



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

A regular meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held on March 12, 2026. Chair Hymas presided. As authorized by Utah Code Section 52-4, this meeting was held at the state board offices, located at 250 E. 500 S, Salt Lake City, Utah. The public can view the discussion through live [YouTube](#) streaming.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas

First Vice-Chair Vacant

Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood

Member Christina Boggess

Member Amanda Bollinger

Member Randy Boothe

Member Joann Brinton

Member Rod Hall

Member Jennie Earl

Member Sarah Reale

Member Emily Green

Member Cole Kelley

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Carol Lear

Member Cindy Davis

Executive Staff Present

Molly Hart, State Superintendent

Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent

Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent

Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Others Present

Cammy Whitchurch, Lexi Cunningham, Brody Meier, Lisa Cluff, Jerry Record, Aaron Brough, Greg Connell, Jennifer Wadsworth, Alex Farrah, Carson Miller, Jamie Workman, Royce Van Tassel, Bethany Marker, Dakota Cambuzzi, Malia Hite, Amy Hunt, Ashley Biehl, Angela Doan, and Deborah Jacobsen.

Opening Business

Chair Hymas called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Member Boggess led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Message

Member Joann Brinton shared the March message.

Employee Recognition

Superintendent Hart announced the Employee of the Month: Caren Johnson.

Acknowledgement of Student Artwork

Shanda Stenger shared the monthly student artwork. Westminster University will share highlights from the experiences of veteran BTS Arts teachers selected to participate in the 2025 ArtsConnect International experience in Sāmoa. Included in the exhibit are photos from the trip, as well as photos and student artwork from the implementation work inspired by the educators' experiences during their time in Sāmoa. This highlights those experiences from students and educators throughout Utah.

Public Comment for USBE

The Board heard from Cammy Whitchurch, Lexi Cunningham, Brody Meier, and Lisa Cluff.

- The public may sign up to share public comments at publiccomment@schools.utah.gov.
- The public may send written public comments to the Board at board@schools.utah.gov
- Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per person.
- A comment can express support or dissent for regulatory action.
- Individuals should refrain from using public comments to complain about personnel issues or attack or defame another individual.
- Speakers making a highly detailed or complex comment should also consider providing a written outline of their words to the Board.
- Please remember that children may hear your comments. Be thoughtful and professional.
- Keep your comments appropriate for a general audience. If you have material with explicit language or content, submit such material in writing to the Board at board@schools.utah.gov

Audit Committee Report
Audit Prioritization Request

MOTION was made by Member Hall that the Board prioritize the audits below, in the order listed, and add them to the end of the current Audit Plan.

- Credit Recovery
- USBE Conferences, Memberships, and Travel
- USBE Work Time and Leave Analysis

The motion carried.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

1 OPPOSE: Member Davis.

Finance Committee Report/Recommendations - (Items duplicated from the February 6, 2026, meeting.)

Approve Charter School Revolving Loans

MOTION was made by Member Davis that the Board approve Charter School Revolving Loans in the amounts of \$200,000 for Azure Fields and \$100,000 for Virtual Horizons.

The motion carried.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Hall, and Kerry.

3 OPPOSE: Members Brinton, Boggess, and Bollinger.

R277-484, Data Standards (Amendment)

MOTION was made by Member Davis that the Board approve R277-484, Data Standards, Draft

1, on second and final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

Standards and Assessment Committee Report/Recommendations - (Items duplicated from the February 6, 2026, meeting.)

AI in Education

MOTION was made by Member Earl that the Board approve the updated changes to the AI Framework, Draft 4, as amended.

The motion carried.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

1 OPPOSE: Member Boggess.

1 ABSENT: Member Brinton

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board strike the words “considering that some may already have access to such resources outside of school” from the “Unequal Access” section on Page 11.

Page 11: Unequal access: If an assignment permits the use of AI tools, the tools will be made available to all students, considering that some may already have access to such resources outside of school.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board strike the word “Unequal” from Page 11.

The motion failed.

2 IN FAVOR: Members Boggess and Kelley.

12 OPPOSE: Members Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall.

1 ABSTAIN: Member Kerry.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kelley and seconded that the Board strike the word “unequal” and replace it with the word “student” on Page 11.

The motion failed.

3 IN FAVOR: Members Boggess, Kelley, and Kerry.

11 OPPOSE: Members Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, and Hall.

1 ABSTAIN: Member Earl.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board move to amend Page 10 to add the words “Student Access, If an assignment permits the use of AI tools, the tools will be made available to all students” and strike the language on Page 11, “Unequal access: If an assignment permits the use of AI tools, the tools will be made available to all students, considering that some may already have access to such resources outside of school.”

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas,

Boggess, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

Supplemental Aquatics Standards Development

MOTION was made by Member Earl that the Board direct staff to develop supplemental aquatics standards.

The motion carried.

9 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Brinton, Hall, and Kerry.

5 OPPOSE: Members Bollinger, Boggess, Hymas, Boothe, and Lear.

1 ABSTAIN: Member Green.

Law and Licensing Committee Report/Recommendations – (Items duplicated from the February 6, 2026, meeting.)

