

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 27, 2026

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study, general, and closed sessions on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at JATC South (Board Conference Room), 12723 S. Park Avenue (2080 West), Riverton, Utah. The sessions were also provided electronically via YouTube.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Travis Hamblin, Director, Student Services
McKinley Withers, Health and Wellness Specialist
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. Student and Employee Health and Wellness Update

Dr. Anderson, Associate Superintendent, invited Travis Hamblin, Director of Student Services, and McKinley Withers, Health and Wellness Specialist, to share information about Health and Wellness supports and offerings.

Mr. Hamblin explained student wellness supports include: psychologists, school-based mental health therapists, school counselors, and mental health teams. He said this is the forty-sixth year of the Jordan Family Education Center which provides many resources for students as well as families.

Mr. Hamblin highlighted other wellness resources such as: tiered supports and intervention, crisis response, teen centers, at-risk supports, and school safety supports.

Dr. Withers indicated that the Health and Wellness department focuses on three areas: student crisis prevention, mental health services for students, and wellness for employees. Dr. Anderson praised intervention programs like Bark (a content monitoring software) and SafeUT that have saved lives of students in the District.

Dr. Withers shared student health and wellness data and employee wellness highlights, and emphasized the value of mental health resources for both groups. He gave information on the upcoming Health and Wellness Day that will be held February 6, 2026, noting there will be numerous "stress buster" activities students can complete on this virtual learning day. District employees can also take advantage of many wellness activities sponsored by local business partners.

Mr. Barnett said some constituents question the value of providing a Health and Wellness Day for employees and students. Dr. Godfrey said the District is trying to fill gaps in student wellness which directly affects learning. In addition, mental health services are always done in collaboration with families

to support what is happening in the home. Mr. Dunford added that the District is solving mental health issues that are happening in school.

Board members asked about advertising for Health and Wellness Day and Mr. Hamblin said ParentSquare messages have been sent to families and Jordan Employee Memos have also been sent electronically. Dr. Godfrey said another email will go out to parents today and schools will send out more information to students in the next few days. Dr. Withers said information on Health and Wellness Day can be found at wellnessday@jordandistrict.org.

B. Review of Summer Project

Brian Barnett, Facilities Committee Chair, explained the lighting and sound project at Elk Ridge Middle School was partially approved at a former Board meeting, but was removed in favor of a Daybreak remodel. The Auxiliary Services Department suggests going out to bid on this project along with other summer projects. After discussing the need, the following motion was made:

MOTION: It was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Brian Barnett to instruct staff to pursue a bid for sound and lighting upgrades at Elk Ridge Middle School.

Ms. Barrow asked if the virtual schools will be using Elk Ridge Middle School for graduation ceremonies this year and Dr. Godfrey confirmed this.

Dr. Godfrey said the bid for this project will come in after other capital projects have been approved. President George called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Enrollment Considerations

Brian Barnett, Facilities Committee Chair, referred to the Enrollment Considerations for Growth document on BoardBook with guidelines outlining potential action for schools with declining enrollment. He said there was confusion after a recent Facilities Committee meeting about who should be invited to participate in the meeting, to discuss a school on the enrollment "watch list." Occasionally, a school being discussed is represented by a Board member not on the Committee, so the Board considered protocol for this situation.

The Enrollment Considerations document states: "The Facilities Committee chair will notify the Board member representing the area under consideration if that member is not on the Facilities Committee." It was proposed to change the wording "notify" to "consults with" and specify this communication happen "prior to the initial meeting and throughout the process". All agreed with this recommendation.

Mr. Dunford also suggested Policy A13 *School Consolidation/Closure* be revised to align with the Trigger Point document. It was decided this will be brought back for further discussion in a future study session.

D. Legislative Review

Suzanne Wood, Government Relations Chair, thanked Dr. Anderson for his expertise in legislative matters. She gave a reminder of the February 11, 2026 Legislative Day on the Hill and February 18, 2026 JSD Board/Legislator luncheon with high school student body officers. Ms. Wood invited Dr. Anderson to give a review of proposed legislation that could affect the District.

Associate Superintendent Anderson said there are many proposed cuts, including the "One Beautiful Bill" that will impact income tax and cause an estimated \$300 million shortfall statewide. He said the recommended weighted pupil unit (WPU) is projected to be a 4.2% increase; and bills of interest and items of concern include the following:

- HB241 – Charter school amendments, which give charter schools the first right of refusal on school properties being sold.

Due to time constraints, it was decided to return to this discussion in a continued study session after tonight's business meeting.

