

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

**Approved Business Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 11, 2026  
**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Location:** 826 South 1500 East, Naples, Utah

**Board Members Present:**

- Dave Chivers, 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
- Jayme Leyba, Director of Elementary  
Education

**Board Members Not Present:**

- Tawnya McKee, Vice President

**Others Present:**

- None noted

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

**1. Introduction**

**1.01 Welcome/Call to Order**

Troy Timothy, Business Administrator, welcomed attendees and introduced the Board. President Chivers offered opening remarks and called the business meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**1.02 Reverence**

The reverence was offered by MaryAnn Spainhower.

**1.03 Pledge of Allegiance**

Paisley Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.04 Student Board Member Report – Paisley Bell**

Paisley Bell reported that Student Council traveled to Washington, D.C. in late February to attend the National Student Council Conference, returning with new ideas and strengthened relationships, and she thanked sponsors for their support. She noted that Uintah High School Sterling Scholars earned multiple awards at the UVU Northeast Region competition, and that FFA would be traveling to Utah State University for the state competition. She announced that Uintah High School theater had opened its production of Frozen with remaining performances that week. She also shared that spring sports and activities are underway, including a recent national championship for a Uintah wrestling alumnus and upcoming events and competitions across several programs. Bell concluded by thanking the community for its continued support of student programs and the high school.

## **1.05 Celebrations**

### **A. Central Cove Early Learning Center Video**

Superintendent Dr. Rick Woodford shared a brief video featuring the new Central Cove Early Learning Center. The video is part of the Small Town Comeback series. Dr. Rick Woodford explained that the video production was funded primarily through a Utah State University grant, with a small portion of the cost supplemented by the district.

He noted that the video highlights the need to expand access to early childhood education and improve kindergarten readiness, and it explains that the former Central Cove preschool building (constructed in 1940) had significant infrastructure and safety concerns, leading the Board to approve construction of a new facility. Dr. Woodford added that the video is available on YouTube, with links on the district and preschool websites, and that a longer podcast interview discussing the project is also available.

### **B. UHS Boys Wrestling Individual & State Champions**

The Board recognized the Uintah High School boys wrestling program as state champions, with state qualifiers, state placers, and individual state champions in attendance for the celebration. Principal Amanda Brown introduced Head Coach Phillip Keddy who addressed the Board and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to honor the team, emphasizing the discipline, commitment, and team culture that contributed to the successful season. District and school leaders congratulated the student-athletes and coaching staff for their achievements and dedication to the program.

### **C. UHS Girls Wrestling State Champions**

The Board recognized three student-athletes from the Uintah High School girls wrestling program for earning individual state championships. Head Coach Patrick Sharp was introduced by Principal Amanda Brown and then addressed the Board and highlighted the athlete's dedication throughout the season, noting the continued growth of the girls wrestling program and the strong foundation being built through consistent effort, leadership, and team culture. School leaders congratulated the athletes on their individual accomplishments and commended the program for its development and positive direction.

### **D. UHS Swimming State Champions**

The Board recognized Alexander Spainhower of the Uintah High School swim team for winning the state championship in the 50-meter freestyle event. Head Coach Jared Bigler addressed the Board and highlighted the team’s progress through a season of challenges and successes, including strong finishes at invitational and regional meets, qualification of multiple athletes to the state meet, and several school records set during the year, including relay records. The Board congratulated the student-athletes, coaches, and families for their dedication and support of the program.

### **E. Students of the Month**

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

- Valentino Solis – Central Cove Early Learning Center
- Ileasi Wetzel – Ashley Elementary
- Bridger Gurr – Davis Elementary
- Jenaveave White – Discovery Elementary
- Penelope Livingston – Eagle View Elementary
- Jace McMickell – Lapoint Elementary
- Remington Munns – Maeser Elementary
- Ryan Nielson – Naples Elementary
- Eli McCurdy – Uintah Middle School
- Connor Wilkey – Vernal Middle School
- Justin Christensen – Uintah High School
- Cecilia Lamb – AVEC / UON

### **1.06 School Reports**

Deanna Martineau, Naples Elementary School Principal, presented the school report and shared an overview of enrollment and student demographics, noting Naples is a Title I school serving a diverse population, including students receiving special education services and English language learners. She highlighted efforts to strengthen a positive learning environment through regular student recognition and schoolwide engagement activities, including a reading challenge. Martineau reported that the school has increased its focus on academic growth through purposeful planning, implementation of proficiency scales, and staff learning aligned to professional learning community (PLC) practices. She shared mid-year assessment trends indicating improved reading proficiency across grade levels, reduced numbers of students performing well below grade level in math, and interim RISE results showing gains compared to prior year benchmarks, and she credited the progress to consistent instructional focus and collaborative teacher work.

