

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

The meeting was conducted in electronic format.

Members Present: Cindy Davis, Cole Kelley, Randy Boothe, Christina Boggess, and Matt Hymas (MH) – present unless noted.

Committee Staff: Scott Jones, Deborah Jacobson, and Cammy Wilcox.

Others Present: Sam Urie, Jared Felt, Aaron Brough, Alyssa Roseman, Burke Sears, Courtney England, Dale Frost, Elisse Newey, Garrett Russell, Greg Connell, John Palmer, Lenard Brooks, Liz Banner, Mark Waddoups, Michelle Knight, Tami Gear, Todd Hauber, Paula Plant, Noralee Green, Melissa Preziosi, Tim Davis, Rebecca Nielsen, Tanya Albornoz, Benji Carrier, Gina Smith, Christelle Estrada, Kendra Muir, Wendi Morton, Scott Crapo, Winona Moss, Terrakay Bodily, Megan Menlove, and Jerry Record.

Committee Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

USBE Staff Highlights:

- Lenard Brooks, Senior IT Manager, Information Technology
- Burke Sears, Senior IT Manager, Information Technology

Public Comment:

Item 1.3, R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program (Amendment):

- Adam Robinson, South Summit School District Business Administrator, Statement
- Royce Van Tassel, Utah Association of Public Charter Schools Executive Director

Item 1.6, Spectrum Academy and Special Education Funding Formulas:

- Courtney England, Spectrum Academy Executive Director of Finance

3.2 R277-477, Distribution of Funds from the Trust Distribution Account and Administration of the School LAND Trust Program (Amendment & Continuation)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments and continuation of R277-477, Distribution of Funds from the Trust Distribution Account and Administration of the School LAND Trust Program. The amendments update provisions related to fund allocations under the rule as part of the rule's five-year review process.

Staff presented R277-477, Distribution of Funds from the Trust Distribution Account and Administration of the School LAND Trust Program, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401](#); [53F-2-404](#)

Committee Action:**Member Hymas Motion:**

That the Committee continue and approve R277-477, Distribution of Funds from the Trust Distribution Account and Administration of the School LAND Trust Program, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for continuation and approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed unanimously

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board continue and approve R277-477, Distribution of Funds from the Trust Distribution Account and Administration of the School LAND Trust Program, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

3.3 R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, to revise definitions and remove language duplicative of existing code requirements.

Staff presented R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53F-4-510](#); [53F-4-514](#); [53E-3-401](#)

Committee Action:**Member Davis Motion:**

The Committee requests that R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program, Draft 1, return to the June Committee to consider public comment.

Motion: Passed unanimously

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board

3.4 Request for Use of Utah State Board of Education Discretionary funds for Development of Playground Equipment

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed a request to use Federal Mineral Lease (FML) funding for all-abilities playground equipment at Bluff Ridge Elementary School in Davis School District. The proposal is intended to support accessible and inclusive play opportunities for students with disabilities. Following discussion at the April 2026 meeting, the Committee requested additional research

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

and supporting information. Updated information was provided for the Committee's continued consideration.

Committee Direction: The Committee requested clarification regarding whether the purchase of playground equipment is consistent with Utah Code and whether the school had already used its FML funds.

Member Kelley Motion:

The Committee recommends that the Board approve the use of \$120,000 of Federal Mineral Lease (FML) funding for this research project, contingent upon presentation of a formal legal opinion at the June Board meeting.

Motion: Passed 3-2 with Members Kelley, Davis, and Boothe in favor and Members Hymas and Boggess opposed.

Member Davis Motion:

The Committee requests a formal legal opinion to be presented at June Board meeting.

Motion: Passed 4-1 with Members Kelley, Davis, Boothe, and Boggess in favor and Member Hymas opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approves the use of \$120,000 of Federal Mineral Lease (FML) funding for this project, contingent upon presentation of a formal legal opinion at the June Board meeting.

