

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2026

Board Meeting

The Murray City School Board met in a regular board meeting on March 12, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Kelly Taoalii, Jill Weight, Kami Anderson, Jaren Cooper, Elizabeth Payne, Jennifer Covington, Superintendent and Richard Reese, Business Administrator. The meeting was held at the District office, located at 5102 South Commerce Drive, Murray, UT.

Pledge of Allegiance

The audience was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by students from Murray High School.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – February 12 and February 26, 2026

Claims February 2026

Checks February 2026

Financial Reports

Jaren Cooper made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Delegations

Hillcrest Junior High PTA – Kylee Kieffer, PTA President, spoke to the Board regarding the activities of the PTA at Hillcrest Junior High. She said that the PTA has recently supported the student council volleyball tournament and the lunch soda bar.

Murray High PTA – Erin Adams, PTA President, told the Board of PTA activities at Murray High including providing 200 cinnamon rolls to staff and supporting the staff in relocating back to the school after the fire-related evacuation. The student body officers spoke of their favorite activities including the winter charity, dances, leadership camp and junior prom.

MEA – Jessica DeMann, MEA Board, said that the MEA is sending Crystal Norman to a Chicago conference and that they are grateful that the legislative session results were relatively normal.

MAA – Earl Kauffman, President, said that the administrators appreciate the support of the Board of Education and said that now is a busy time in schools.

MESPA – Thayn Burnett, President, thanked the Board for their efforts. He also thanked Trent Asay, MHS Facility Manager, for offering his staff to other schools during the MHS shutdown.

Foundation – Doug Perry, MEA Director, said that the Pinnacle Award was a great success and thanked IHC for offering a venue to host the event. The event raises funding for teacher classroom grants. He also said that FFKR Architects and BHB Engineering invited MEF to participate in the “Stuff the Truck” fundraiser.

Patron Statements – No comments.

Report of the Board

Kami Anderson – Thanked the staff and students at Murray High for their response to the school being shut down because of the fire. She said that she attended the USBA Quarterly training session the previous evening.

Jill Weight – Ms. Weight said that she participated in the Joint Legislative Committee process this year. She is appreciative of the PTA and their efforts to support teachers. She is grateful for the virtual tours of the construction sites at Riverview Junior High and Murray High school.

Kelly Taoalii– Ms. Taoalii said that she has been attending school community council meetings when possible. She said that she proud of the efforts of the MHS staff and district administration for their work in dealing with the fire. She that the Pinnacle surprise day is her favorite of the year.

Elizabeth Payne – Ms. Payne said that she is excited with all of the wonderful work being accomplished by the Murray Education Foundation.

Jaren Cooper – Mr. Cooper said that the Pinnacle Awards was a great event again this year and that he like the large displays at the IHC venue. He also attend the USBA Spring Legislative update and was a judge for the 6th grade cookoff at Hillcrest Junior High.

Report of the Staff

Bond Projects Update – Scott Taggart, Director of Auxiliary Services, said that the Murray High addition is progressing well and tile work is occurring on the first floor, sheet rock is being installed on the second floor, and that framing, fire protection and plumbing is being installed on the 3rd floor.

The Riverview Junior High School is currently on schedule and work is progressing at different stages in different parts of the building. Ongoing activities include the masonry in the locker room and shop wing, masonry walls throughout, exterior envelop in office and classroom areas, drywall on the 1st floor and many others.

Elementary Book Recommendations: Instructional Materials, Non-Textbook 1st Reading – Becky Te’0, Director of Elementary Education, said that the Elementary Book Review Committee has recommended the book “Into the Land of the Unicorns” for placement in elementary schools.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – Jennifer Covington, Superintendent

TSSA Amendment – Grant Elementary - Superintendent Covington presented the amendment which allows for the purchase of \$6,500 worth of UFLI tiles, boards and organizational supplies for the K-3 students. Jill Weight made a motion to approve the amendment. Elizabeth Payne seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Board of Education Meeting Schedule 2026-27 – Superintendent Covington presented the proposed schedule for Board approval. Kami Anderson made the motion to adopt the schedule. Elizabeth Payne seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

BU 705: Regulation and Rental of Buildings and Grounds 1st Reading – Superintendent Covington presented this updated policy as a first reading.

SB 119: Public Education Hotline 1st Reading – Superintendent Covington presented this updated policy as a first reading.

The Board was polled at 5:34 p.m. and was unanimous in holding a closed session for personnel purposes.

The Board meeting was then adjourned at 5:59 p.m.



Kelly Taeoalii - Board President



Business Administrator – Richard Reese

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Welcome

Board President Kelly Taeaolii welcomed those in attendance.

Board Study Items

Murray High School Master Planning – Chris Kartchner, BDK, presented five plans created by VCBO Architects to place a Catalyst Center and a potential fieldhouse on the remaining Murray High property. Two of the plans featured a single story, eight education room design. Three of the plans featured a two story, eight education room design. No Board action was taken.

Facility Planning – Superintendent Covington led a discussion with the Board on potential school closures. Four maps were created by Murray City staff under the assumption that one of the following schools would be closed; Grant, Liberty, Longview, and Parkview. The Board had a lengthy discussion but no Board action was taken.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Kelly Taeaolii – Board President



Business Administrator – Richard Reese

STATEMENT AFFIRMING THE PURPOSE OF A CLOSED MEETING

I, Kelly Taeoalii, certify that I am the member of the Board of Education of the Murray City School District who presided at the closed meeting of the board held on March 12, 2026. I hereby affirm, pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-206(6), that the sole purpose of holding this closed meeting was to discuss personnel issues.

I certify under criminal penalty of the State of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on April 2, 2026

Kelly Taeoalii
Kelly Taeoalii, Board President