

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

Approved Business Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Location: 826 South 1500 East, Naples, Utah

Board Members Present:

- Dave Chivers, President
- Tawnya McKee, Vice President
- Todd Massey
- Denise Maynard
- Robin McClellan
- Paisley Bell, Student Board Member
(Non-Voting Member)

Executive Staff Present:

- Dr. Rick Woodford, Superintendent
- Troy Timothy, Business Administrator
- Dr. Mistalyn Leis, Human Resources
Director

Others Present:

Minutes recorded by Sarah Fluckiger, Business Administrator's Secretary.

1. Introduction

1.01 Welcome/Call to Order

Troy Timothy welcomed attendees and introduced the Board. President Chivers offered opening remarks and called the work session to order at 6:01 pm.

1.02 Reverence

The reverence was offered by Duana Williams.

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

Huber Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 Student Board Member Report – Paisley Bell

Student Board Member Paisley Bell reported on recent student activities and achievements at Uintah High School, including accomplishments in wrestling, basketball, swim team, drill team, and cheerleading. She highlighted student council efforts such as a fundraiser that raised

\$12,820 in support of Destiny Rollins and noted upcoming events. Paisley emphasized both student successes and the importance of learning from setbacks, underscoring strong school spirit and student engagement.

1.05 Celebrations

A. UHS Marching Band and Color Guard

The UHS Marching Band and Color Guard received recognition for their outstanding performance and first-place victory at the State Championship.

B. UHS Agronomy

The UHS Agronomy team was formally recognized for their exemplary achievement and first-place finish at the state championships, earning qualification for the national competition.

C. Students of the Month

The following students were recognized as Students of the Month by their teachers and/or administrators:

- Taitum Sullivan – Central Cove Early Learning Center
- Preston Scott – Ashley Elementary
- RaeLynne Gayler – Davis Elementary
- Harrison Ward – Discovery Elementary
- Kohen Ward – Eagle View Elementary
- Reese McKee – Lapoint Elementary
- Jenna Batty – Maeser Elementary
- Jackson Imeson – Naples Elementary
- Bradley Butterfield – Uintah Middle School
- Andrew Rehbein – Vernal Middle School
- Gabriella Smith – Uintah High School
- Kadin Walker – AVEC / UON

1.06 School Reports

Presenter: Principal Tammy Christensen

Principal Tammy Christensen provided a school report focused on academic goals and progress. She shared that the school aims for at least 80% of students in grades K–2 to meet or exceed reading benchmarks and for students in grades 3–5 to perform above state averages in reading. Mid-year data showed 74% proficiency in reading, and she outlined strategies to address areas of lower growth. Math data reflected improvements, including reductions in the number of students in the red/yellow performance zones and increases in the blue/green zones. Discovery also celebrated service and community-building activities, including a food drive that collected 5,794

items, fundraising of \$943.83 for Project Alley, participation in a Day of the Dead cultural event, and the Giving Tree program, which supported more than 30 families.

Board members and principals discussed how healthy competition among schools and intentional exposure to grade-level content support academic improvement. They briefly reviewed enrollment trends at Discovery Elementary, noting growth and boundary-related challenges.

1.07 Patron Input

The board received in-person comments. It was determined that in-person patron input would be done with the corresponding agenda item.

In-Person Comments:

Patron input was received in connection with specific agenda items, in accordance with Board Policy 002.0720. For the Exchange Visitor Program policy, Genica Donaldson and Tiara Collins each addressed the Board, expressing concerns about shifting visa-related financial responsibility from the employer to the community, limiting principal discretion, and possible impacts on teacher retention and program stability in the Dual Language Immersion program.

2. Business/Action Items

2.01 Consent Calendar

A. Minutes

B. Monthly Board Financial Update

C. 2026-2027 Academic Calendar & 2027-2028 Academic Calendar

President Chivers briefly explained meeting procedures for the benefit of the public, noting that Board work occurs throughout the month, allowing the business portion to proceed efficiently.

Motion: Member Robin McClellan moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, which includes the December 10, 2025 work session and business meeting minutes, financial update, and 2026-2027 & 2027-2028 academic calendars. Seconded by Member Todd Massey.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

2.02 Policies for Approval on First Reading

A. 007.0405 Uintah School District Concurrent Enrollment

B. 005.0100 Employee Conflict of Interest (NEW)

C. 010.1000 School Safety (NEW)

Motion: Vice President Tawnya McKee moved to approve Policy 007.0405, 005.0100, and 010.1000 on first reading. Member Denise Maynard seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

2.03 Policies for Approval on Second Reading

A. 007.0810 Attendance

Motion: Member Denise Maynard moved to approve the policy. Member Todd Massey seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

B. 005.1120 Special Program Compensation (for Elimination)

Motion: Member Denise Maynard moved to approve the policy. Vice President Tawnya McKee seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

C. 002.0100 Powers and Duties

Motion: Member Todd Massey moved to approve the policy. Vice President Tawnya McKee seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

D. 002.0220 Board Members: Elections and Redistricting

Motion: Vice President Tawnya McKee moved to approve the policy. Member Todd Massey seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

E. 005.0545 (NEW) Exchange Visitor Program

Motion: Vice President Tawnya McKee moved to approve the policy. Member Todd Massey seconded the motion.

Board Discussion:

Member Robin McClellan requested that the policy be tabled for additional review, expressing concern that requiring community fundraising sets a precedent, places additional financial demands on local taxpayers, and treats the Dual Language Immersion program and its employees differently than other district programs and employees, potentially leading to unintended consequences.

