

Feb 6, 2026



The meeting was conducted in electronic format.

Members Present: Cindy Davis, Cole Kelley, Randy Boothe, Matt Hymas, and Christina Boggess.

Committee Staff: Scott Jones, Deborah Jacobson, and Cammy Wilcox.

Others Present: Sam Urie, Jared Felt, Aaron Brough, Michael Iwasaki, Paula Plant, Tami Gear, Rebecca Nielsen, Sara Harward, Noralee Green, Britanni Taylor, Cory Erekson, Cynthia White, Laura Wilson, Meagan Johnston, Cory Kanth, Elijah Whitaker, Greg Connell, Esther Navarette, and Marlene Ruff.

Committee Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

USBE Staff Highlights:

- Noralee Green, Administrative Services Manager, Financial Operations
- Cory Erekson, Fiscal Monitor, Financial Operations

Public Comment:

There were no requests for public comment.

4.2 Update to the LEA Annual Assurances Document

Committee Discussion: The LEA Annual Assurances document is to be reviewed and updated annually and presented to the Board for their approval. Policy and Financial Operations staff have reviewed each assurance and made minor updates. This document includes required state and federal assurances as well as items deemed high-risk by the USBE Audit staff. Staff reviewed the document with the committee and addressed Member questions.

Staff will track legislative session changes and identify any new assurances needed for the LEA Annual Assurances document, bringing updates to the committee as needed before it goes to the full Board. Staff will also review the document for items that can be removed and report back at the next committee meeting.

Committee Action:

Member Boggess Motion:

That the LEA Assurance Document agenda item be postponed until the March Committee meeting.

Motion: Passed unanimously

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MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board.

4.3 Approve Charter School Revolving Loans

Committee Discussion: At the January State Charter School Board (SCSB) meeting, the SCSB voted to recommend two Charter School Revolving Loans for approval by USBE. Staff presented the loans to the Committee, reflecting the SCSB's recommendation to approve \$200,000 for Azure Fields and \$100,000 for Virtual Horizons.

Staff reported that the recommendation for Bear River Charter School's loan application will be presented in April. All applicants will be notified of potential loan reductions due to high demand for the program. Staff encouraged Board members to engage legislative stakeholders during the session to address misconceptions about the charter school revolving loan program not being used.

Committee Action:

Member Hymas Motion:

The Committee recommends that the Board approve Charter School Revolving Loans in the amounts of \$200,000 for Azure Fields and \$100,000 for Virtual Horizons.

Motion: [Passes 4-1 with Members Davis, Hymas, Boothe, and Kelley in favor and Member Boggess opposed.](#)

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: that the Board approve Charter School Revolving Loans in the amounts of \$200,000 for Azure Fields and \$100,000 for Virtual Horizons.

4.4 R277-484, Data Standards (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: Staff recommend changing "shall" to "may" in the section about the 90-day parallel requirements.

Staff presented R277-484, Data Standards, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-301\(d\) and \(e\)](#); [53E-3-401](#); 53E-3-401(8)(a); [53E-3-511\(8\)](#)

Committee Action:

Member Davis Motion:

That the Committee approves R277-484, Data Standards, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

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Motion: Passed unanimously

MOTION FOR THE BOARD:

That the Board approves R277-484, Data Standards, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

4.5 Recognition of Progress, Achievements, or Improvements

Staff recognized the progress of the Statewide Online Education Program following the 2024 audit by the Office of the Legislative Auditor General.

4.5.1 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on USIMS

Committee Information: The Utah Schools Information Management System (USIMS) is an ongoing project that will modernize USBE's legacy data systems and enable real-time access to and secure movement of data to support effective decision-making at all levels of the education system.

Staff provided an overview of the changes made since the previous report.

4.5.2 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on Utah Grants

Committee Information: Utah Grants is USBE's system for managing the entire grant process—applications, awards, payments, and monitoring. It serves USBE staff, LEAs, and CBO partners, with ongoing development to meet agency needs and ensure proper safeguards.

Staff will continue working with REI Systems to resolve production issues, improve Tier 3 response times, stabilize the production environment, and address email, notification, and accounting issues. USBE will pause further development deployments until stabilization is complete. Staff will provide an update to the committee in approximately six months on the status and projected timeline for Utah Grants System improvements.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.