Ascent Academies of Utah
Board of Directors Meeting

Date: April 6, 2026
Location: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83128919790
Board Members Present: Chris Bleak, Jim Horton, Mike Greenhalgh
Excused Members: Stuart Adams, Tyler Schvaneveldt
Others Present: Wade Glathar, Brandon Fairbanks, Gabe Clark, Erin Winterton, Heidi Bauerle, Hannah Jones, Joe Dunlop

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Bleak called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

This was the second public comment opportunity for the 2026-2027 Fee Schedule. There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

- March 2, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the March 2, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

REPORTS

- Director's Report
  Wade Glathar reported out to the board on enrollment accreditation and pending purchases. Next year's enrollment stands at 3,107 fully enrolled students plus 24 in process, representing a 5.5% increase over the current year with applications continuing to arrive weekly. Cognia recently completed a formal 3-day accreditation site visit across 4 campuses, highlighting strengths in mission alignment, employee collaboration, data-driven decision making, and strong retention rates, while recommending improvements in parent communication, implementation consistency, and Tier 2 instruction. On March 9th, a full-day cross-campus professional development was held at the Farmington campus, led by Dr. Laurel Brandon, focusing on deepening SEM Cluster experiences for students. Ascent also received approximately $24,000 in state EASP grant funds, which will be used for teacher training on SEM Curriculum Compacting. The proposed fee schedule for next year is largely unchanged, with three modest increases: $15 for after-school clubs, $25 for the school play, and $150 for the 9th grade trip, which is now $525 per student for a 5-day trip to St. George. Finally, the board is asked to approve two capital expenditures: $46,113.50 to J5 Construction for the West Jordan playground excavation and installation, and up to $35,000 for a full replacement of the aging

Farmington fire alarm system, with the director authorized to select between two bids.

- Finance Report
  Erin Winterton gave a report on the current financial position of the school. Because March month-end is still being finalized, the board is receiving February 2026 financials, with March financials to be distributed via email on the 11th. As of the end of February, the school was approximately 67% through the fiscal year. On the balance sheet, $6.8 million is held in the PTIF account earning roughly 3.8% interest, with an additional $2.5 million transferred into that account on March 2nd. Overall revenue is at 68% of budget, with local sources trending slightly high due to the timing of student fee receipts and better-than-expected donations, gym rentals, and interest income. State revenue is tracking on pace at 69.8% of budget, while federal revenue sits at only 22.4% due to its reimbursement-based nature, with the remainder to be collected in future months. On the expenditure side, all areas are within budget except Supplies & Materials, which is running ahead due to textbook and curriculum purchases made early in the fiscal year.

VOTING & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2026-2027 Fee Schedule
  Platte Nielson noted that certain items on the fee schedule — such as costumes for school plays — may require adjustment, as they are not permissible charges.
  Jim Horton made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Fee Schedule. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- 2026-2027 School LAND Trust Plans
  Wade Glathar summarized the campus-level plans and allocated funds for the 2026–2027 school year, all of which have received committee council approval. The board had no questions about the plan summary.
  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 School LAND Trust Plans. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- 2026-2027 Sex Education Committees
  Wade Glathar presented the sex education committee membership for each campus for board approval. Per policy, the Board is required to review and approve committee membership by August 1 annually. Committees must include parents, health professionals, health educators, and administrators, with parent members numbering at least equal to school employee members.
  Jim Horton made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Sex Education Committees. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Award RFP for Landscaping Farmington Campus
  The Evaluation Committee believes that Groundsman's proposal provides the best

value to the school in connection with these services. The Evaluation Committee therefore, recommends to the School's Board of Directors that it award the school's landscaping contract for the Farmington campus to Groundsman, with the contract having a term of up to five years, and authorize the lead director to negotiate and execute an agreement.

Jim Horton made a motion to award the RFP for Landscaping for the Farmington Campus to Groundsman. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Playground Excavation and Installation Costs

  Previously the board approved the purchase of an additional playground for the West Jordan Campus. In conjunction with that approval there will be costs for the excavation and preparation for the installation of the playground in the summer. J5 Construction has provided a quote for the excavation and installation at the pricing of $46,113.50. The recommendation is that the board approve the playground and excavation costs not to exceed $50,000.

  Jim Horton made a motion to approve the Playground Excavation and Installation costs not to exceed $50,000. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Fire Alarm System Replacement Farmington Campus

  The fire panel and sensors in Farmington are failing and need replacement. With the system being roughly 13 years old, they no longer make the replacement parts for the system, so a new fire panel and new sensors and alarms need to be put in throughout the school. We have one bid for just under $32,000. A second bid will be available this week. The director is asking the Board to authorize him to decide between the two bids and approve the replacement of the Farmington fire alarm system not to exceed $35,000. The work will be done potentially this week.

  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the Fire Alarm System not to exceed $35,000. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Carpet Invoice for Farmington Campus

  The Farmington campus is needing new carpet in some rooms. Two quotes were received for the flooring services. Administration is asking that the board approve the carpet invoice for the Farmington campus not to exceed $60,000.

  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the Carpet Invoice for the Farmington Campus costs not to exceed $60,000. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Policies

  The Board reviewed several policies requiring varying levels of action. The Administration of Medication Policy was revised to comply with new legislation, including provisions for glucagon kit administration by trained employees, updated terminology for injectable epinephrine rescue medication, and the addition of an adrenal crisis rescue medication section; a board vote was required. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy were presented for scheduled re-approval per Utah governance requirements, also requiring a board vote. The Attendance and Donation and Fundraising Policies were presented for routine scheduled review with no revisions recommended and no board action required.

- Amended Administration of Medication Policy

  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the Amended Administration of Medication Policy and Re-Approve the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Parent and Family Engagement Policy

  Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to Re-Approve the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.

- Review Attendance Policy
- Review Donation and Fundraising Policy

ADJOURN

At 9:31 AM Jim Horton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye.