



CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The following minutes are a summary of the May 19, 2026, Canyons Board of Education meeting.

To listen to the entire board meeting, including all comments made during the meeting, please go to Diligent Community at <https://canyonsdistrict.community.highbond.com/Portal/>

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a board meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, beginning at 5:30 pm at 9361 S 300 E, Sandy, UT 84070.

Those in attendance were:

Amber Shill, President
Amanda Oaks, Vice President
Andrew Edtl, Vice President
Katie Dahle, Board Member
Holly Neibaur Hayes, Board Member
Karen Pedersen, Board Member
Jackson Lewis, Board Member
Rick Robins, Retiring Superintendent
McKay Robinson, Superintendent
Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator
Daniel Harper, General Counsel
Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations

1. Closed Session – 5:30 pm

- A. For the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual
- B. For the purpose of discussing deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems.

MOTION: Katie Dahle moved to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and for the purpose of discussing deployment of security personnel, devise, or systems. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. *A role call vote was taken. 6 Yea (Mr. Lewis, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Shill, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Dahle, Ms. Pedersen) 1 Not Present (Ms. Neibaur Hayes) *A vote was taken. The motion carries.

*Persons in Attendance: All Board Members except Ms. Holly Neibaur Hayes, Leon Wilcox – Business Administrator, McKay Robinson - Superintendent, Charlie Evans - Director of External Relations, Mindy Robison – Assistant Superintendent, Tiffany Midgley – Director of Human Resources, Daniel Harper – General Counsel. Audio available on [Diligent Community](#)

2. Business Meeting – 7:00 pm

3. Opening Items

- A. Welcome
- B. Approve Agenda for May 19, 2026

MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to approve the agenda for May 19,2026, Amanda Oaks seconded the motion. 6 Yea (Mr. Lewis, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Shill, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Dahle, Ms. Pedersen) 1 Not Present (Ms. Neibaur Hayes) The motion passed unanimously. Audio available on [Diligent Community](#)

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Draper Park Middle, Principal Chip Watts
Audio available on [Diligent Community](#)

Mrs. Neibaur Hayes joined the meeting.

- D. School Highlights – Draper Park Middle, Principal Chip Watts
Audio available on [Diligent Community](#)

4. Canyons Strong Student Recognitions – Jeff Haney, Director, and Kirsten Stewart, Associate Director of Communications

The following students were recognized:

- State Championship at the National High School Shakespeare Competition
 - Hillcrest won their 10th State Championship
 - All 46 of Corner Canyons State competitors received Superior medals at this year's 6A State Championships and ended the competition 2nd overall. The Chargers also won first place in the one-act play category for "Fortress" and the Best Actress award in the one-act.
 - Alta and Brighton finished in the top 10 for 5A schools
 - Jordan High's theater team placed 4th overall at the 4A State Festival, with two first place category wins.
- Utah High School Musical Theater Awards
 - Hillcrests cast of "Phantom of the Opera" won for Best Technical crew and Prop design at the Utah High school Musical Theater Awards
 - Alta's cast of "Hadestown" also won best student sound design.
- Grace Christensen earned first place in Principles of Hospitality and Tourism at the DECA International Career Development Conference.
- U.S. News and World Report – All five high schools placed among Salt Lake's top 20
- Eastmont Patriots won the first ever Middle School Speech and Debate State Championship
- Olivia Mutchier and Leo Nugent have been named two of the 20 state finalists in the 26th annual "Do the Write Thing" Utah State Board of Education contest
- Charles Purdie, East Midvale Elementary's Safety Patrol was honored as the AAA safety patroller of the Year for AAA's Mountain West program.
- The Corner Canyon High girls track and field captured the 2026 6A State Championship title.
- Corner Canyon won the girls discus, girls 400 meter, 4x100 girls relay, 4x100 boys relay and the boys 4x200 relay.
- Brighton High boys team finished third overall, with a champion in the 100-meter hurdles.
- Alta claimed fourth place with two first-place finishes by Alta's Aidan Neal in the long-distance events and a 200-meter girls title win.
- Angi Holden was appointed Director of Canyons Middle School Principals
- Dr. Rick Robins was honored for his 30-year career in public education and as the leader of Canyons School District. Superintendent Robins will be officially retiring at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

