

MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION – May 14, 2026

The Board of Education of the Aspen Peaks School District met in a study session on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 4:02 pm. The study session took place in the boardroom at the Alpine School District office in American Fork, UT.

Board members present: Board President Diane Knight, Vice President Amber Bonner, Nicki Brammer, Jeanne-Marie Burrows, Jason Hart, and Jason Theler. Board member Steve Sparti was absent.

Also present: Superintendent Perkins and Business Administrator Bea Twede. There were approximately 5 others in attendance.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Curriculum Coaches - Director of Curriculum K-6, Sam Rencher and Director of Educational Services, Vallen Thomas presented
 - Coaches & Content Area Specialists - KEY to Implementation
 - Strengthen implementation of high-impact instructional practices through the PLC Process
 - Ensure consistency and fidelity of Tier 1 instruction across classrooms
 - Provide ongoing and job-embedded support for teachers
 - Supported teachers in translating professional learning into daily practice
 - Improved collaboration around instructional strategies and student learning using the PLC Process
 - Helped build sustainable instructional capacity within schools
 - Increased teacher confidence, reflection, and responsiveness to student needs
 - Many different types of coaches - all of their goals = ALL students learn at high levels
 - Elementary PLC Coach
 - K-12 Innovative Learning Coach
 - Secondary PLC Coach
 - Secondary Instructional Coach
 - Who Owns the Responsibility to...
 - Enact the PLC Cycle = Collaborative Team
 - Ensure the Tight of a PLC = School Leadership Team
 - Establish the Expectation of PLC Practice = District Leadership Team, Supervisors, Principals
 - Lead the Collaborative Team = CTLs
 - Coach the PLC Cycle = Coaches
 - The purpose of academic coaching is to:
 - Implement systematic change
 - Facilitate teacher and team improvement
 - PLC Coaches' Roles and Responsibilities
 - Ensure high levels of learning for ALL students
 - When teachers thrive, students thrive
 - Partner with district personnel, principals, and teachers to bring the best practices into the classroom that help ENSURE HIGH LEVELS OF LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS
 - ILC - Innovative Learning Coaches
 - Use technology, data and other innovative practices in realizing the Alpine Vision for Learning
 - Bridge technical magic with classroom magic
 - Work in multiple schools
 - ML - Multilingual Coaches
 - Connect community to the resources that the school has that can help our ML population
 - Planning, data, professional development and collaboration
 - WIDA testing

- 1 ML coach in Aspen Peaks boundary this year, there will be 2 next year
- Most of ASD ML coaches are in Title 1 schools
- ML coaches are for ALL languages
- When did ASD start using coaches? - about 12 years ago
- What is the training for all of our coaches?
 - Monthly training meetings
 - Train with content area specialist
 - Instructional Academy through district and BYU Partnership
- K-12 Content Area Specialists (TSAs)
 - Expertise
 - Curriculum Alignment
 - Professional Learning and Instructional Support
 - Collaboration and Program Support
 - Assessment and Data
 - Continuous Improvement and Innovation
 - Student Success for ALL
 - Around 30 elementary specialists
- Secondary Content Specialists (TSAs)
 - 9 secondary specialists
 - Curriculum Alignment and Expertise
 - Professional Learning Design
 - Tier 1 & Deep Learning Practices
 - Collaboration & Coaching
 - Assessment & Evidence of Learning
 - Teacher Support & Collaboration
 - Differentiation & Inclusion
 - Teacher Leadership Development
 - Continuous Growth & Collaboration
 - Equity & Student Advocacy
- Literacy Team Responsibilities
 - Accounts
 - Assessments
 - Department Collaboration
 - Data
 - School Support
 - Professional Development, Training & Support
 - NWEA
 - LETRS
 - Endorsement
 - Read 180 and Code
 - Student Led Writing Centers

What is a good number for Aspen Peaks to have?

- Secondary - 4 content specialists
 - Math
 - Literacy
 - Science
 - Speciality
- Elementary - 4 content specialists
 - Math
 - Literacy
 - Science
 - Specialty - art, PE, computers
- Professional Development vs. Professional Learning implementation

2. Mission, Vision discussion

- It has been a pleasure to visit schools and hear feedback from our patrons and employees.
- We are going to continue with those visits and get feedback and thoughts from them on ways we can improve.
- Primary Children's Hospital signage - "THE CHILD FIRST AND ALWAYS"
 - Board Exercise - write single/one word a FEELING, ACTION OR RESULT, that must happen for every student in Aspen Peaks everyday.
 - Joy
 - Connect - 8
 - Growth - 11
 - Engaged - 9
 - Positive
 - Empowered - 3
 - Achieve - 3
 - Included - 4
 - Safety - 3
 - Sharing
 - Magic
 - Seen
 - Unlimited
 - Build - 3
 - Improvement
 - Caring/Love - 2
 - Needed
 - Wanted
 - Partnership
 - Energy
 - Stretch
 - Curiosity/Wonder
 - Reward
 - Learning - 6
 - Contributor
 - Look at the above word list and make a 3-word phrase that includes one of the words in the list
 - Connect - Engage - Achieve
 - Connect - Create - Climb
 - Sparking curious learning
 - Stretching wondrous minds
 - Partners in energetic growth
 - Empowering growth through connection
 - Wonder and joy
 - Empowered by learning
 - Building the magic
 - Connecting and contributing
 - Empowered learning and growth
 - Finding the joy
 - Continuously growing
 - All students everyday

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.