### **1.07 Patron Input**

The board received one in-person comment.

In-Person Comments:

Patron Alisha Barney chose to wait until the Personnel Changes were addressed by the board.

Input given in accordance with Board Policy 002.0720.

**2. Business/Action Items**

**2.01 Consent Calendar**

- A. Minutes**
- B. Contracts Needing Board Approval**
- C. Monthly Board Financial Update**

**Motion:** Member Robin McClellan motioned to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, which includes the February 11, 2026, pending work session and business meeting minutes, February 25, 2026, pending special business meeting minutes, January 11, 2026, amended business meeting minutes, and the monthly financial update. Seconded by Member Todd Massey.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously.

**2.02 Policies for Approval on First Reading**

- A. 003.0600 School Community Council**
- B. 006.0300 (For Elimination) Affirmative Action in the Instructional Program**
- C. 009.0350 Student Meal Debt Collection**
- D. 005.0675 Association Leave**
- E. 005.0600 Employee Benefits**

**Motion:** Member Denise Maynard motioned to table policy 003.0600, and approve policies 006.0300, 009.0350, 005.0675, and 005.0600 on first reading. Member Todd Massey seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously.

**2.03 Policies for Approval on Second Reading**

- A. 010.1000 School Safety**

**Motion:** Member Robin McClellan motioned to approve the policy on second reading. Member Denise Maynard seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **B. 010.0700 Video and Audio Surveillance**

**Motion:** Member Denise Maynard motioned to approve the policy on second reading. Member Todd Massey seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously

## **2.04 Personnel Changes**

**Motion:** Member Denise Maynard motioned to approve the recommended personnel changes, Member Todd Massey seconded.

Dr. Mistalyn Leis presented a list of new hires, position changes, coaching assignments, and separations.

### **Patron Input:**

Alisha Barney raised concerns about recent coaching hires and athletes having to wait for leadership availability. She also hoped decisions were made for the benefit of the athletes, not personal interests.

### **Board Comments:**

Member Denise Maynard expressed profound gratitude for the employees on the list of retirees and what “Rockstars” that they are.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **3 Informational / Discussion Items**

### **3.01 Storytelling Festival**

Vernie Heeney gave a brief update on the Storytelling Festival, thanked the district for continued support and use of facilities, and noted this is the final year of sponsorship through the Uintah Schools Foundation as the festival transitions to independent operation. She reported the youth storytelling contest was held

the prior week and outlined the upcoming festival schedule, including student performances and two public evening events with different stories each night.

### **3.02 Purchases Over \$50,000**

None

### **3.03 Calendar Items**

Dr. Woodford directed the Board to the Diligent calendar for upcoming events.

Additional highlights included:

- Reviewed attached calendaring materials: USBA spring conference dates, regular district calendar items, and Uintah arts events.
- Highlighted upcoming activities, including the regional band festival, fifth grade maturation presentations, and Battle of the Books at Maeser.
- Noted that schools have numerous activities scheduled during the weeks leading up to spring break.

Board Discussion:

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

Board Member Robin McClellan thanked staff for supporting accessibility at Uintah High School theater by providing American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation for Frozen, noting it was well received. She expressed appreciation for the At-Risk Conference and commended Andy McKea and the AVEC staff for their work in organizing and facilitating the event. She noted the quality of the presenters, the usefulness of the data shared, and the professional, well-organized structure of the sessions, and thanked staff for providing a meaningful and informative experience. McClellan further commented on the value of student participation in activities such as theater and recognized students for contributing positively and being part of something larger than themselves.