Presentation available on [Diligent Community](#)

5. Patron Comments

The following patrons commented:

- Paul Weaver, ESP Association – Thank you
- Michael Adams – School Boundaries

- Stacie Zisakis – School FTE
- Jared Forsgren – School boundary Resources
- Neusha Nourmhammedi – Recycling
- Samantha Madey – School FTE
- Natalie Day – School FTE
- Aaron Hilton – School FTE
- Kelsie Roberts – School FTE
- Juliana Jackson – Bella Vista Closure
- Cassidy Ulrich – Quail Hollow Support
- Lisa Bezdjian – Quail Hollow
- Elysia Forsgren – School FTE
- Krista Pippin, CEA President – Negotiated Contract
- Cherie Sadowski – School Closures

Audio available on Diligent Community

6. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes for May 5, 2026
- Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- Approval of Purchasing Bids
- Approval of April Financial Reports
- Approval of Administrative Appointments
- Approval of Landtrust/TSSP Amendment for Quail Hollow Elementary

MOTION #1: Andrew Edtl moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item 7A Approval of Minutes for May 5, 2026; Item 7B Approval of Hire and Termination Reports; Item 7C Approval of Purchasing Bids; Item 7D Approval of April Financial Reports; Item 7F Approval of Landtrust/TSSP Amendment for Quail Hollow Elementary. Amanda Oaks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Documents and audio available on Diligent Community

MOTION #2: Amanda Oaks moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7E Approval of Administrative Appointments. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. *6 Yea: (Ms. Neibaur Hayes, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Shil, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Dahle, Ms. Pedersen) 1 Nay: (Mr. Edtl) The motion carries. Documents available on [Diligent Community](#)

There was discussion to the motion. Mr. Edtl stated his concern was about reallocating an Assistant Principal from Copperview Elementary with no replacement. *A vote was taken.

7. New Business

- Approval of Policy Update: Policy-100.01-Board Governance; New Policy-200.07-Disposition of Real Property; Policy-300.13-Data Privacy and Governance; New Policy-300.16-Cybersecurity; Policy-400.02-Nondiscrimination (Employees); Policy-400.10-Workers Compensation; Policy-400.42-Termination Employment (Administrative Personnel); Policy-500.01-Nondiscrimination (Students); Policy-500.02-Student Conduct and Disciplinary Process; Policy-500.22-School Fees; Policy-500.24-Student Educational Travel; Policy-500.30-Open Enrollment, School Admission, School Moratoriums; Policy-600.01-Graduation Requirements; Policy-600.02-Instructional Materials; New Policy—600.07-Focused Graduation Pathway; Policy-600.16-Study of Controversial Issues (Second Reading, Possible Action) – Jeffrey Christensen, Assistant Legal Counsel

Mr. Christensen briefly reviewed policies that were discussed at the first reading at the Board meeting on May 5, 2026.

MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to approve Policy-100.01-Board Governance; New Policy-200.07-Disposition of Real Property; Policy-300.13-Data Privacy and Governance; New

Policy-300.16-Cybersecurity; Policy-400.02-Nondiscrimination (Employees); Policy-400.10-Workers Compensation; Policy-400.42-Termination Employment (Administrative Personnel); Policy-500.01-Nondiscrimination (Students); Policy-500.02-Student Conduct and Disciplinary Process; Policy-500.22-School Fees; Policy-500.24-Student Educational Travel; Policy-500.30-Open Enrollment, School Admission, School Moratoriums; Policy-600.01-Graduation Requirements; Policy-600.02-Instructional Materials; New Policy—600.07-Focused Graduation Pathway; Policy-600.16-Study of Controversial Issues. Holly Neibaur Hayes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Documents available on [Diligent Community](#)