At 6:06 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The general session started at 6:36 p.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Carolyn Gough, Administrator of Teaching & Learning
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Paul Bergera, Director, Transportation Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Jason Skidmore, Director, Career & Technical Education
Anthony Muto, Network/Technical Services Manager, Information Systems
Christen Richards-Khong, Staff Assistant, Teaching & Learning
Sonja Burton-Juarez, Principal, JATC South and JATC North
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Janet Sanders, President, Jordan Education Association

President George presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. Luke Stepan, Senior Class President; and Will Robbins, Senior Class Spirit Officer of Bingham High School, conducted a flag ceremony and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Julia Edwards, of Bingham High School.

Celebrating Bingham High School

Jack Knudson, Student Body President of Bingham High School, presented information to the Board about the good things happening at this school and reviewed some of the programs and activities in which students and faculty members participate.

Resolutions of Appreciation

Lisa Dean read a Resolution of Appreciation for the following former Jordan District employees who recently passed away:

Gary Lee James – employed by Jordan District from 2015 to 2025
Gregory Stanford – employed by Jordan District from 2022 to 2025

Board Member Recognitions

President George recognized students in the Aerospace Engineering program at JATC North for winning a NASA TechRise competition. Teacher Amber Saffen assisted students Zach Hall, Mason Rice, Canyon Bullock, and Blake Bigler; whose engineering experiment will be launched on one of NASA's High Altitude Balloons next year. The students were also highlighted on a recent Superintendent Supercast.

Erin Barrow said she enjoyed a Madrigals performance at Copper Hills High School and noted the students were invited to perform at the West Jordan City Oath of Office ceremony. Ms. Barrow attended the Bingham High School holiday charity drive assembly, the Jordan Education Foundation Donor Luncheon, and "What I Wish You Knew" Conference. She thanked everyone involved.

Suzanne Wood expressed appreciation for Board members, administrators, devoted teachers, involved parents, and enthusiastic students for helping to create the strong foundation of goodness she has experienced in Jordan District.

Lisa Dean recognized the good work being done at Joel P. Jensen Middle School in teaching students to become lifelong learners by teaching social and emotional "power skills". She recognized West Jordan Middle School for their "Sammy's Buddy" program that connects students with and without special needs.

Superintendent's Recognitions

Dr. Godfrey recognized the following National Board Certified Teachers, thanking them for their dedication and hard work:

Dionne Tarpinning -- Monte Vista Elementary School, new National Board Certified Teacher
LaRue Edwards – Herriman High School, recently recertified

He praised the 17 Nationally Board Certified Teachers districtwide, noting the rigorous process involved in this highly-respected professional credential. He invited Christen Richards-Khong, Staff Assistant for Teaching & Learning, to introduce all District National Board Certified Teachers.

Ms. Khong said that five of the National Board Certified teachers are currently serving in a mentorship program to assist other teachers in receiving this prestigious certification. She recognized the following teachers, thanking them for their hard work and dedication:

Alyse Almond, West Jordan High School
Melissa Brown, Riverton High School
Raechel Bunnell, Riverton High School
Mary Carlson, JATC-North
Heather Christopher-Ellis, Bingham High School
Tami Clevenger, Copper Hills High School
Lisa Craig, Mountain Ridge High School
LaRue Edwards, Herriman High School
Patricia Hendricks, Sunset Ridge Middle School
Susan Hinds, South Jordan Elementary School
Belinda Irick, Jordan Hills Elementary School
Teresa Rex, Kings Peak High School
Shauna Robertson, Mountain Ridge High School
Leslie Steele, Eastlake Elementary School
Dionne Tarpinning, Monte Vista Elementary School
Suzanne Thompson, Jordan Hills Elementary School
Amy Wood, Teaching and Learning

I. Public Comments

A. Public Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

Greg Hazard, a parent, expressed concern over a policy which gives parents five days to excuse a student who was absent from school. He suggested the Board revise or remove the policy.

President George invited Mr. Larsen, business administrator, to read comments submitted to boardcomments@jordandistrict.org from the following individuals, whose comments are summarized below:

Parents Samantha Whiteley, Sidney Apple, Chelsa Berthelson, Callie Wilson, and Anna Dalton each expressed support for adding a dual language immersion program at Aspen Elementary School, asking the Board to approve their recent school request.

II. **General Business – Consent Agenda**

A. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Minutes**

Minutes of the Board of Education meetings held December 9, 2025 and January 13, 2026, were presented to the Board of Education for approval.

2. **Annual Board Meeting Calendar 2026-27**

The proposed 2026-27 Annual Schedule of Board Meetings was presented to the Board of Education for approval. A copy of the 2026-27 Board Meeting Calendar is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 1)

3. **LEA Specific Licenses**

It was recommended that License and Endorsement Applications submitted by educators be approved (Administrative Rule R277-301-7).

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Suzanne Wood to approve Consent Agenda items A1 through A3, as recommended. The motion passed with a vote of six to one. Mr. Robinson cast the dissenting vote.