Member Todd Massey noted that the policy impacts only a small number of employees and indicated that, based on historical precedent, the fundraising is unlikely to become an annual occurrence.

Vice President Tawnya McKee indicated that teachers require clear guidance on how the process will function. It is essential that they have well-defined expectations regarding procedures to ensure they understand how to move forward.

Vote: Four in Favor: Members Chivers, McKee, Massey, and Maynard. One nay: Member McClellan.

The motion carried by majority.

2.04 Personnel Changes

Dr. Mistalyn Leis shared updates regarding new hires, changes in positions, coaching roles, leave of absence requests, and staff separations, after which she responded to questions from the board.

President Dave Chivers called for a vote.

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

The vote carried unanimously.

3. Informational / Discussion Items

3.01 Purchases Over \$50,000

President Dave Chivers stated that there are no contracts over \$50,000 this month.

3.02 Calendar Items

Superintendent Rick Woodford directed the Board to the Diligent calendar for upcoming events, including state-level and local meetings. Upcoming events highlighted in the transcript included

USBA-related activities and celebrations where Uintah School District would share early literacy successes, such as kindergarten reading benchmarks exceeding the state average.

3.03 Superintendent and/or Board President follow up or clarification on items discussed during the meeting.

Member Denise Maynard – discussed feeder programs and how they will affect the future of the district. Discussed the subjects from the recent conference that was attended.

Member Todd Massey discussed the Tournament of Champions, highlighted the accomplishments of the UHS Marching Band, and commended the financial committee for successfully achieving key objectives.

Member Robin McClellan expressed appreciation for the local governance terminology highlighted during the conference and conveyed pride in the board's achievement, noting that every member had successfully completed all requirements for Master Board Certification. Subsequently, Troy Timothy presented certificates of completion to the board.

Vice President Tawnya McKee expressed that she appreciated the insights gained at the USBA conference and valued the opportunity to discuss legislation with key participants.

Troy Timothy shared key highlights from the USBA conference, emphasizing the value of networking with peers from other districts. He thanked Robin for encouraging the board's participation in training and congratulated everyone for earning their certificates.

President Dave Chivers reflected on a message he saw during the meeting that resonated with him: you can accomplish anything you want, but you cannot accomplish everything you want. He noted that the statement was a meaningful reminder that the Board and district must stay focused on their most important goals and priorities, emphasizing the value of concentrating efforts on what they truly want to achieve.

Superintendent Rick Woodford closed the meeting by emphasizing the value of healthy competition within the district, noting that although schools strive for excellence, they operate as one unified team. He highlighted the strong collaboration among both elementary and secondary principals, who routinely work together through monthly meetings and shared leadership practices that “pull each other to a higher place.” He expressed appreciation for their professionalism and teamwork.

Superintendent Rick Woodford also thanked Board Member Robin McClellan for encouraging the Board to pursue professional learning—such as Master Board Certification and state- and national-level training—and acknowledged how her commitment strengthens district leadership. He further expressed gratitude to Genica Donaldson for her advocacy on behalf of the Dual Language Immersion program and its teachers, noting that even though the vote did not go the way she hoped, her efforts were meaningful and will have a positive impact on students for years to come.

4 Adjournment

4.01 Meeting Adjourned

Motion: Member Todd Massey moved to adjourn the meeting, and Member Denise Maynard seconded.

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

The motion was carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

DATE: January 14, 2026

TO: UINTAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. Mistalyn Leis, Director of Human Resources

RE: Board Approval Request for **January 14, 2026:** Board Approval of New Hires, LEA Specific Endorsements, Newly Assigned Employees; Request for a Leave of Absence; Notification of Separations of Employment

Superintendent Woodford requests Board approval of the following individuals for hire/assignment to new positions:

NEW HIRES – BOARD APPROVAL REQUESTED:

Name	Position	Assignment	FTE	Education/ Training	Source of Funding
Troy Lupcho	SpEd Preschool Aide	CEC	0.4875	All Required	Program 7522 IDEA-B Preschool Disabled
Shelbe Chivers	Intervention Aide	Ashley	0.7375	All Required	Program 0183 Specialists and Aides
Kynati Stump	SpEd Aide	Ashley	0.7375	All Required	Program 0183 Specialists and Aides
Celsy Jensen	Food Service Worker	Maeser	0.375	All Required	Program 8000 School Foods Program
Evelyn Grammer	Intervention Aide	Naples	0.7375	All Required	Program 5678 TSSA
Madison Redford	SpEd Aide	UMS	0.575	All Required	Program 1205 SpEd Add On
Makenzie Burt	Math Aide	UHS	0.7375	All Required	Program 5420 TrustLands
Dustin Haskell	Mechanic/Technician	Transportation	1.0	All Required	Program 5315 and 0297 Pupil Transportation and White Fleet

NEWLY ASSIGNED EMPLOYEES – BOARD APPROVAL REQUESTED:

Name	Former (Current) Assignment	New Assignment	Effective Date
Maria Olivas	Sweeper (0.7375 FTE) @ CEC	Custodian (1.0 FTE) @ VMS	01/05/2026
Vanity Caldwell	Food Service Worker (0.60 FTE) @ Maeser	Teen Center Support Service Aide (0.7375 FTE) @ UHS	01/05/2026

NEWLY HIRED EXTRACURRICULAR COACHES:

Name	Program	School	Years of Service
Curt Hoffart	Girls Softball Team Assistant	UHS	\$500-\$1000 Stipend

REQUEST FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
Jennifer Roberts	SpEd Aide	UHS	January 12, 2026 – May 1, 2026