the Right of First Refusal. She expressed hope that constructive relationships and discussions with legislators will continue and conveyed appreciation for the legislators who attended the new school Board’s breakfast meeting held the previous week.

Interim Superintendent Smith expressed appreciation to Kraig and Naomi for coordinating the legislative breakfast, noting that attendance was higher than it has been in past years and included several city mayors. He also provided a legislative update, stating that Senator Fillmore’s SB 65 is substantially the same as SB 37, which did not pass in the last session, but has returned with a minor revision. Additionally, Interim Superintendent Smith noted that Senator Stratton has introduced an education commission bill intended to reduce the number of education-related bills or improve the vetting process so that fewer bills advance through the Legislature.

Joylin Lincoln reported that multiple bills related to attendance and cell phone policies have been introduced and indicated that these measures will be monitored closely.

3. Alpine by the Numbers – Graduation Results 2025

Interim Superintendent Smith presented the 2023–2024 graduation results, noting an increase across all schools, and discussed the factors contributing to this improvement. He recognized the efforts of secondary staff, teachers, and parents for their role in supporting student success.

BOARD MEMBERS’ AND SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Sarah Beeson reported on the USBA conference, describing it as a positive experience and noting it was encouraging to see the new boards attend. She stated that 28 classes were offered this year and that participants gained valuable knowledge. Ms. Beeson highlighted the Master Certification program for Board members and encouraged participation, noting that several improvements are forthcoming, including easier access through an updated website. She expressed appreciation to Mark for his efforts, recognized him for his service as USBA Board President, and commended him for his leadership. She concluded by stating it has been a strong year and expressed appreciation for his contributions at the state level.

Vice President Bateman commented that it is the season for receiving midyear school data and expressed excitement in seeing the progress made by teachers across the district. She recognized River Rock Elementary, noting that several teachers have already met their literacy goals for the year, and extended appreciation to the instructional aides and coaches who helped support this work. She thanked Becky White and her team for their efforts on the “Bear Hugs at Christmas” program, which involved high school students taking elementary students shopping to purchase gifts for their families, with district staff assisting with transportation. She also acknowledged United Way’s support through the “Caring at Christmas” program and noted that Alpine Board members adopted a family, collected their Christmas wishes, and shopped on their behalf. She described these efforts as a thoughtful and respectful way to support the community and noted that nearly 1,000 students were served.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Dr. Mark Clement and seconded by Vice President Peterson, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Joylin Lincoln, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.

News and Media

Statement of Policy

Alpine School District Board of Education recognizes its obligation to the public to provide information about the operation of schools and the management of public resources. The District is committed to being cooperative and transparent with the news media while respecting student rights and the need to minimize disruptions of educational activities.

~~The Alpine School District Board of Education recognizes and maintains the responsibility to provide the public and district employees with information about the goals, programs, progress, and needs of our schools. In addition to disseminating information, the Board encourages media representatives to cover and study district events and operations.~~

~~The district maintains a Public Relations Department to publicize news and information professionally and objectively. Employees of the District are not prohibited from dealing with the press. Employees should work with the Public Relations Department when responding to or working with the media.~~

~~1. NEWS AND MEDIA~~

- ~~1.1. Official news releases that represent the authoritative stance of the district and of the Board of Education shall be released through the Superintendent, the Board President, or the Superintendent's designee (Public Relations Department). Only releases coordinated in this way shall represent the official voice of the district and the board of education.~~
- ~~1.2. In order for the Board to efficiently execute its business, questions from the press will not be entertained while meetings are in progress. However, a representative of the Board (spokesperson from the Public Relations~~

~~Department) will be available after each meeting to answer reporters' questions and to clarify points of discussion and action.~~

Board Approvals

- **Board Approved:** November 1985; **Board Revised:** March 2003, January 2009, May 2019
- Board Approved combination of Policies 1112 and 5404: [], 2026

Procedures

1. NEWS AND MEDIA

- 1.1. In its dealings with the press, the school system will be frank and open.
- 1.2. All news media requests shall be managed by the Communications Department.
 - 1.2.1. When individual board members receive requests from news media representatives for information about board meetings, members shall refer the information-seekers to the board president, who shall be the spokesperson for the Board except as he or she explicitly delegates this responsibility to others.
 - 1.2.2. Employees should consult with the Communications Department when contacted by news media.
- 1.3. The Communications Department shall maintain a set of procedures and guidelines that facilitate cooperation with news media, to include:
 - 1.3.1. Responding to inquiries by news media
 - 1.3.2. Arranging interviews with news media
 - 1.3.3. Writing and releasing public statements

1.3.4. Facilitating conversations and interviews between news media representatives and district employees

1.4. News Media in Schools and at School Events

1.4.1. School principals and other administrators should refer all news media representatives to the Superintendent or to the Director of Communications or designee for responses to inquiries about particularly sensitive issues.

2. Public Information

2.1. All public statements, news releases, and advisories shall be approved by the Communications Department.

2.1.1. The Communications Department will ensure legally required information is posted to the District's website.

3. NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ~~OF THE NEWS~~ ~~MEDIA~~ IN SCHOOLS

3.1. When news media representatives contact the school to gather information, these steps should be followed:

3.1.1. The principal will ascertain the purposes of the news media representative.

3.1.2. The principal will notify the district Director of Communications.

3.1.3. In coordination with the Director of Communications, the principal will develop a media engagement plan that respects student privacy and balances the public's right to information with the school's expectation to provide education experiences free of excessive disruption.

3.2. The district Director of Communications will notify the school principal before facilitating news media coverage of events at the school.