B. **Motion to Accept Consent Agenda Items**

1. **Expenditures**

Expenditures for the month of December 2025 were provided to the Board of Education.

2. **Financial Statement**

The financial statement through December 31, 2025, was provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 2)

3. **Personnel – Licensed and Education Support Professionals**

Personnel changes for the month of December 2025 were provided to the Board of Education.

4. **Non-Compliance Report**

MOTION: It was moved by Erin Barrow and seconded by Suzanne Wood to accept Consent Agenda items B1 through B4, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

III. **Bid Recommendations**

A. School or Department
Fort Herriman Middle School Items for Bid
Chromebooks

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Bluum USA Inc.	\$82,548.00
Howard Technology Solutions	
Insight Public Sector	
SHI International Corp.	
Trafera	

Purpose: To provide new Chromebooks for Fort Herriman Middle School

Budget: Land Trust funds

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the order with state contract vendor, Bluum USA Inc. They were the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to comply with the specifications, terms, and conditions of the bid. State Contract: MA4096

B. School or Department
Riverton High School Items for Bid
Chromebooks

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Bluum USA Inc.	\$248,500.00
CDW-Government Inc.	
Howard Technology Solutions	
Insight Public Sector	
SHI International Corp.	
Trafera	

Purpose: To provide new Chromebooks for Riverton High School

Budget: Land Trust and TSSA funds

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the order with state contract vendor, Trafera. They were the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to comply with the specifications, terms, and conditions of the bid. State Contract: MA4095

C. School or Department
West Jordan High School Items for Bid
Chromebooks

<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Bluum USA Inc.	\$123,834.00
CDW-Government Inc.	
Howard Technology Solutions	
Insight Public Sector	
SHI International Corp.	
Trafera	

Purpose: To provide new Chromebooks for West Jordan High School

Budget: Land Trust funds

Recommendation: It was recommended placing the order with state contract vendor, Bluum USA Inc. They were the lowest responsive and responsible bidder to comply with the specifications, terms, and conditions of the bid. State Contract: MA4096

MOTION: It was moved by Darrell Robinson and seconded by Lisa Dean to approve the bid for Chromebooks at Fort Herriman Middle School, Riverton High School, and West Jordan High School, as recommended.

Darrell Robinson said it is important to have a blended approach to learning, utilizing both old (paper and pencil) and new (technology) methods.

President George expressed concern about proposed legislation that may affect students' use of technology. She asked what the impact would be if the Balance Act bill passed after the District purchased these Chromebooks. Business Administrator John Larsen said it would allow for a surplus to be distributed among schools as needed. Dr. Godfrey added that it is also possible that the aforementioned legislation could change.

After brief discussion, President George called for a vote on the motion to approve the bids for Chromebooks at the three aforementioned secondary schools. The motion passed with a vote of six to one. Niki George cast the dissenting vote.

D.	<u>School or Department</u> Information Systems	<u>Items for Bid</u> E-Rate Network Switch Upgrade
	<u>Bidders</u> Pine Cove Consulting SSA Technology VLCM	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$1,142,106.00

Purpose: To replace and upgrade old network equipment across the District that has reached its end of life.

Budget: Capital Projects Information Systems Computer System budget and a reimbursement amount of \$571,053.00 from E-Rate.

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding a contract to the best value provider, VLCM. They complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the RFP documents. The Purchasing Department made the recommendation based on the results of the evaluation process and final ratings of the proposals. The price guarantee for this RFP is for one year from January 12, 2026.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Erin Barrow to approve the bid for E-Rate Network Switch Upgrade for Information Systems, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

E.	<u>School or Department</u> Transportation	<u>Items for Bid</u> Compressed Natural Gas Tank Replacement
	<u>Bidders</u> The Lancer Garage	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$264,000.00 (over 5 years)

Purpose: To replace the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Tanks on school buses that have expired tanks.

Budget: Transportation Capital Bus Purchases

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to The Lancer Garage as they were the only Offeror and met all the specifications, requirements, and pricing offered, and is in line with current market values. This will be a five (5) year contract. The expiration for this bid amount is 90 days from the close of the bid: April 13, 2026.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Erin Barrow to approve the bid for Compressed Natural Gas Tank Replacement for Transportation, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

F.	<u>School or Department</u> Transportation	<u>Items for Bid</u> A/C Retrofit of School Buses
	<u>Bidders</u> Intermountain Trailer Sales & Services Lewis Bus Group Inc.	<u>Amount of Bid</u> \$655,343.78 (over 3 years)

Purpose: To retrofit air conditioning units on District school buses that currently do not have AC on them.

