

Emery County School District | Board of Education

MINUTES FOR Wednesday, May 13, 2026

The Wednesday, May 13, 2026 meeting of the Board of Education, held at the 255 S Solomon St, Green River UT 84525, was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Hatt.

Members Present:

Royd Hatt, James Winn, Kenzi Guymon, Neal Peacock, and Todd Huntington

Members Absent:

Others Present: Superintendent Shank, Business Administrator Jackie Allred, Supervisors Yvonne Jensen, Doug Johnson, and JR Jones. Student member Byron Roundy.

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A) WORK SESSION

1. SB 241 K-3 Literacy

Superintendent Shank presented the new legislative requirements for the Early Literacy program. The District will establish an Individual Reading Program (IRP) framework that will identify students who score below benchmarks for K-3 grade levels. This plan will be implemented for the 26-27 school year. Concerns are possible third grade retention by 2030 and educating parents about this plan.

2. Potential property tax reduction

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Considering the property taxes collected through the Community Redevelopment Agency for solar personal property revenues, the Board will consider these revenues to possibly reduce the Debt Levy for the 2026 taxes. Projected revenues for the subsequent 10 years was also presented.

B) REGULAR SESSION

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

C) PRESENTATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

1. 2026 Graduation Presentation

Graduate statistics were presented by both Emery High and Green River High.

Green River High has 11 seniors who have earned \$115,000 in college and local scholarships. 5 students have been accepted to college or universities. Many have taken College prep courses, CTE pathways and internship opportunities in collaboration with Emery High School.

Emery High started the year with 152 seniors. 30 were credit deficient, but with intentional focus, all but 2 are caught up and will graduate. 'Student Connection' has

been the goal with this year's student council while planning the activities that involve student to student as well as student to teacher events.

Auto, welding, and CNA students have done very well at competitions and most have passed state exams. There were also 122 CTE pathway completers. This year's athletes excelled with 48 Academic Allstate winners, which is a large increase from previous years.

EHS students have earned the 3A ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPIONS for Girls Basketball, Girls Cross Country, Football, Baseball, and Softball. Adding to this, the Girls Cross Country team was 3A State Champions and the Boys Basketball team was the Region 13 Champions.

Total of scholarships awarded to students is \$4,162,303 from Utah's Higher Ed. Additional state scholarships total to \$160,400. Local scholarships are estimated at an additional \$80,000.

Emery School District students are excelling!

2. Employees of the Year

It is a privilege to announce our District Employees of the Year. These individuals represent the standard of excellence we strive for across our schools.

Volunteer: Randi Mecham

Elementary Teacher: Kim Rasmussen

Secondary Teacher: Sydney Jewkes

Classified: Bret Fausett

3. Region Sterling Scholars and Spring Academic Allstate winners

Spring Academic All-State:

Jamison Christiansen - Vocal, Instrumental Music & Theatre, Track

Kaila Martineau - Instrumental Music, Speech and Debate

Emma Grimm - Speech and Debate, Theatre

Mason Trout - Speech and Debate

Izzi Turner - Speech and Debate, Theatre

Teague Miller - Speech and Debate

Jaxon Durrant - Vocal

Megan Stilson - Vocal, theatre, Track

Beau Stilson - Baseball

Kaicee Behling - Golf

Byron Roundy - Golf

Zander Robinson - Track

Addie Hurst - Track

Addy Guymon - Track

Carlie Hurst - Track

KaBree Gordon - Track

Region Sterling Scholar:

Winner: Izzi Turner - Forensics

Runners-Up:

Claire Morgan - Math

Hadley Meccariello - Computer Tech

Tacey Funk - Family & Consumer Science

Mary Horrocks - Music

Beckham Kelley - Theatre & Vocal Performance

Avey Beagley - Dance

D) **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Warrants #
2. Minutes from previous meeting(s) #
3. Financial Reports from previous month #
4. Names for New Hire Approvals
Dexter Thayn CTE Teacher Emery High
Ashley Jeffs Mental Health Counselor Emery High
Betsy Winter Language Arts Teacher Green River High
Hunter Mortensen CTE Teacher Canyon View Middle
Kara Bigelow Language Arts Teacher Green River High
Courtne Whitten Cheer Coach Canyon View Middle
Dariyan Garcia Cheer Coach Canyon View Middle
Motion to approve the consent items was made.
Moved by: James Winn; seconded by: Neal Peacock

Carried

E) **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

1. FOCUS 2026 - ECSD Strategic Plan #
[Focus 2026 Proof 5.8.2026.pdf](#) 

Superintendent Shank presented the final Strategic Plan labeled 'FOCUS 2026'. This plan is the culmination of 18 months of coordinated efforts with the District staff and community participants. This framework articulates the District's mission, vision, and priorities - particularly those centered on student growth and development. At the heart of this work is the implementation of the Emery Portrait of a Graduate which is built upon 6 pillars: Critical Thinker, Effective Communication, Resilient, Personally Responsible, Strong Work Ethic, and Civics/Citizenship.

Appreciation was stated for the incredible work that has taken place with staff and community. A motion was made to approve FOCUS 2026 for the 26-27 school year.

Moved by: Royd Hatt; seconded by: James Winn

Carried

2. Fraud Risk Assessment

Jackie Allred presented the annual Fraud Risk Assessment that is mandated by the State Auditor's office. Emery District is ranked in the 'very low' risk level. This is attained by maintaining adequate separation of duties, financial policies, and annual trainings for staff and board members.