- B. Approval of 2026-27 Canyons Education Association Negotiated Agreement (Action Requested) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

Mr. Wilcox reviewed insurance and employee leave, which are a part of each of the negotiated agreements with Canyons Education Association (CEA), Canyons Educational Support Professionals Association (CESPA) and Canyons Administrators. An increase in the cost of health insurance premiums for all plans will increase by \$1,398,000. The District will cover \$1,117,000 and employees will cover the remaining \$281,000. This represents a 5.0% increase in employee premiums and 3.6% for the District portion. The District will still cover 89.1% of the total premium for those on the High-Deductible plans and 77.3% for those on the Traditional Plans. All deductibles, copays and out-of-pocket maximums will remain the same. The premium increase will go into effect starting January 1, 2027.

410.04 – Employee Leave (Licensed) “Foster Leave” has been added, providing eligible employees with up to 20 paid contract workdays within six months following the placement of a foster child. The use of intermittent Sick Bank leave has been clarified to state that medically documented intermittent leave may only be granted for the continued treatment of the employee’s qualifying catastrophic or life-threatening illness and/or injury. (Applies to CEA, CESPA and Administrators)

The negotiated agreement with CEA for 2026-2027 will fund 1.856% cost of living increase (COLA) calculated on step 20 of the Licensed salary schedule minus the ESA and TSSA state funded amounts. The cost for the COLA is a \$3,267,000 increase from the 2025-2026 base salary. The 1.5% or \$1,942,00 of the COLA will move forward beginning July 1, 2026. The remaining 0.75%, or \$1,325,000, will be subject to the approval of the tax increase at the Truth-in-Taxation hearing to be held in August.

If the tax increase is approved each teacher will receive a \$2,575 increase (\$950 increment increase, \$1314 COLA increase and \$311 ESA increase) and the starting salary will be \$65,825. This increase represents a 3.25% increase from the average teacher salary in 2025-26 If the tax increase is not approved each teacher will receive a \$2,040 increase (\$950 increment, \$779 COLA, \$211 ESA) this would represent a 2.6% increase for the average teacher salary and the starting salary will be \$65,290.

Education enhancements will continue to be funded at an expected cost of \$304,000.

The 32 hours of paid professional hours funded by the State will continue and will be compensated at the employee’s hourly rate. The \$1,000 stipend for Title One teachers will continue and be paid on the September and April payrolls.

MOTION: Holly Neibaur Hayes moved to approve 2026-27 Canyons Education Association Negotiated Agreement. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Documents available on [Diligent Community](#)

- C. Approval of 2026-27 Canyons Educational Support Professionals Association Negotiated Agreement (Action Requested) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

The insurance agreement and foster leave will be the same as the CEA agreement. The District will still cover 90.9% of the total premium for ESP employees on the High-deductible plans and 80.9% for those on the Traditional Plans.

The District will fully fund increment steps for eligible employees. A Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.25%% will be added to the base of the Education Support Professional (ESP) salary schedule. A new starting wage on lane 1, step 4 will be \$16.05 per hour, allowing the District better opportunities to attract and retain ESP hourly employees. The 1.5% or \$1,262,000 of the COLA will move forward beginning July 1, 2026. The remaining 0.75%, or \$631,000, will be subject to the approval of the tax increase at the Truth-in-Taxation hearing to be held in August.

A one-time \$750 stipend payment will be issued for all contracted employees on step 10 for the 2025-2026 contract year. Hourly employees on step 10 during 2025-26 contract year will receive a \$200 stipend regardless of FTE status. The District will fund the \$750 stipend for contracted employees, prorated based on their FTE status in Skyward as of September 1, 2026. The stipend will be paid on the November 30, 2026, pay date.

The shift differential for graveyard will increase from \$1.50 to \$3.00 to encourage assistant custodians at high schools to work after nighttime activities.

