

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: R277-927, Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) Program (Amendment)

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-927, Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) Program, Draft 2, on first and second reading.

Purpose of Memo:

Result of legislative action

Background:

Background of the Rule and S.B. 241 Rule R277-927 governs the administration of the Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) Program, providing guidelines for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to develop and approve school-level success plans designed to improve school performance and student academic achievement.

During the 2026 General Session, the Utah Legislature passed S.B. 241, Early Literacy. S.B. 241 requires that if a school's third-grade students score below the statewide benchmark reading goal, the school must redirect a portion of its TSSA allocation to fund specific, evidence-based literacy interventions.

Summary of Proposed Changes to R277-927 The proposed amendments to R277-927 ensure fidelity to the new statutory requirements of S.B. 241.

The primary modifications include:

Front-End LEA Assurances: Introduces a dynamic cross-reference requiring LEAs to verify that schools falling below the state's early literacy benchmark allocate at least 50% of their TSSA funds to evidence-based literacy interventions before the LEA approves the school's Teacher and Student Success Plan. This relies on local oversight rather than creating new state-level reporting mandates.

Definition Alignment: Clarifies acceptable literacy interventions by explicitly prohibiting the use of TSSA funds for the "three-cueing" method, aligning program expenditures with the new statewide early literacy standards.

Staff will present R277-927, Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) Program, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#); [53F-2-416](#); [53G-7-1304](#); [53G-7-1306](#)

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Attachments:

1. R277-927 - Draft 2 - June 2026 Full Board
2. R277-927 - Draft 1 - June 2026 Committee
3. R277-927 Reporting Burden and Fiscal Impact Estimate Form