

DRAFT

**January 27, 2026 - Wasatch County School District Board of Education Meetings****Study Session****Action: 1. Call to Order***Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.***Action: 2. Board Member Roll Call***Members present*

Board President, Kim Dickerson

Board Vice President, Cory Holmes

Board Member, Jake Collett

Board Member, Breanne Dedrickson

Board Member, Brad Ehlert

Superintendent, Dr. Garrick Peterson

Business Administrator, Dr. Jason Watt

**Discussion: 1. Bond Refinance Discussion: Guest, Matt Dugdale, Stifel Institute***Matt Dugdale provided an overview of a potential refinancing opportunity for the District's 2016 General Obligation Bonds, which are approaching the end of their 10-year call protection period. He explained that refinancing could result in estimated gross savings of approximately \$1.4 million over the remaining life of the bonds, with a present-value economic benefit of approximately \$1.2 million after fees.**Key discussion points included:*

- *Explanation of how bond refinancing works and differences from mortgage refinancing*
- *Estimated annual taxpayer savings and impact on the debt service portion of the tax rate*
- *Confirmation that projected savings figures are net of refinancing costs*
- *Discussion of market volatility, interest rate timing, and the implications of refinancing now versus waiting*
- *Clarification that refinancing would reset the 10-year call protection period*
- *Overview of the required parameters resolution and 30-day public contest period*

*No action was taken. The Board expressed interest in continued monitoring of market conditions and potential future action.***Discussion: 2. Policy Review: Dr. Eric Campbell, Director of Student Services***Dr. Campbell reviewed updates to Board policies currently under consideration.*

- **Video Surveillance Policy:** *Dr. Campbell noted that the version included in the board packet did not reflect recent revisions. He recommended postponing discussion until the correct version can be presented at a future meeting.*
- **Employee Conduct Policy (formerly Employee Conduct and Bullying):**
  - *Clarified definitions and use of "intent" within the policy*
  - *Added explicit parent notification language aligned with state law*
  - *Confirmed the policy completed a 30-day public comment period with no public feedback received*
  - *Shared that union representatives reviewed the policy and raised questions but requested no changes*

*The Board asked clarifying questions and expressed appreciation for the revisions. No formal action was taken at this study session.***Discussion, Information: 3. District Reading Data Review: Dr. Garrick Peterson, Superintendent***No discussion held.***Discussion, Information: 4. Student Cell Phone Policy: Implementation Update - Principal Jim Judd, Timpanogos Middle School***Principal Judd and Assistant Principal Heidi Iordachescu presented an in-depth overview of Timpanogos Middle School's classroom cell phone management system, which was developed through a teacher-led, collaborative process.**Highlights included:*

- *The policy originated from the school's Guiding Coalition and was approved by faculty, parent groups, and the School Community Council*
- *Cell phones are prohibited during instructional time and stored in locked classroom phone boxes when used*
- *A QR-code tracking system allows administrators to monitor usage patterns and apply progressive consequences consistently*
- *Exceptions are provided for documented medical needs and accommodations*

*Data shared demonstrated:*

- *A decrease in total phone violations year-over-year*
- *High levels of teacher consistency and student compliance*

- Strong parent and teacher support for the policy

Discussion included:

- Teacher accountability and peer reinforcement
- Comparisons to proposed state legislation regarding bell-to-bell phone bans
- Benefits of maintaining local control and flexibility

Board members, teachers, and parents spoke positively about the policy's impact on classroom focus and school culture.

## **B. Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m.**

### **1. Meeting called to order at 6:32 PM**

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Board Member Dedrickson**

### **3. Board Member Roll Call**

#### **Members present**

Board President, Kim Dickerson  
 Board Vice President, Cory Holmes  
 Board Member, Jake Collett  
 Board Member, Breanne Dedrickson  
 Board Member, Brad Ehlert

