

NORTH SANPETE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
May 19, 2026

Minutes for the Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, May 19, 2026, began at 6:05 p.m. at the North Sanpete High School. President Richard Brotherson conducted the meeting and led the pledge. Joseph Cook offered the prayer. Board members in attendance were President Richard Brotherson, Vice President Jeremy Madsen, Greg Bailey, Stacey Goble and Joseph Cook. Others in attendance were Superintendent O'Dee Hansen, Assistant Superintendent Rena Orton, Business Administrators Koby Willis and Rickie Stewart, Accountant Bryce Warby, Secretary Mindy Ames, Principals Christy Straatman, Ryan Syme, Stacey Peterson, Allynne Mower, Robyn Cox, Natalie Stansfield, John Thomas, Steve Solen and UEA Representative Cindy Johansen. Others in attendance were Melba Jacobson, Kate Stevens, Jenny Bailey, Jessica Howard, Hilmer Howard, Brandon Howard, Jeff Pack, Whitley Johnson, Jenny Johnson, Chloe Johnson, Bailey Feltch, Robb Feltch, Bailee Mayo, Clay Cornwall, Kortlyn Brotherson, Kaitlin Jenkins, Brett Stewart, Burk Stewart, Rylee Stewart, Richard Tree, Kathy Dimick, Heidi Johnson, Megan Child, Kerry Coates, Dawn Coates, Rebekka Coates, Megan Andreasen, Kami Walker, Matt Porter, Anna King, Dallan Sagers and Lisa Sagers.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Madsen celebrated the Fairview Dance Review and the Music, Theatre and Journalism students/program at the high school.

Mr. Bailey recognized the Fountain Green May Day performance and Jaime Withers, and what a great asset she is to our district.

Mrs. Goble recognized the Scholarship Committee and the amount of scholarships raised and given in our district - over \$50,000.00

Mr. Cook celebrated the Moroni Dance Festival. He recognized the softball team and the hard fought payoffs. He also recognized Jaime Withers, weight-lifting champions and the coaches and participants. He also held a moment of silence for Dixon Farley.

Mrs. Straatman recognized the scholarships given and raised and the counselors for all their work in getting them.

Mr. Syme celebrated the delightful place the middle school is and the fun the students bring. Including a chicken the last week of school. He recognized the 8th graders and he knows they will do great things next year at the high school.

Miss Johansen recognized the 8th graders and the wonderful co-workers they have at the middle school and how they look out for each other and the safety and community they provide for each other.

Mr. Willis celebrated that Bryce and Rena were able to get a grant for \$25,000 and how the state transportation person is very impressed with our district and that we are ranked #1 in the state. He thanked everyone for being so kind and great to work with for his time in the district.

Mrs. Orton recognized Sarah Mitchell and all the time and years she has worked in the district. She recognized the time and effort that is put into the elementary track meet and what a great thing it is. She recognized all in the district who work here and all they do to make it successful.

Mr. Hansen recognized Koby and the work he has done while here. Recognized the track meet and all those who helped with that. Recognized all of our educators, including support staff - everyone does such a great job and is appreciated.

Mr. Brotherson recognized the Class of 2026 - Congratulations on a job well done.

OATH OF OFFICE

New Business Administrator Rickie Stewart was sworn in by Koby Willis.

EDUCATION SUPPORT PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR

Fairview Elementary - Jessica Howard
Fountain Green Elementary - Heidi Johnson
Mt. Pleasant Elementary - Baily Felch
Moroni Elementary - Chloe Johnson
Spring City Elementary - Megan Child
North Sanpete Middle School - Jeff Pack
North Sanpete High School - Matt Porter
Pleasant Creek School - Anna King
Transportation - Rebekka Coates
District Substitute of the Year - Kate Stevens

District Education Support Personnel of the Year - Rebekka Coates

SCHOOL REPORT

Kami Walker, School Psychologist presented on TBRI and Dyslexia intervention in the district and provided data and information about continuing with SLANT and other literacy curricula that address the 7 components of reading and implementing the AIM(Alexander Integrated Method) Train-the-Trainer program. This would require all

kindergarten teachers, elementary SPED teachers, and selected staff be trained in the AIM program. Screening of ALL kindergarten students and form groups based on screening data. Implement 10-15 min AIM daily in a large group and 20-30 min in a small group in all kindergarten classrooms. Cost would be \$43,000 estimated for 25 staff members (kindergarten, SPED teachers, and TA's).

