

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 27, 2026

The Board of Education of the Alpine School District met in a board meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 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 91 others in attendance.

Board Vice President Emily Peterson conducted the meeting.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Vicki Carter.

### INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT OR REFLECTION

An inspirational thought was given by Kayla McChesney, Bonneville Elementary PTA President.

### RECOGNITIONS

#### ALPINE SPIRIT OF EXCELENCE AWARDS

**Dr. Mark Clement** presented the Alpine Spirit of Excellence Award to Jill Anderson, a nurse at Mount Montgomery Elementary, for her heroic, life-saving actions in late November for an Alpine crossing guard.

Principal Dias, of Bonneville Elementary School, presented the Spirit of Excellence awards to the following individuals of his school:

#### Volunteers

- Kayla McChesney, Bonneville PTA President
- Leslee Allen, take-home reading program

#### Support Professionals

- Sherry “Murph” Sandberg, Paraprofessional
- Noelle Thomas, Wellness and Focus Room

#### Teachers

- Ashley Heins, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher
- Oaklee Jorgensen, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

#### Students

- Daxton Carlson, 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- Olivia Wright, 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Alan Rodriguez Martinez, 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- Ian Bill, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- Fernando Campos Perez, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- Eleanor Wilkins, 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- Keagan King, Kindergarten

**Principal Dias** shared that he considers himself very fortunate to be part of the Bonneville community. Having been at Bonneville for three years, he noted that while he was unsure what to expect initially, the experience has exceeded his expectations. He described the community as extremely supportive, praised the

parents for their dedication to providing the best possible opportunities for their children, and commended the students for their hard work. He also recognized the teachers for bringing their full commitment into the classroom. He expressed his appreciation for being part of the community, stating that Bonneville is a great place to work and a great place to be a student.

### COMMUNITY COMMENTS

**Kim Topham/Michelle Sorensen**, PTA Chair and Vice Chair for PTA Region 8, recognized the Board for their service and leadership. They acknowledged how fortunate the district is to have them serving and expressed appreciation for the extensive work they do behind the scenes. They were commended as strong advocates for students. On behalf of the entire PTA, they extended their thanks and noted that a small gift would be delivered to their mailboxes later in the week.

### MINUTES

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

### ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS

1. LEA Specific Licenses

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

**Interim Superintendent Smith recommended approval of the routine business. Dr. Mark Clement made the motion to approve the routine business, and it was seconded by Ada Wilson. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.**

### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Policy 1112 – News and Media / Policy 5404 – News Media Representatives in Schools (Combine)

**Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services** reviewed the proposed consolidation of two policies related to interactions with the news and media. He noted that feedback was received from a Board member, and based on that input, he recommends holding the proposal for further discussion and revision. Areas identified for clarification include defining who qualifies as “media,” using the definition provided in the state GRAMA code, and ensuring the policy is appropriate for new districts, including revising references from a communications department to a communications team. Additional adjustments will be made to address FERPA language within the policy. Mr. Brinkerhoff recommended pausing both the policy consolidation and the retirement of Policy 5404, completing additional work, and returning the revised proposal to the Board next month.

2. Policy 5404 – News Media Representatives in Schools (Retire)

**Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services**, recommended pausing the retirement of this policy, completing additional work, and returning the policy to the Board next month.

3. Policy 4740 – Military Leave (Revise)

**Kraig Brinkerhoff, Executive Director of Legal Services** reviewed the proposed policy applicable to administrators, noting that similar policies already exist for ESPs and certified personnel. He explained that the policy provides military members with up to 15 days for required training, consistent with state code provisions for state employees. Although the district, as an LEA, is not considered a state employer, the intent is to extend the same benefit to administrators so they are not required to use personal time. A

minor adjustment was recommended to reflect that administrators do not have personal days; therefore, any military leave exceeding the 15-day allowance would require the use of a vacation day, which is the only distinction in the policy.

**Ada Wilson** noted that the Board has addressed this matter previously and that this marks the third policy that has been revised. She expressed appreciation for the added clarity and thanked Kraig Brinkerhoff for his explanation.

#### BOARD MEMBERS' AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

**Ada Wilson** referenced the recent study session and highlighted the presentation from the district's Community Engagement Team, led by Cassey Saxton and her colleagues. She described the presentation as enlightening and expressed appreciation for the emphasis on schools serving as community centers and hubs. She noted that the data demonstrated increased academic achievement and stated that she is especially proud of the progress being made in the Orem area.

**Sarah Beeson** shared that she and the Superintendent attended the Reflection Awards Night. She expressed how meaningful it was to see the students and their work, noting the joy in watching students showcase their creativity. She also conveyed gratitude to the PTA for their dedication to students and for providing opportunities for them to shine, describing the evening as a truly joyful experience.

**Vice President Emily Peterson** commented on the Alpine Masterworks concert, describing it as an incredible performance. She recognized and thanked the high school choir directors for their hard work, with special acknowledgment to Alec Powell, Director of Bands at LPHS, for the significant lift provided. She expressed sincere appreciation to all involved for their dedication and efforts.

**Vice President Bateman** announced that Brian Crosby and the band at Willowcreek Middle School have been selected to perform at the UMEA Conference, noting that this is an incredible honor and a testament to the strength of the program they have built. He congratulated the students and staff and shared that the performance will take place in February.

**Dr. Mark Clement** reminded Board Members of the upcoming Day on the Hill scheduled for this Friday. He noted that the event will be held in the North Capitol Building in the combined conference room and that underground parking is available adjacent to the building, eliminating the need for street parking. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., beginning with a JLC meeting followed by meetings with legislators.

**Interim Superintendent Smith** reported that Melissa Swenson of Willowcreek was named Assistant Principal of the Year and recognized in St. George and thanked Jeff Schoonover for serving as the district's representative. He extended congratulations to the Aspen Peaks School Board and Dr. Perkins, as well as to the Lake Mountain School Board and Dr. Carter. He noted that the Timpanogos School Board will be making its announcement tomorrow and expressed excitement for their board. He also shared and highlighted data from the 2024–2025 school year school report cards, noting significant school improvements. While commending the strong work being done across schools, he acknowledged that there are still areas identified for continued improvement.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**On motion by Sarah Beeson and seconded by Dr. Mark Clement, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM. The Board Members who voted in favor were Ada Wilson, Dr. Mark Clement, Stacy Bateman, Emily Peterson, Julie King, and Sarah Beeson.**