MOTION: Holly Neibaur Hayes moved to approve 2026-27 Canyons Educational Support Professionals Association Negotiated Agreement. Jackson Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Documents available on [Diligent Community](#)

- D. Approval of 2026-27 Compensation Package for Canyons School District Administrators (Action Requested) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

The insurance agreement and foster leave will be the same as the CEA agreement. The District will cover 89.1% of the total premium for administrative employees on the High-Deductible plans and 77.3% for those on the Traditional Plans.

The negotiated agreement for 2026-2027 Compensation Package for Canyons School District Administrators includes a fully funded increment steps for eligible administrators, a 2.25% Cost of Living increase (COLA) to the base of the salary schedule, and a 1.25% one-time stipend for administrators on the top step during the 2025-26 contract year. A 1.5%, or \$411,000 of the COLA will move forward beginning July 1, 2026. The remaining 0.75%, or \$205,000, will be subject to the approval of the Truth-in-Taxation hearing to be held in August.

MOTION: Holly Neibaur Hayes moved to approve 2026-27 Canyons Educational Support Professionals Association Negotiated Agreement. Jackson Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Documents available on [Diligent Community](#)

- E. 2026-27 Budget Update – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator
 - i. Proposed intent property tax increase statement and tax impact schedule:
 - 1. Statement to exceed certified tax rate
 - 2. Approximate amount of increase will be \$6,871,000
 - 3. Approximate percentage of increase will be 5.8%
 - ii. Capital Projects Update

Mr. Wilcox made the following statement “The 2026-2027 Tentative Budget for Canyons School District includes a proposed tax rate increase. The increase will be for approximately \$6,871,000. The percentage increase will be approximately 5.8%. The Truth-In-Taxation hearing will be held on August 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the District Offices.” The Tax impact schedule was provided on [Diligent Community](#) and hardcopy handouts were provided at the meeting. The fund would be allocated as follows: \$2,161,00 will be used for a 0.75% COLA increase for all employees, \$210,000 will be used to hire two teachers at the Canyons Innovation Center (CIC), and \$4,500,000 will increase the Capital Fund for general obligation debt with a decrease offset of the same amount from the Debt Service Fund. The average increase to a homeowner would be approximately \$32.85 in taxes owed after the debt rate is reduced.

Tax increase revenue is required to be held in a restricted account in the General fund. There will be a request for the Board to approve a committed fund balance at the June 2, 2026, board meeting. The funds may not be spent until after the August 4, 2026, tax hearing. The employee negotiated agreements are included and if the tax increase passes the employee pay will be retroactive.

A total budget for all funds will be \$610M and a draft of 2026-2027 Budget statements are available on [Diligent Community](#).

Highlights from the 2026 Legislative Session included a 4.2% WPU increase, an Educator Salary Adjustment increase, Land Trust funding increase, and literacy interventions for the new SB241. TSSA will decrease and digital Teaching and Learning will be eliminated.

An increase for lunch prices occurred for the 2020-21 school year but did not go into effect until the 2022-2023 school year since lunch was subsidized by federal government during Covid. Due to the inflationary costs for labor and food, elementary and secondary breakfast costs are proposed to increase by \$1.00. Elementary lunch is proposed to increase by \$0.50 and secondary lunch by \$0.75.

Mr. Wilcox highlighted the pass-through taxes fund, the CSD General Obligation Bonds, and Outstanding Lease Revenue Bonds. He reviewed the total debt combined with and without possible issuances in 2028 and 2029.

Major Capital projects include the Innovation Center, Jordan High and Eastmont Middle schools. The Small Capital projects were reviewed.

Presentation and documents available on [Diligent Community](#).

8. Staff Comments

- A. Superintendent Report
Audio Available on [Diligent Community](#)

- B. Business Administrator Report
Audio Available on [Diligent Community](#)

9. Board Comments

- A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports
Audio Available on [Diligent Community](#)

10. Closing Items

- A. Adjourn – 9:56 p.m.

/cc

ATTEST

_____ Board President
Amber Shill

_____ Superintendent
McKay Robinson