- ~~3.3.— News media representatives are invited to attend all public meetings of the Board of Education. Meeting announcements and agendas for each meeting and related supporting documents will be furnished on the board website for the public and news media.~~
- ~~3.4.— Members of the Board, the Superintendent, administrators, and employees may be available for interview by press representatives as coordinated through the public relations department.~~
- ~~3.4.1.— In its dealings with the press, the school system will be frank and open, recognizing the right of the media to publish accurate information about all aspects of the district.~~
- ~~3.4.2.— Representatives of the media and all other persons not specifically asked to attend are excluded from closed sessions, as provided by law.~~
- ~~3.5.— When individual board members receive requests from news media representatives for information about board meetings, members shall refer the information seekers to the board president, who shall be the spokesperson for the Board except as he or she explicitly delegates this responsibility to others.~~

Rules & Regulations

~~No rules & regulations have been established at this time.~~

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND ITS OPERATION MAY BE GRANTED OR DENIED BY THE PRINCIPAL

- ~~1.1. The news media may be allowed to gather information in the school when students are present in situations considered to be public settings.~~

- 1.1.1. The traditional classroom is generally considered to be a public setting.
- 1.1.2. Situations where students are participating in activities such as musical productions, drama, school programs or athletics are considered to be public settings.
- 1.1.3. Classrooms where students receive special education services are subject to the privacy protections outlined in FERPA. (Family Education and Privacy Act 34 CFR 300).
- 1.2. The news media may be denied access to the school when the principal or the Director of Communications determines that media coverage may violate students' rights of privacy.
 - 1.2.1. Students' privacy is violated when damage occurs through embarrassment or emotional stress.
 - 1.2.2. Interviewing specific students on sensitive issues may also be considered a violation of the right of privacy.
 - 1.2.2.1. Parental consent shall be obtained prior to granting interview access to any student below the age of 18.
- 1.3. The news media may be denied access to the school when the learning process is or may be disrupted.
 - 1.3.1. Short interviews or film footage of school activities or classroom operations may or may not be considered disruptive.
 - 1.3.2. To remove a student or students from the regular classroom activities for a significant amount of time would be considered a disruption.
 - 1.3.3. To alter the total school program or regular classroom activities to meet the needs of the news media would be considered a disruption.

News Media Representatives at Schools and School Activities

Statement of Policy

Alpine School District recognizes its obligation to the public to provide information about the operation of schools and the management of public resources. The District is committed to being cooperative and transparent with the news media while respecting student rights and the need to minimize disruptions of educational activities.

Board Approvals

- Board Approved: October 9, 1990; Updated: January 10, 2006; Revised: December 17, 2024

Procedures

1. NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES IN THE SCHOOLS

- 1.1. School principals and other administrators should refer all news media representatives to the Superintendent or to the Director of Communications or designee for responses to inquiries about particularly sensitive issues.
- 1.2. When news media representatives contact the school to gather information, these steps should be followed.
 - 1.2.1. The principal will ascertain the purposes of the news media representative.

- 1.2.2. The principal will notify the district Director of Communications.
- 1.2.3. In coordination with the Director of Communications, the principal will develop a media engagement plan that respects student privacy and balances the public's right to information with the school's expectation to provide education experiences free of excessive disruption.
- 1.2.4. The Director of Communications will accredit the news media representative, if appropriate.
- 1.2.5. The principal should contact the administrator in charge of the division, the superintendent or the public information officer if there is a question about granting or denying the news media access to the school.
- 1.3. The district Director of Communications will notify the school principal before facilitating news media coverage of events at the school.

Rules & Regulations

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND ITS OPERATION MAY BE GRANTED OR DENIED BY THE PRINCIPAL

- 1.1. The news media may be allowed to gather information in the school when students are present in situations considered to be public settings.
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Citations

[Family Education and Privacy Act 34 CFR 300](#)

Approvals

- Board Approved: October 9, 1990; Updated: January 2006; Revised: November 2024

Military Leave

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Alpine School Board supports and appreciates the service of members of the Armed Forces. In compliance with Utah Code 71A-8-102, leave is extended for the normal Reserve training and instruction requirements of our Reserve employees.

1. MILITARY LEAVE

- 1.1. All state employees and all employees of any county and municipality thereof who are or shall become members of the organized Reserve of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, shall be allowed full pay for all time not in excess of fifteen (15) days per year spent on duty at annual encampment or rifle competition or other duties in connection with the Reserve training and instruction requirements of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines of the United States. This leave shall be in addition to annual vacation leave with pay. ~~(39-3-2)~~
- 1.2. ~~Administrators are not recognized as state employees by ruling of the Utah State Attorney General. However, t~~The Board of Education will allow up to fifteen (15) ~~contract~~ consecutive calendar days with prior approval of the Superintendent ~~or designee, for an educator~~ contracted employee to participate in required military assignments. ~~with the only loss of pay to the employee being the cost of a substitute~~ Any days taken beyond the fifteen (15) contract days will be docked with the cost equivalent out of pocket to the employee being that of a vacation day for each day missed. Employees may also elect to request time off without pay.
- 1.3. Military leave may be broken into ~~two~~ separate leaves. This shall not be construed to mean that more than fifteen (15) ~~contract~~ days of leave may be taken, only that ~~multiple two~~ leaves per year will be allowed; not to exceed fifteen (15) ~~contract~~ calendar days in total.

Board Approvals

- Board Approved: [Month],[Day],[Year]

Procedures

No procedures have been established at this time.

Rules & Regulations

No rules & regulations have been established at this time.