



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

Utah State Board of Education Board Meeting,
Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB),
USB E Work Session, and
Continued Business from the previous
meeting on April 2, 2026.
Time: 1:00 to 3:30 PM

A regular meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held on April 3, 2026. Vice Chair Bollinger presided. As authorized by Utah Code 52-4, this meeting was held at the state board offices 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 -online
First Vice-Chair Amanda Bollinger
Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood
Member Joseph Kerry
Member Carol Lear
Member Erin Longacre
Member Cindy Davis
Member Christina Boggess

Member Sarah Reale
Member Jennie Earl
Member Rod Hall
Member Emily Green
Member Joann Brinton -online
Member Cole Kelley -online

Members Absent

Member Randy Boothe

Executive Staff Present

Dr. Molly Hart, State Superintendent
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent -online
Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Others present

Angela Doan, Assistant Attorney General; Ashley Biehl, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent; Susan Patton, Assistant Superintendent; Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind; Cindy Andersen, Vanessa Barnes, Jerry Record, Alex Farah, Andrea Curtin, and Cheri Rieben.

Vice Chair Bollinger called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Board MeetingPublic Comment for Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB)

- 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

Monthly USDB Budget Update

USBE Assistant Superintendent of Operations Deborah Jacobson provided board members with a monthly USDB financial update.

USDB Committee Standing Committee Report/Recommendations – (Items duplicated from the February 10, 2026, meeting).

6.6 Suicide Prevention Policy

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve the Suicide Prevention Policy, Draft 2, on second and final reading.

The motion carried.

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

1 OPPOSE: Member Boggess.

2 ABSENT: Members Hall and Boothe.

6.02 Attendance and Truancy Prevention Policy

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve the Truancy Prevention Policy, Draft 2, on second and final reading.

The motion carried.

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

1 OPPOSE: Member Boggess.

1 ABSENT: Member Boothe.

6.07 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve 6.07 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy, Draft 2, on second and final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

1 ABSENT: Member Boothe.

2026 Legislative General Session Summary

The Deputy Superintendent of Policy will present a summary of the 2026 Public Education Summary.

This publication represents the combined efforts of staff members at the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). It serves as a single-source review of education-related legislation from the 2025 Legislative Session.

The publication is prepared for state school board members, local education agency (LEA) board members, superintendents, charter school administrators, and school business administrators. It may also be helpful to other public education organizations and to members of the Utah Legislature.

The main body of the report provides an overview of each education-related bill that was enacted and outlines possible actions that may be taken by USBE, local school boards, and charter school governing boards to implement the legislation. Summary information on funding provisions and bills that did not pass is also included.

This publication is a service of USBE and is intended as a resource—not as a directive or set of assignments—for local education agencies. The Utah State Board of Education will adopt administrative rules, as needed, to implement new legislation.

This report is not intended to serve as a formal legal opinion or interpretation of legislative activity. Comments or suggestions for future editions are welcome and should be directed to:

Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent of Policy
Email: elisse.newey@schools.utah.gov
Phone: 801.538.7656

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes are pending approval.