Superintendent, Dr. Garrick Peterson  
 Business Administrator, Dr. Jason Watt

## **C. Celebrations/Information**

### **Information: 1. Wasatch High School Student Government**

*The Board welcomed Wasatch High School Student Government for a thoughtful and inspiring presentation highlighting their leadership, service, and intentional focus on building connection across campus. Student leaders shared how their theme of unity and belonging guides their work through spirit weeks, service initiatives, peer outreach, and programs like Cool2Care, all designed to ensure every student feels seen and valued. They spoke candidly about preparing for the transition to two high schools and emphasized their commitment to laying a foundation of respect, collaboration, and shared community identity that will extend to both Wasatch High School and Deer Creek High School. The Board expressed deep appreciation for the students' maturity, courage, and leadership in helping shape a positive culture during a time of change.*

## **D. Community Comment**

### **Discussion, Information: 1. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes.**

*One community comment was provided by Drew Camps Wofford, speaking as a parent. She shared appreciation for the support her kindergarten-aged child has received through the Student Success Plan process and expressed gratitude for the care, communication, and collaboration demonstrated by school staff. She thanked the Board and district leadership for fostering a supportive environment for students and families.*

## **E. Consent Items**

### **Action (Consent): 1. Consideration of Consent Items**

*Resolution: Consideration and Approval of Consent Items E 2. - E12.*

Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

### **Action (Consent), Minutes: 2. School Board Meeting Minutes - December 16, 2025**

*Consideration and Approval of School Board Meeting Minutes - December 16th, 2025.*

Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

### **Action (Consent): 3. Deer Creek High School Change Orders**

*Consideration and Approval of Deer Creek High School Change Orders*

Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

### **Action (Consent): 4. Deer Creek High School Architect Fee Amendment**

*Consideration and Approval of Deer Creek High School Architect Fee Amendment*

Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 5. Deer Creek High School Furniture, Fixture & Equipment**  
*Consideration and Approval of Deer Creek High School Furniture, Fixture & Equipment*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 6. Early Retirement Requests**  
*Consideration and Approval of Early Retirement Requests*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 7. Financials**  
*Consideration and Approval of December 2025 Financials*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 8. Employee New Hires**  
*Consideration and Approval of Employee New Hires*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 9. Employee Separations**  
*Consideration and Approval of Employee Separations*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action: 10. School Choice Applications**  
*Consideration and Approval of School Choice Applications*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 11. District Travel**  
*Consideration and Approval of travel requests as presented.*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett  
**Action (Consent): 12. Approval of Home School Affidavits**  
*Consideration and Approval of Home School Affidavits*  
 Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Cory Holmes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

## **F. Action Items**

### **Action: 1. Consideration to Approve the Surveillance Policy - Dr. Eric Campbell, HR/Student Services**

*Dr. Eric Campbell recommended tabling the Surveillance Policy to allow time to present a fully updated version reflecting recent revisions and feedback from the policy committee.*

Motion to table by Brad Ehlert, second by Breanne Dedrickson.

Final Resolution: Tabled

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

### **Action: 2. Consideration to Approve the Employee Conduct Policy - Dr. Eric Campbell, HR/Student Services**

*Dr. Eric Campbell presented the Employee Conduct Policy, noting it had completed a 30-day public comment period with no formal feedback received. He also shared that union representatives reviewed the policy, asked clarifying questions, and expressed appreciation for the revisions.*

#### **Discussion Highlights:**

- *Board Member Breanne Dedrickson clarified publicly that a separate Student Conduct Policy is forthcoming to ensure expectations apply to all individuals in the district.*
- *Board Member Brad Ehlert emphasized the importance of holding employees to a high standard and having a clear framework in place should concerns arise.*
- *Board Members expressed appreciation for the collaborative and thorough review process.*

Motion by Brad Ehlert, second by Breanne Dedrickson.

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

### **Action: 3. Consideration to Approve the Purchase of Office Furniture - Stephanie Discher, Director of Elem. Education**

*Stephanie Discher, Director of Elementary Education, presented a request to purchase updated office furniture for the District Office third floor to improve functionality, professionalism, and working conditions. The Board had previously toured the space to assess needs firsthand. Furniture will be purchased for \$27,882 through Utah Correctional Industries to ensure quality and cost-effectiveness.*

**Discussion Highlights:**

- *Vice President Cory Holmes expressed appreciation for the opportunity to see the furniture conditions in person before voting.*
- *President Kim Dickerson noted the value of firsthand review in helping explain the decision to the community.*
- *Board Member Breanne Dedrickson emphasized the importance of supporting job skill programs through Utah Correctional Industries and reusing furniture where possible.*