3.5 Request for Use of FY2027 Funds from the Board's Budget for Board Member Regional Meetings

Committee Discussion: Chair Davis indicated that the request had been withdrawn by the sponsoring Board member. No action was taken by the Committee on this agenda item.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board.

3.6 Spectrum Academy and Special Education Funding Formulas

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed the impacts of R277-479, Funding for Charter School Students with Disabilities on an IEP, related to Spectrum Academy's planned expansion to a satellite campus in St. George beginning in FY28. Spectrum Academy is currently exempt from portions of the rule due to its high percentage of students with IEPs. At the April 2026 Finance Committee meeting, the Committee discussed potential impacts and options moving forward and directed that the item return to the May meeting as an action item for further

May 8, 2026



consideration.

Member Davis Motion:

The Committee recommends that the Board seeks a legislative change to create an additional SpEd formula to add 1.5 WPU per SpEd ADM for LEAs for schools with more than 70% SpEd ADM.

Motion: Passed with Members Davis, Kelley, Boggess, and Boothe in favor and Member Hymas abstaining.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board seeks a legislative change to create an additional SpEd formula to add 1.5 WPU per SpEd ADM for LEAs for schools with more than 70% SpEd ADM.

3.7 Decision Regarding Property Tax Working Group

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed the status of the Property Tax Working Group created by Board motion on November 6, 2025, to review issues related to local levies, truth in taxation, and transparency. Due to staff capacity limitations during the legislative session, the working group has not yet been formed. The Committee also discussed legislative changes made during the 2026 General Session related to property tax transparency and local levy processes. Following discussion at the April 2026 meeting, the Committee directed that the item return to the May meeting as an action item for further consideration regarding the future of the working group.

Member Davis Motion:

That the committee asks staff to bring back information and feedback from the field on the potential of aligning school district tax collection calendars with the tax commission calendars.

Motion: Passed unanimously.

Member Davis Motion:

The Committee recommends that the Board suspend the Property Tax working group created by Board motion November 6, 2025.

Motion: Passed 4-1 with Members Davis, Hymas, Boggess, and Boothe in favor and Member Kelley opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board suspend the Property Tax working group created by Board motion November 6, 2025.

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

3.8 R277-625, Mental Health Screeners (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-625, Mental Health Screeners, to align the rule with changes made during the 2026 General Session through S.B. 2. The amendments revise provisions related to Mental Health Screener funding distributions and remove previous distribution requirements from the rule.

Staff presented R277-625, Mental Health Screeners, Draft 2, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53F-2-522](#)

Member Boothe Motion:

That the Committee approve R277-625, Mental Health Screeners, Draft 2, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed 3-1 with Members Kelley, Davis, and Boothe in favor and Member Boggess opposed. - MH absent.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approves R277-625, Mental Health Screeners, Draft 2, on second and final reading.

3.9 R277-916, College and Career Awareness (Repeal)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed the repeal of R277-916, College and Career Awareness, following legislative changes made during the 2026 General Session. Remaining requirements related to the program are proposed to be incorporated into R277-911, making R277-916 unnecessary as a separate rule.

Staff presented R277-916, College and Career Awareness, repeal, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53E-3-507](#); [53F-2-311](#)

Member Boothe Motion:

That the Committee repeal R277-916, College and Career Awareness, on first reading and recommend the Board repeal the rule on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed unanimously. - MH absent.

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board repeal R277-916, College and Career Awareness, on second and final reading.

3.10 **R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education (Amendment)**

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, to align the rule with changes made during the 2026 General Session. The amendments update provisions related to Career and Technical Education funding, College and Career Awareness funding, CTE leadership organizations, and technical center requirements.

Staff presented R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-507](#); [53F-2-311](#); [53G-6-708](#)

Member Boothe Motion:

That the Committee approve R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed 4-1 with Members Kelley, Davis, Hymas, and Boothe in favor and Member Boggess opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-911, Secondary Career and Technical Education, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

3.11 **R277-407, School Fees (Amendment & Continuation)**

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments and continuation of R277-407, School Fees. The amendments update the rule to align with legislation passed during the 2026 General Session related to scholarship student fees and fee waiver requirements.