R277-750, Education Programs for Students with Disabilities (Continuation)

MOTION was made by Member Kerry that the Board continue R277-750, Education Programs for Students with Disabilities.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

R277-604, Private School, Home School, Scholarship, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Student Participation in Public School Achievement Tests (Continuation)

MOTION was made by Member Kerry that the Board continue R277-604, Private School, Home School, Scholarship, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Student Participation in Public School

Achievement Tests.

The motion carried.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Hall, and Kerry.

1 OPPOSE: Member Boggess.

R277-924, Partnerships for Student Success Program (Continuation)

MOTION was made by Member Kerry that the Board continue R277-924, Partnerships for Student Success Program.

The motion carried.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Boggess, Hall, and Kerry.

2 OPPOSE: Members Earl and Boggess.

Monthly Budget Report

Monthly Budget Report

In accordance with the Money Management Act and the Budgetary Procedures Act, the Utah State Board of Education provides a report on the status of funds for its internal budgets.

Discretionary Funds Report

The Utah State Board of Education maintains a Discretionary Funds account. In accordance with the Money Management Act and the Budgetary Procedures Act, the Utah State Board of Education is provided with the status of the funds.

POINT OF INFORMATION MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board direct staff to determine the cost to provide two sessions, one in the North and one in the South of the state, of the intensive special education training for parents and advocates titled “Epic 2-Day Advocacy Intensive” for a possible motion regarding the use of discretionary funds in the April 2, Finance Committee meeting.

The motion carried.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Green, Brinton, Bollinger, Boggess, Hall, Earl Boggess, and Kerry.

3 OPPOSE: Members Reale, Lear, and Hymas.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board add “ Finance Committee.” **NO OPPOSITION**

Consent Calendar

Member Boggess pulled 10.1.2 and 10.3 for discussion.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve the remaining items of the consent calendar.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION was made to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, and Kerry.

1 ABSENT: Member Brinton.

MOTION was made by Member Bollinger and seconded that the Board approve 10.1.2: Agreement Number: DO3 400 2600000183; MA4435.

The motion carried.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Bollinger, and Kerry.

2 OPPOSE: Members Green and Boggess.

1 ABSENT: Member Brinton.

Draft American Constitutional Government and Citizenship Standards Release for Public Review

MOTION was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Kerry that the Draft American Constitutional Government and Citizenship be released for Public Review.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

2026 General Legislative Session Preparation

Veto Request Consideration

MOTION was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Lear that the Board request a veto to [S.B. 312 First Substitute](#) -- Educator License Amendments (*Sen. Johnson, J.*).

MOTION TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board postpone this motion.

The motion carried.

9 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Hymas, Brinton, and Kerry.

6 OPPOSE: Members Reale, Boggess, Bollinger, Wood, Green, and Lear.

Executive Session (closed in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act)

The motion was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of

- a person's character, competence, or health;
- pending or imminent litigation;
- certain matters regarding the acquisition or sale of real property, including water rights or shares;
- the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems;
- an investigation of alleged criminal conduct;
- the receipt or review of an ethics complaint if the public body is the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission;
- certain matters under the jurisdiction of a legislative ethics committee; and
- certain deliberations and decision-making involved in the procurement process.

Upon the voice vote of Members Lear, Reale, Boggess, Boothe, Kerry, Wood, Lear, Brinton, Earl, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Davis, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board entered a closed session at 1:42 PM.

The following individuals were also present: Molly Hart, Scott Jones, Cybil Prideaux, Kelsey James, Ashley Biehl, Angela Doan, and Ben Rasmussen.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board come out of the executive session.

Upon voice votes of Members Lear, Reale, Boggess, Boothe, Kerry, Wood, Lear, Brinton, Earl, Green, Longacre, Hymas, Davis, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board came out of the executive session at 2:52 PM.

Executive Session Action Items

Educator Licenses

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board deny clearance for five years from the date of the most recent incident in Case No. 26-15.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve the consent calendar, minus the item pulled.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

UPPAC Cases for Review/Action

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve

- Case No. 22-1894

UPPAC recommends the educator's license be reinstated as per the Reinstatement Hearing Report.

The motion carried.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

2 OPPOSE: Members Boggess and Earl.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve

- Case No. 24-2169

UPPAC recommends that the educator receive a reprimand for a period of not less than two (2) years from the date the educator's license was originally flagged. (December 13, 2024).

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve

- Case No. 25-2290

UPPAC recommends the Board accept the voluntary surrender of the educator's license.

The motion carried.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

1 OPPOSE: Member Kelley.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve

- Case No. 25-2306

UPPAC recommends the Board accept the voluntary surrender of the educator's license.

The motion carried.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

1 OPPOSE: Member Kelley.

Committee Appointments

Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Advisory Council

Aubrienne (Aubri) Ogden

- Parent of a deaf student receiving outreach services
- Duration: Two-year term.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

USDB School Community Council

- Katie Terry
- Roberta Dunlap
- Taren Saldana

Duration: Two-year term.

Role: Up to eight non-voting members representing each USDB campus program that will assist in developing the annual School Land Trust Plan and supporting the Advisory Council in their capacity as the School Community Council for the USDB

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board extend the appointment of Dr. Molly Hart as Interim Superintendent until the May 2026 board meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

15 IN FAVOR: Members Hall, Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Longacre, Lear, Hymas, Boggess, Bollinger, Green, Brinton, and Kerry.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boggess.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes were approved on April 2, 2026.