Motion by Cory Holmes, second by Breanne Dedrickson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

**Action: 4. Consideration to Approve the Certified Athletic Trainer for Deer Creek High School and Wasatch High School, Shawn Kelly - Director of Operations**

*Shawn Kelly, Director of Operations, presented the results of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for certified athletic training services. Intermountain Health submitted the sole proposal in the amount of \$36,800 and was recommended for approval to provide services at both high schools.*

**Discussion Highlights:**

- *Board Member Brad Ehlert requested that the final contract, including detailed service expectations, be brought back to the Board for review prior to final execution.*
- *Administration confirmed a detailed contract outlining responsibilities and event coverage would be provided.*
- *The Board expressed appreciation for the longstanding partnership with Intermountain Health.*

Motion by Breanne Dedrickson, second by Brad Ehlert.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

**G. Board Report**

**Discussion: 1. Board Member Assignment Updates**

**Board President Kim Dickerson** reported on attending a recent Heber City Council meeting where safety improvements were approved for the crosswalk near Mill Road and 980 East. Planned enhancements include curb bump-outs, improved signage, and flashing lights to increase visibility and pedestrian safety for students traveling to and from school. She expressed appreciation to Heber City officials and law enforcement for their collaboration in addressing community concerns. President Dickerson also honored former Superintendent Terry Shoemaker, recognizing his decades of leadership and lasting contributions to Wasatch County School District and public education in Utah.

**Vice President Cory Holmes** shared reflections from the Utah School Boards Association conference, highlighting the importance of ongoing governance training, professional development, and strengthening relationships among board members to better serve the community.

**Board Member Jake Collett** echoed appreciation for the board's time at the state conference and emphasized the value of collaboration and unity within the Board. He also reflected on attending lunch at Timpanogos Middle School, noting how meaningful it was to engage directly with teachers and hear firsthand about their work and dedication.

**Board Member Breanne Dedrickson** provided updates from her board assignments. As a member of the Policy Review Committee, she shared that attendance policy concerns raised by schools are under review and will be discussed in upcoming meetings. She also reported on the latest MTECH Board meeting, noting that construction remains on schedule for a June completion and anticipated fall opening, and encouraged community advocacy for full legislative funding to support staffing needs.

**Board Member Brad Ehlert** spoke about the importance of local control in education and the responsibility of elected school board members to represent community values in decision-making. He emphasized the role of the Board in ensuring policies reflect the priorities of Wasatch County families and students.

**H. Superintendent Report**

**Information: 1. Wasatch High School Graduation, May 28, 2026 @ 6:00 pm**

*The Superintendent provided updates on legislative developments, regional athletic classification, graduation planning, and high school transition progress.*

*Key highlights included:*

- *Both Wasatch High School and Deer Creek High School have been placed in the 4A classification, Region 8, with details shared regarding athletic alignment and scheduling for upcoming seasons.*
- *Graduation for Wasatch High School is scheduled for May 28 at 6:00 p.m. at the football stadium.*
- *Ongoing collaboration between high school leadership teams to ensure a smooth and unified transition as the district moves from one high school to two.*
- *Continued commitment to maintaining aligned academic standards, shared assessments, and instructional collaboration between the two campuses to ensure consistent educational quality.*

- *Appreciation for district staff whose behind-the-scenes planning and operational work are supporting the complex logistical transition.*

*The Superintendent emphasized that the goal is not a “split” in community identity, but rather two schools working in partnership to serve students while maintaining shared values, strong relationships, and district-wide unity.*

#### **I. Adjournment**

##### **Action, Procedural: 1. Adjourn Meeting**

Motion by Brad Ehlert, second by Cory Holmes

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Cory Holmes, Kimberly Dickerson, Brad Ehlert, Breanne Dedrickson, Jake Collett

#### **J. Executive Session**

***Action: 1. Section 52-4-5 of the Open Meetings Act identifies the topics that may be discussed in a closed meeting.***

***Discussion to purchase, exchange or lease of real property; character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; pending or reasonably imminent litigation; and or collective bargaining.***