Board Member Todd Massey complimented the Uintah High School theater program and staff on the production of Frozen, noting the high quality of student performances and the positive experience it provided for families in attendance. He also remarked on the continued growth of student talent across activities and emphasized the importance of fostering positive influences and supportive environments for students, both in academics and extracurricular programs.

Board Member Denise Maynard shared that she attended the funeral of a longtime Uintah community member and former athlete/coach and reflected on his lifelong pride in and support for the district and community. She noted that the turnout illustrated the strong sense of community pride that extends across many programs and activities and emphasized the

importance of maintaining a positive culture and continuing to do their best in supporting students.

Troy Timothy expressed appreciation for the positive work he is seeing in schools, including collaboration with principals during the budget process and staff willingness to embrace change despite the challenges that can come with it. He noted his appreciation for students excelling academically, including Sterling Scholars, and for strong athletic programs, citing the growth he observed through the swim program and the respectful conduct of student-athletes during state events. He added that he hopes to see the same level of commitment and culture reflected across all activities and programs.

Student Board Member Paisley Bell asked how coaching hires are handled, including the respective roles of the Board and district administration and how candidates are reviewed. Board Member Robin McClellan clarified that the Board of Education directly employs only the Superintendent and the Business Administrator and does not directly hire other district employees. She noted that the Board's role in personnel matters is to provide oversight through policy and to serve as the appeals body when necessary, which requires the Board to remain neutral in hiring processes.

Superintendent Dr. Rick Woodford explained that hiring is conducted through a policy-driven committee process organized by Human Resources. For head coach positions, the committee typically includes a Board member to provide oversight and ensure the process is followed. The committee evaluates applicants and the Superintendent then makes a recommendation to the Board, which has final approval authority. He added that community members are generally not included on committees due to confidentiality requirements.

#### **4 Closed Session**

President Dave Chivers Stated a need to enter closed session.

**Motion:** Member Denise Maynard motioned to move to enter closed session for the following purpose:

- Strategy session regarding the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

Member Todd Massey seconded.

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

McClellan – Aye  
Massey – Aye  
Maynard – Aye  
Chivers – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered closed session at 8:01 pm and returned to open session at 8:41 pm

## 5 Adjournment

### 5.01 Meeting Adjourned

**Motion:** Member Todd Massey motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Member Robin McClellan seconded.

**Vote:** Four in Favor: Members Chivers, Massey, McClellan, and Maynard.

The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

DATE: **March 11, 2026**

TO: UINTAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. Mistalyn Leis, Director of Human Resources

RE: Board Approval Request for **March 11, 2026:** Board Approval of New Hires; Newly Assigned Employees; 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:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Education/ Training</b>	<b>Source of Funding</b>
Allison Migliori	Kindergarten Aide	Discovery	0.7375	All Required	Program 0183 Specialists and Aides
Laikyn Cooley	Kindergarten Aide	Discovery	0.7375	All Required	Program 0183 Specialists and Aides
Tabitha Ellis	SpEd Aide	EVE	0.7375	All Required	Program 1205 SpEd Add On
Delaney Jensen	Food Service Worker	Naples	0.40	All Required	Program 8000 School Foods Program
Jose Alzuarate	Food Service Worker	UMS	0.40	All Required	Program 8000 School Foods Program
Guadalupe Herbert	Food Service Worker	UHS	0.40	All Required	Program 8000 School Foods Program
Lance Burrell	PE/Health Teacher	UHS	1.0	Bachelor of Science Major: Phys Ed Teaching/Coaching	Program 0050 Classroom Teacher Salaries

**NEWLY ASSIGNED EMPLOYEES – BOARD APPROVAL REQUESTED:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Former (Current) Assignment</b>	<b>New Assignment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Tiffany Boren	Computer Specialist/Teacher Aide (0.7375 FTE) @ Lapoint	PE Specialist/Instructional Aide (0.7375 FTE) @ Lapoint	2/10/2026
Shaun Remington	Boys Soccer Team Assistant \$500-\$1000 Stipend @ UHS	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach (0.30 FTE) @ UHS	2/12/2026

**NEWLY HIRED EXTRACURRICULAR COACHES:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
Kristine Collett	Head Volleyball Coach	UHS	5
Lance Burrell	Head Football Coach	UHS	13