FFA Student Officers Bailee Mayo (President), Kortlyn Brotherson (Vice President), and Clay Cornwall (Sentinel) presented a travel request on behalf of the chapter. They explained that attending the conference would provide leadership development opportunities through workshops focused on life skills, goal setting, and personal growth. They stated that the experience would benefit both the participating students and the chapter as a whole and help support continued program growth. The group attending would consist primarily of juniors and seniors, with the possibility of one sophomore participating.

The officers also discussed plans to help offset travel costs. They reported that a fundraiser in partnership with Bar W Meats is planned, with a goal of raising approximately \$750 per student. They also noted that support from the district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, through Mark Anderson, has helped reduce the overall cost of the trip.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goble and seconded by Mr. Madsen to approve the FFA travel request to the national convention. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Principal Solen presented to the board about Pleasant Creek School.

Pleasant Creek School (PCS) is the alternative high school for the North Sanpete School District, located at 111 East 100 South, Mount Pleasant, Utah. Established in 2015, PCS serves Youth in Care (YIC), at-risk students, and adult learners through an Adult Education Program.

The school's mission is to provide credit recovery toward graduation using a variety of teaching styles and educational platforms, with a vision to aid students in developing self-motivation, independence, and discipline to become valuable contributors to society.

PCS operates three YIC homes throughout the North Sanpete School District, as well as one alternative classroom known as SOAR, which serves at-risk students identified by North Sanpete High School counselors based on attendance, behavior, and credit deficiency.

PCS is not an open-enrollment institution — students are admitted through a referral process, and each student receives an individualized education plan based on their needs and goals.

This Year's Major Achievements

1. **Cognia Accreditation** Pleasant Creek School successfully completed the Cognia Accreditation process this year — a rigorous national accreditation that evaluates schools on quality standards, continuous improvement, and student outcomes. PCS passed with only one stipulation, a remarkable achievement for an alternative school serving high-need populations.
2. **Projected Graduation Rate: 80%** This year, Pleasant Creek School is projecting an 80% graduation rate — a strong outcome for an alternative school specifically designed to serve students who have struggled in traditional settings. This speaks directly to the school's mission of credit recovery and individualized support.
3. **Record ACT Participation** More students at Pleasant Creek School took the ACT this year than ever before in the school's history. This milestone reflects a growing culture of college and career readiness at PCS, pushing students to think beyond their immediate circumstances and toward future opportunities.
4. **Adult Education Program Success** The Adult Education Program had one of its strongest years on record:
 - 5 graduates earned their high school diplomas
 - 3 students completed their GEDThe Adult Education program holds evening sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays, serving community members who need a pathway to a diploma outside of traditional school hours.
5. **New Policy Implementation** — Online Program and SOAR Pleasant Creek School successfully developed and implemented new policies for both the online learning program and the SOAR program this year. These policies are designed to improve consistency, accountability, and student outcomes across both programs — laying a stronger foundation for future growth.
6. **Guest Speakers and Community Engagement** PCS hosted multiple guest speakers throughout the year, bringing in outside voices to inspire and challenge students. A highlight of the year was the first-ever concert at Pleasant Creek School, featuring local rappers who have personally gone through recovery and now actively work with the recovery community. This event was a powerful and unique experience — bridging art, lived experience, and hope in a way that resonated deeply with the student population PCS serves.
7. **Senior Retention** Of the senior class, only 2 students were lost this year after transferring out — and their destinations are currently unknown. This low attrition number reflects the strong relationships and support systems built at PCS that keep students engaged and on track.
8. **World Record Statue Project** Pleasant Creek School is in the early stages of an ambitious, multi-year project to design and build a 20-foot-tall custom 3D statue with the goal of breaking a world record. What makes this project especially meaningful is that it is 100% designed by past and present PCS students — a testament to the creativity, pride, and investment students have in their school and community.

Who PCS Serves: The school operates in a rural area with limited financial resources. PCS's first priority is helping students obtain a high school diploma and engage them in a future beyond their time at Pleasant Creek.

