PIUTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
PREPARING CHILDREN FOR THE FUTURE

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

## March 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Piute County School District Board of Education was held on **March 10, 2026** at the Piute County Courthouse in Junction, Utah. Teresa Morgan called the meeting to order at **3:34 P.M**. Present was Teresa Morgan, Neccia Dalton, Erin Jensen, Rick Dalton, and Jeremy Pearson. Also present was Superintendent Jason Strate and Business Administrator Dallas Sylvester. Guests at the meeting were: Russ Lee, Janette Lee, Paul James, Natalie Remund, Shannon Gleave, and Eric Jessen.

**Work Meeting:** The board met before the normal meeting for a work meeting. Tim Westwood gave the board a report on the girls basketball team. The board also discussed preliminary negotiations for FY27.

### Opening Remarks:

- President Teresa Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the pledge of allegiance was recited, opening remarks were given by Rick Dalton.

### Program Reports:

- **Wrestling Program**
  - Clint Randall tuned in via zoom to give the school board a report on the wrestling program.
  - Clint expressed that he felt that the season went well this year.
  - Clint mentioned that Kyler Bunker was a state champion and named outstanding wrestler.
  - Clint mentioned that he would like to see a wall built between the wrestling room and the basketball court. The wall would help with heating the mats better and also help with sound.

- **Literacy Program**
  - Natalie Remund gave the board a report on the literacy program in the school district.
  - Natalie showed the board the Acadience benchmarks from OES, CES, and UPA that are used to track student progress.
  - 20 students from Utah Peak Academy are currently participating in Acadience testing and progress monitoring.
  - Natalie expressed that there is a great need to put more emphasis on school attendance. She mentioned that it is difficult to help students with literacy if they are consistently missing school.
  - Natalie mentioned that she is going to take a course to become a certified librarian.

- **Technology Infrastructure**
  - Paul James gave the school board a report on technology infrastructure in the school district.

- Paul mentioned that due to recent state legislation, the school district will need to come up with a policy that limits technology usage for students in elementary schools in grades K-3.
- Paul also spoke about other legislation that will require students in 7-8 grade to opt in to have a device and students from 9-12 to have to opt out of having a device.
- Paul mentioned that the digital teaching and learning grant will be discontinued next year. The district has been receiving around $50,000 a year for the program to help with technology.
- Paul explained that he is working on acquiring grant funding from E-Rate to get new access points for the new elementary schools.

## Public Hearing/ Public Comments

- School Fees Schedule 2026-2027
  - Superintendent Strate presented the school fees schedule for 2026-2027 to the public for the second time.
  - The school board reviewed the fee schedule.
  - President Teresa Morgan turned the time over to the public for public comment.
  - No public comments were made.
  - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the school fees schedule for 2026-2027. Neccia Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

## Business Items:

- **Elementary Construction Update**
  - Superintendent Strate gave the board an update on the elementary school construction.

**Circleville Elementary School**

- The hood has been installed in the kitchen at CES.
- Sheetrock has been hung.
- They have begun painting door frames throughout the building.
- Cabinets should be arriving within about a couple weeks to be installed.
- Construction is moving along well and is ahead of schedule.
- The school district has decided to have BHI complete all the chainlink fencing around the baseball field and school grounds. The school district was previously going to be in charge of some of the fencing.
- The school will need to decide soon if the school mascot will be changed.

**Oscarson Elementary School**

- The water line for the fire loop has been installed and tied in.
- Trusses have been installed in the gym.
- The RFP for asbestos abatement at Oscarson Elementary is ready to be put out for bid.
- The majority of the asbestos removal will need to take place after school gets out in May next school year. It will need to be completed before the old school can be demolished.
- On March 26th, the school district will have a furniture and equipment meeting to plan for furniture needs for the new schools.

- **Softball Field Construction Update**
  - Dallas Sylvester gave the school board an update on the softball field construction.
  - Softball practice has begun and the field is ready to use.
  - The bleachers will be put together this week.

- The batting cage has been installed.
- The gates have all been installed.
- The wiring of the scoreboard has been completed and Morgan Hoyt is working with students to build the sign that will go on top of the scoreboard.
- The school district will have a design meeting tomorrow to go over the softball field restrooms/concessions area.

- **Circleville Amended Trust Land Plan**
  - Principal Lee presented the amended Trustlands plan for Circleville Elementary School.
  - CES had a 12% carryover last school year and only 10% is allowed. The plan amendment is to spend the carryover from last school year.
  - Jeremy Pearson made a motion to approve the amended Trustlands plan for School year 2026 for Circleville Elementary School. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **AASA Conference Report**
  - Superintendent Strate gave the board a report on the AASA Conference he attended last month.

- **Provisional Employee List**
  - Superintendent Strate presented the school board with the provisional employee list.
  - The provisional employee list indicates which employees are in their first three years in a position and which employees will move off the list next year.
  - Neccia Dalton made a motion to approve the provisional employee list. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **SRO**
  - Superintendent Strate mentioned that the school district would like to look into possibly adding a student resource officer in the school district.
  - Superintendent Strate asked the school board for approval to begin conversations with the sheriff's department about a partnership to add an SRO in the district.
  - The board was in favor of moving forward with the conversation with the Piute County Sheriff's office.

- **Policy #5004 Visitors To Schools Revision 1st Reading**
  - Superintendent Strate presented the school board with policy #5004, Visitors to Schools for the first reading.
  - The policy has been reviewed by the policy committee.
  - The board reviewed the policy.
  - Neccia Dalton made a motion to suspend the second and third readings of policy #5004 and approve it on the first reading. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Policy #5013 Use of Media Materials**
  - Superintendent Strate presented the school board with the revision of policy #5013 for the first reading.
  - The policy has been reviewed by the policy committee.
  - The board reviewed the policy.

    - Erin Jensen made a motion to suspend the second and third readings of the revision of policy #5013 and approve it on the first reading. Jeremy Pearson seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Policy #2053 Retirement Incentive Policy**
    - Superintendent Strate presented the revision of policy #2053 to the board.
    - The policy has been reviewed by the policy committee.
    - The school board discussed the policy and debated it.
    - The school board will review the policy again at the next meeting and seek employee feedback.

- **Approval of Minutes and Vouchers**
    - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes, the February payroll, the February revenues, and district vouchers 26000629-26000716. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **New Hires, Assignments, and Reassignments**

### New Hires

- Mike Gayler as head baseball coach.

- Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the new hires as presented. Neccia Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### Information Items: None

**Executive Session :** at **5:26 P.M**. Jeremy Pearson made a motion to move into executive session for the Discussion of the Character, Professional Competence, or Mental Health of an Individual. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Each individual board member was in favor of moving into executive session. Erin Jensen voted aye, Teresa Morgan voted aye, Rick Dalton voted aye, Neccia Dalton voted aye, Jeremy Pearson voted aye.

- The school board entered the executive meeting at **5:26 P.M.**
- The school board left the executive meeting at **5:31 P.M**.

### Adjournment

- At **5:31 P.M.** Rick Dalton made a motion to adjourn the **March 10, 2026** meeting of the school board. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.