Staff presented R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 2](#); [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53G-7-503](#)

Staff Direction: The Committee directed staff to begin developing a potential legislative request related to clarification of the school fee waiver cap and the permanent injunction, to be brought back to the Committee in June. Staff indicated

May 8, 2026



they would wait to contact the legislative sponsor until after the full Board discussion but would provide advance notice that the Board is discussing the need for clarification regarding the school fee waiver cap and related code provisions.

Member Hymas Motion:

That the Committee continue and approve R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for continuation and approval on second and final reading with a legal opinion to be shared in full Board and a request for clarity in code.

Motion: Passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board continue and approve R277-407, School Fees, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

3.12 R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students Learning English, to align the rule with changes made during the 2026 General Session. The amendments update provisions related to emergency funding eligibility and reporting requirements for students learning English.

Staff presented R277-632, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Article X, Section 3](#); [53F-2-314](#)

Member Kelley Motion:

That the Committee approve R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students learning English, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed 4-1 with Members Kelley, Davis, Hymas, and Boothe in favor and Member Boggess opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-632, Funding for At-Risk Students and Students learning English, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

3.13 R277-634, Grants and Scholarships (New)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed new rule R277-634, Grants and Scholarships, created to administer the new Cardiac Emergency

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

Response Plan (CERP) grant program and Citizenship Scholarship Program established during the 2026 General Session. The rule outlines application procedures, eligibility requirements, and program administration. Staff presented R277-634, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Staff presented R277-634, Grants and Scholarships, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 53G-9-216; 53H-11-416, 53E-3-401(4), and Utah Constitution, Article X, Section 3.

Member Kelley Motion:

That the Committee approve R277-634, Grants and Scholarships, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-634, Grants and Scholarships, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

3.14 R277-100, Definitions for Utah State Board of Education Rules (Amendment)

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-100, Definitions for Utah State Board of Education Rules, to align definitions with changes made during the 2026 General Session, including S.B. 58, Public School Attendance Amendments. The updates are intended to ensure consistency across multiple Board rules.

Staff presented R277-100, Definitions for Utah State Board of Education Rules, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#)

Member Kelley Motion:

That the Committee approves R277-100, Definitions for Utah State Board of Education Rules, Draft 1, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion: Passed 4-1 with Members Kelley, Davis, Hymas, and Boothe in favor and Member Boggess opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approves R277-100, Definitions for Utah State Board of Education Rules, Draft 1, on second and final reading.

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

3.15 R277-419, Pupil Accounting (Amendment & Continuation) - Moved to a Special Meeting

Committee Discussion: The Committee discussed proposed amendments to R277-419, Pupil Accounting, related to changes made during the 2026 General Session, including S.B. 58 and H.B. 358. Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on a special Finance Committee agenda for further consideration.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board.

3.16 R277-607, Absenteeism and Truancy Prevention (Amendment) - Moved to a Special Meeting

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on a special Finance Committee agenda for further consideration.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board.

3.17 R277-484, Data Standards (Amendment) - Moved to a Special Meeting

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on a special Finance Committee agenda for further consideration.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board.

3.18 School Children's Trust Quarterly Report

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.19 UTREx Specification Updates

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.20 FY25 LEA Financial Audit Findings

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.21 Recognition of Progress, Achievements, or Improvements

May 8, 2026

Utah State Board of Education

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.21.1 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on USIMS

Committee Information: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.21.2 INFORMATION: Program Monthly Report (PMR) on Utah Grants

Committee Information: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.22 FY27 Legislative Estimates (Minimum School Program)

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration.

3.23 2027 Legislative Funding Request Information

Committee Discussion: Due to time constraints, the item was not completed and will be included on another agenda for further consideration. The Committee requested this item come back as an action item, instead of information, for the next committee meeting discussion.

Committee Direction: The Committee asked staff to send a Doodle poll to committee members to schedule an additional Finance Committee meeting in May to address the remaining action items.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.