Key Themes to Highlight

- **Growth:** Record ACT participation, adult education completions, and a strong projected graduation rate
- **Credibility:** Cognia Accreditation validates PCS's quality on a national level
- **Community:** The concert and guest speakers show PCS goes beyond academics to meet students where they are
- **Stability:** New policies in SOAR and online programs set PCS up for continued success
- **Legacy:** The student-designed world record statue project reflects long-term vision and student ownership

Principal Solen brought up the online program and how it has worked better in the past but this year it has struggled. They want to change the attendance policy to help students to stay on top of the requirements and not fall behind.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Tree addressed the Board regarding the future of public education and the district. He expressed appreciation for district staff and recent celebrations but shared concerns related to declining enrollment, student bullying, and public confidence in education. He encouraged the district to examine ways to strengthen community support for public education and develop a clear educational philosophy.

Mr. Tree stated that teachers are overworked and underpaid and emphasized that he does not believe teachers are the source of the district's challenges. He referenced district spending per student and questioned whether staffing levels outside the classroom should be reviewed. District administrators explained that per-pupil spending is impacted by facility costs and that smaller rural districts do not benefit from the economies of scale available to larger districts.

Mr. Tree encouraged the Board and administration to evaluate all aspects of district operations and focus resources on supporting teachers and student success.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes for the April 21st and May 5th, 2026, board meetings were presented to the board for approval.

Mr. Willis responded to comments made during public participation regarding public education and district operations. He expressed his belief that public education provides

opportunities for all students regardless of background and stated that North Sanpete School District offers a wide range of educational opportunities for students.

Business Administrator Willis presented:

1. Financial Reports
2. Transportation Budget - Mr. Willis reported that, based on comparisons with other districts and information from the Utah State Pupil Transportation Specialist, North Sanpete School District is the most efficient transportation operation in the state. He stated that the district's transportation department operates above the state average in efficiency, maintains a low cost per mile, and has received no violations during Utah Highway Patrol inspections over the past four years. He noted that these results reflect the effectiveness of the district's maintenance and preventative maintenance programs.
3. FY27 Preliminary Budget Discussion
4. A proposed 3% salary increase for negotiated employee groups and the district's current funding outlook. The proposed addition of Step 30/Lane 33 to the salary schedule was also discussed and will be considered prior to the adoption of the final budget.
5. Discussion was also held regarding providing district directors with opportunities to report to the Board in a manner similar to school principals.
6. Mr. Willis reviewed the timeline and requirements associated with the Truth-in-Taxation process. He explained that a separate public hearing would be required and discussed scheduling considerations to meet statutory notice requirements.
7. Statement from the budget officer regarding a proposed tax rate increase pending truth-in-taxation as part of the FY27 tentative budget. (*Utah Code 59-2-919(4)(a)(2)*)
8. Draft Salary Schedule for 2026-2027

PTIF SIGNERS

Business Administrator, Superintendent, and School Board President need approval to be signers on the PTIF accounts.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mrs. Goble to approve the signers on PTIF accounts. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

SIGNER ON BANK ACCOUNTS

New Business Administrator needs approval to be a signer on bank accounts.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goble and seconded by Mr. Madsen to approve the signers on bank accounts. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Madsen to approve the consent calendar with the exception of the negotiations, and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the minutes. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

BOARD VISION/GOALS

The Board reviewed preliminary results from the North Sanpete School District Consolidated Needs Assessment. It was noted that the survey remains open through May 22, and the information presented was for discussion purposes only. The Board will review the completed survey results in greater detail with Dr. Fern at the scheduled meeting on May 27.

Board members requested copies of the survey comments for their review.

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Letter of resignation from Adilynn Shepherd was presented to the board for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded Mr. Madsen to approve the letter of resignation for Adilynn Shepherd. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Employees Hired:

B. Henrie	All Schools	Instructional Coach
R. Stewart	District	Business Administrator
M. Schiess	NSHS	SPED Teacher

C. Costello	High School	Assistant Baseball Coach
R. Minert	High School	Assistant Track Coach
D. Smith	High School	Assistant Baseball Coach
C. Williams	High School	Assistant Baseball Coach
B. Stubbs	District	Purchasing Specialist

E. Chatwin	All Schools	Substitute Teacher/TA
G. Chatwin	All Schools	Substitute Teacher/TA
K. Brothersen	All Schools	Substitute Teacher/TA

SUPPORT SERVICES

Construction Projects

An update was provided on current construction projects throughout the district. Construction of the new auto shop continues to progress, with asphalt work completed and electrical power scheduled to be connected the following week.