Motion was made to approve the Fraud Risk Assessment

Moved by: James Winn; seconded by: Todd Huntington

Carried

3. Capital Project for Green River High School Tennis/Pickleball Courts

With the lowest qualifying bid at \$1,184,236, it was recommended to approve PRT Builders to complete this project for Green River High's facilities. This project was funded partially by a Small District Rural Athletic grant. Lighting was added to the original scope. Another addition was for a backup generator funded by the HB61 safety grant. It is anticipated for completion by October 1, 2026.

Motion was made to approve PRT Builders for the GRHS Athletic Court construction project.

Moved by: Royd Hatt; seconded by: Neal Peacock

Carried

4. LEA Specific Licensing

Justin Thornley has been assigned as the CTE Director and requires an LEA Specific License for that portion of his job assignment.

Motion was made to approve the LEA specific license for Justin Thornley.

Moved by: Kenzi Guymon; seconded by: Royd Hatt

Carried.

5. Policies for Second Reading

[DJEE - Procurement of Construction - Construction Management Methods](#)

[PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[DJEDA - Procurement of Construction - Procurement of Design Professional Services PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[DJEAA - Procurement of Construction - Construction Bonds and Security PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[DJEI - Procurement Education Contractor Oversight PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[FE Student Record Proposed.docx](#)  Revised

[FHAD - Students with Disabilities Proposed.docx](#)  New

[FHAE Parent Notice PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[GBEE-Employee Personal and District Owned Device Use PROPOSED.docx](#)  Revised

[GBJA -Government Data Privacy Proposed.docx](#)  Revised

[IJL ECSD LIBRARY POLICY PROPOSED.docx](#)  Revised

[JICG - Smoking, Vaping, and Tobacco Use by Student PROPOSED.docx](#)  Revised

[JICKA - Emergency Safety Interventions Proposed.docx](#)  Revised

[JICKB - Student Conduct Proposed.docx](#)  New

[JJE - Fundraising and Donations PROPOSED.docx](#)  Revised

[JJEA - Fundraising and Donations Private and Non-School-Sponsored Activities and Fundraising PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

[JJJA – Student Activities Nonenrolled Students in extracurricular activities PROPOSED.docx](#)  Revised

[KBA - Educational Authority of Separated Parents PROPOSED.docx](#)  New

Motion was made to approve the policies as presented.

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Moved by: James Winn; seconded by: Todd Huntington

Carried

F) REPORTS

1. Principal

Bookcliff Elementary Principal Gaylene Erwin highlighted this year's theme 'Amplify Greatness'. Academic Growth remains the primary focus as the staff conducts PLC meetings (looking at student data) and Tier 1 instruction.

Math scores from this year's testing shows 20% increase in proficiency and Language Arts showed 12% increase.

Bookcliff's positive school climate stems from the student council's organized activities which correlate to their goals which have surpassed their original expectations. All of the students know that the school is focused on 'Honesty and Owning it'. The students have also made 1,000 flowers which will be placed on each grave at the Green River cemetery.

BCE's attendance was better this year, but still a concern with the K-2 grades. The students have been taught that they set their own goals by 'earning their learning'. Bookcliff's faculty and staff have partnered with their community families to enhance their ability to help their students' growth.

The faculty had lofty goals this year and was able to achieve higher than state average growth in two of the four scored areas.

2. Superintendent #

Supt Shank commented that a committee has created the required No Fee Pathway for graduation and will have the document ready for registration.

3. Business Administrator #

The update for the many summer capital outlay projects are as follows:

HVAC renovations at Cleveland, Cottonwood, and Huntington Elementaries are on schedule. All projects are large in scope and are scheduled to be finished before school resumes.

Complete Roofing projects at Canyon View and Green River High will also take most of the summer window to complete.

Carpet replacements will start at Bookcliff, San Rafael trailers and then Cleveland.

Maintenance and IT teams will be completing the hallway and plumbing renovations at Huntington Elementary.

4. Board Member Committee

Neal Peacock met with some citizens on district concerns. He also organized a Ghost Tour and raised \$1,000 which will provide a small memorial of the old EHS that will be displayed.

James Winn attended the USBA board conference. He mentioned that USBA will be moving the Master Board certification to Canvas.

Kenzi Guymon has been ill but is getting better. Royd Hatt attended the county commission meeting with most other board members as well as the BCE preschool program.

Byron Roundy has been getting graduation ready as Senior class President. This Spring, he has participated on the golf team. Todd Huntington met with the CRA last week where they discussed affordable housing, and coordinated with Utah Association of Counties to formulate policies.

G) PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments received.

H) CLOSED SESSION

Motion to move into closed session was made at 7:55 pm

Moved by: James Winn; seconded by: Royd Hatt

Aye: Royd Hatt, James Winn, Kenzi Guymon, Neal Peacock, and Todd Huntington

Motion Passes 5-0

Motion to return to open meeting was made at 8:30 pm

Moved by: Neal Peacock; seconded by: Royd Hatt

Aye: Royd Hatt, James Winn, Kenzi Guymon, Neal Peacock, and Todd Huntington

Motion Passes 5-0

I) ADJOURN

With no other items on the agenda, President Hatt adjourned the meeting.

Board President