Budget: Transportation Capital Bus Purchases

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive, responsible and acceptable bidder, Intermountain Trailer Sales & Services. The company complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents.

MOTION: It was moved by Erin Barrow and seconded by Brian Barnett to approve the bid for A/C Retrofit of School Buses for Transportation, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Information Items**

A. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Godfrey announced an open house on January 28, 2026 for all JATC programs from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. at both JATC North and JATC South locations. He encouraged students and parents to explore the wide range of programs and opportunities available.

Niki Goerge requested data on the enrollment capacity and number of students accepted in these programs and Dr. Godfrey said he will share historical as well as current data with the Board as it becomes available.

Ms. Barrow asked how parents were given the information about the open house. Dr. Godfrey said secondary students received a ParentSquare notification.

V. **Discussion Items**

A. **Committee Reports and Comments by Board Members**

Brian Barnett reported on the Facilities Committee which is hoping to gather information from the Board on under-enrollment issues at some District schools. Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any interest in analyzing the remodel or upgrade needs of middle schools in the District. Board members agreed with this suggestion.

Lisa Dean gave a reminder about the Jordan Education Foundation Outstanding Educator Awards bus tour day on March 19, 2026 and the LEAC meeting scheduled for February 9, 2026 at JATC South.

President George reminded Board members of the January 30, 2026 Legislative “Day on the Hill” for those who wish to attend. She said the Joint Legislation Committee will be discussing the recent “Public Education Day” at their next meeting.

B. Topics for *Bulletin Board*

President George asked for suggestions for items to be included in a future *Bulletin Board* publication. Ms. Wood proposed an explanation of changes in legislation that affect public education once the legislative session comes to an end. Ms. Barrow suggested including an explanation of Land Trust and TSSA funds.

At 8:16 p.m., President George declared the meeting adjourned and announced that the Board would return to study session.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued its study session to discuss the following:

D. Legislative Review, continued

Dr. Anderson resumed his presentation about proposed legislation that could affect Jordan School District. Other bills of interest and items of concern include the following:

- SB69 – Cell phone bill which proposes a bell-to-bell ban on cell phones in all classrooms. However, LEA’s can make a policy to modify this policy if they choose.
- HB256 – Shifts Board elections from non-partisan to a partisan format. If passed, it would take effect in the 2027 election cycle.
- SB62 – School funding bill which modifies the WPU on the current year October enrollment instead of using the average daily membership.
- SB164 – School construction amendment that requires all school construction to be overseen by the Division of Facility Construction Management (DFCM). As JSD currently uses in-house construction experts, it is estimated this could cost the District up to 1.5 percent more.
- SB52 – Substitute teacher requirements that remove the 20-day limit on non-licensed subs.
- SB62 – Income tax fund (a version of last years’ vetoed bill SB37) which allows the legislature more flexibility with using income tax.
- HB293 – Would require schools to initiate an additional sports moratorium in the summer. In addition, it would limit practice time to fifteen hours per week and double off-season moratoriums.

President George wondered if limits should also be placed on the time students spend working on charity drives and Mr. Robinson suggested possibly holding charity drives at another time of year, rather than during the winter holiday season.

President George thanked Dr. Anderson for his advocacy and keeping the Board well-informed.

E. Review of Board Policies GP105 through GP110

President George initiated a review of the following policies, and Board members made suggestions as follows:

- GP105 *Board President's Role* – It was suggested a policy review cycle be more general, rather than on a specific calendar timeline. In reference to the items the Superintendent is required to report on, President George requested this be aligned with new Ends policies. Ms. Barrow added that GP105 and the appendix should be aligned to specify that the Board President or designee provides training for new Board members.
- GP106 *Board First Vice President's Role*
- GP107 *Board Second Vice President's Role* – It was proposed that GP106 and GP107 be merged and specify both the First and Second Board Vice Presidents be chairs of the Finance and Facilities Committees, respectively; with the Board President designating which will serve as chair of these specific committees. In addition, the Board President shall assign the parliamentarian for the Board.
- GP108 *Meeting Planning* – It was suggested to remove Town Hall meetings and to change the verbiage of “may” plan to “may and/or will” plan specified meetings.

It was decided to revise the discussed policies as proposed and Mr. Dunford will bring them back to the Board Policy Committee on February 4, 2026. It was also decided to discuss policies GP109 *Construction of the Agenda* and GP110 *Public Participation at Board Meetings* at a future date.

Ms. Barrow also mentioned GP108 states the Board will do a “re-exploration” of Ends Policy annually. She suggested this wording be changed to “review” instead.

MOTION: At 9:21 p.m., it was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Erin Barrow to go into closed session and to adjourn the closed session at the close of the meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; property, potential litigation, negotiations, and security measures. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

The Board of Education closed session adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

/II
Attachments