At North Sanpete High School, staff have moved into the newly renovated office space. Remaining work includes repairs to the railings, which are scheduled to be completed after the school year concludes.

2026-2027 Plan for Student Success Account Funding (TSSA)

Information was presented regarding the 2026–2027 TSSA Plan. It was noted that revisions were needed to the plan, and the item was presented for informational purposes following discussion at the previous board meeting.

STUDENT SERVICES

Dual Immersion

One Dual Immersion Request was presented to the board for next year.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mrs. Goble to approve the dual immersion request for next year. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

North Sanpete Online Program Parent/Student Contract of Understanding for Pleasant Creek School

Was presented and discussed earlier in the meeting during the school presentation.

A motion was made by Mr. Madsen and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the parent student contract for the online program. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

- Drill is requesting overnight travel to Snow College in Ephraim, June 8-9, 2026.
- Boys Basketball is requesting out-of-state travel to attend a camp at Colorado Mesa University, in Grand Junction, Colorado, June 15-18, 2026. The plan is to take a bus and an SUV. Additionally, one coach will drive another car out that the bus driver drives home and back to pick up the players when the camp is finished.
- Cheer is requesting overnight travel to attend a camp at Dynasty Athletics in Draper, Utah, June 22-24, 2026.
- Girls Volleyball is requesting overnight travel to attend a camp at Enterprise High School, June 22-23, 2026.
- Boys Basketball is requesting overnight travel to attend a camp in St. George, June 25-27, 2026.
- Girls Basketball is requesting overnight travel to attend a summer tournament at the Sandy Expo Center, June 16-17, 2026 (this may or may not be overnight depending on their playing schedule).
- FFA is requesting out-of-state travel to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 20-October 24, 2026. (Approved earlier in the meeting)

A motion was made by Mr. Madsen and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the out of state travel for the boys basketball team. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

POLICIES

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the district's technology acceptable use policies. Administration explained that the previous combined policy had been separated into two policies: one addressing employee technology use and one addressing student technology use.

D-66 Employee Technology Acceptable Use Policy

The D-66 Employee Technology Acceptable Use Policy was presented in first read.

E-30 Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy

The E-30 Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy was presented in first read.

A motion was made by Mr. Madsen and seconded by Mr. Bailey to approve the first reading of the D-66 Employee Technology Acceptable Use Policy and the E-30 Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

E-53 Transgender Students Policy

The E-53 Transgender Students Policy was presented in first read. Administration reported that the policy had been reviewed by the district's legal counsel. Board members discussed the policy and expressed concerns regarding clarity, including provisions related to parent notification and ensuring compliance with applicable law. Following discussion, the Board directed administration to revise the policy and bring it back for further consideration at a future meeting.

The Board was also informed that the cell phone policy will be incorporated into student handbooks and that the attendance policy is scheduled to be presented for approval at the June board meeting.

MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Mrs. Goble expressed appreciation for the traffic cones that have been placed near district crosswalks to improve safety. An update was provided regarding ongoing traffic and road safety assessments. Principal Straatman and Assistant Superintendent Orton met with city officials, and the city has contracted with Sunrise Engineering to evaluate roads within Mt. Pleasant. The district is also conducting its own assessment through Atlas. Once both assessments are complete, district and city representatives will meet to review the findings and discuss potential improvements.

Mr. Cook inquired about a higher-than-normal payroll amount reflected in the April payroll report. Administration explained that the amount included an early leave and retirement payout.

Discussion was held regarding the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program, including efforts to recruit teachers to review curriculum during the summer. It was also noted that the district will celebrate its first graduating class of DLI students this year.

Mr. Syme expressed support for investing in veteran teachers and noted the value of retaining experienced educators within the district.

An update was provided regarding graduation preparation. Arrangements are in place and adequate seating is expected to be available for attendees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Brotherson and seconded by Mrs. Goble to exit regular session and move into executive session to discuss the character or competency of an individual and negotiations

Mr. Madsen aye Mr. Brotherson aye Mr. Bailey aye

Mrs. Goble aye Mr. Cook aye

The meeting moved into executive session at 9:56 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Brotherson and seconded by Mr. Bailey to exit executive session and return to regular session. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Meeting returned to regular session at 10:31 p.m.

SALARY SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Mr. Madsen and seconded by Mr. Cook to approve the 2026-2027 salary schedule. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mrs. Goble to adjourn. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m.