MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION- JULY 29, 2026

The Board of Education of the Timpanogos School District met in a study session on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 3:30 pm. The study session was held at the Alpine School District Special Education Office in Lindon, Utah.

Board Members Present: President Jennifer Lyman, Vice President Sterling Hilton, Guy Fugal, Grace Rex, , Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson. David H. Smith arrived at 3:33 p.m.

Also present: Superintendent Jensen & Business Administrator Sundberg and members of the administrative staff. There were approximately 13 others in attendance.

Board President Jennifer Lyman called the study session to order at **3:31 p.m.**

VISION & VALUES STATEMENT REFINEMENT

Vice President Sterling Hilton presented the latest revisions to the Timpanogos School District Vision and Values Statement, reflecting feedback gathered from students, parents, educators, school leaders, and community members throughout the district. He reminded the Board that the document is intended to serve as a living framework that can evolve as the district grows while providing a clear foundation for district culture and decision-making.

The Board reviewed refinements to the Vision Statement and discussed language intended to better communicate the district's commitment to **high levels of genuine learning and belonging**. Members agreed that the revised language more accurately reflected the feedback received during the stakeholder engagement process.

Board members also reviewed the "**Know, Do, Be**" framework and discussed continued refinement of the student dispositions. Discussion centered on distinguishing qualities that develop personal character from those that demonstrate citizenship and community responsibility. Members supported organizing the framework in a manner that clearly communicates both internal character traits and outward behaviors while keeping the document concise and understandable.

The Board discussed additional revisions to district values, including the explicit addition of **Safety and Well-Being** and **Accountability**, recognizing these themes emerged consistently throughout stakeholder feedback. Members also emphasized that self-mastery and empathy should remain foundational characteristics supporting the broader dispositions outlined within the framework.

The Board concluded its discussion by reviewing options for a district motto. After considering several alternatives, members agreed that the concise phrase **"Timpanogos School District. We learn to thrive."** best reflected the district's mission while remaining memorable and adaptable for district communications. The Board supported including the motto as a subheading to the Vision and Values Statement.

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING – DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL

District Legal Counsel Hyrum Clarke provided Board training regarding the **Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA)** and the responsibilities of elected officials in maintaining transparency while protecting records classified under Utah law.

Mr. Clarke explained that Utah law presumes government records are public unless specifically protected by statute. He reviewed the classifications of public, private, protected, and controlled records and discussed how each applies to school district operations. Board members were reminded that records may exist in many forms, including emails, text messages, social media communications, photographs, and electronic documents, regardless of the device on which they were created or stored.

Counsel emphasized that communications conducted on personal devices may become public records when used for district business and encouraged Board members to maintain clear separation between personal and district communications whenever possible. Best practices included utilizing district accounts for official business, limiting unnecessary written communications on sensitive topics, maintaining organized electronic records, and understanding appropriate retention requirements. Discussion also addressed the treatment of draft documents, personal notes, calendars, social media activity, and closed-session records under GRAMA. Board members discussed balancing transparency with practical records management and asked questions regarding text messaging, document retention, social media use, and communication methods. Mr. Clarke reiterated that transparency remains a core district value while encouraging thoughtful communication practices that comply with state law and protect confidential information when appropriate.

STRATEGIC PLANNING (5–10 YEAR BRAINSTORMING)

The Board initiated a long-range strategic planning discussion focused on identifying priorities that should guide the district over the next five to ten years.

Board members identified several long-term facility priorities, including modernization of aging schools, evaluation of future rebuilding needs, long-term planning for alternative education programs, transportation facilities, virtual learning opportunities, and future technology replacement cycles. Members discussed developing objective standards for evaluating when facilities should be renovated or replaced while designing future buildings with long-term flexibility and durability in mind.

Additional discussions included transportation planning, district scheduling, technology infrastructure, software implementation, storage needs, preschool programming, partnerships with community organizations, and maintaining sustainable capital planning. Members emphasized that strategic planning should remain a recurring Board discussion to ensure long-term priorities are continually refined as the district matures.

BOUNDARY STUDY UPDATE

Superintendent Jensen provided an update on Phase Two of the Boundary Study process following completion of the Robust School Criteria.

Staff reviewed enrollment trends demonstrating declining elementary enrollment despite continued population growth, noting demographic shifts, declining birth rates, housing affordability, and school choice options continue to affect district enrollment. Projections indicated that, without future adjustments, many elementary schools would eventually fall below established robust school thresholds.

The Board reviewed progress on the ongoing studies evaluating potential movement of **9th grade to high school** and **6th grade to middle school**. Staff reported strong community participation through surveys and focus groups, noting that survey responses generally showed favorable support for the ninth-grade transition while sixth-grade responses reflected somewhat more varied opinions. Discussion included student transition supports, teacher considerations, facility capacity, transportation implications, and future communication strategies for families.

Board members also discussed focus group feedback regarding Dual Language Immersion (DLI) and Advanced Learning Opportunities (ALO). Members emphasized the importance of providing equitable student opportunities while maintaining robust educational programs and considering staffing capacity, transportation, and long-term program sustainability. Staff also reviewed facility capacity needs that may accompany future grade reconfiguration, including classroom space and gymnasium requirements at several secondary schools.

TIMPANOGOS EDUCATION CENTER – PLANNING AND DISCUSSION

Business Administrator Jason Sundberg and Superintendent Jensen presented updated planning information regarding the proposed **Timpanogos Education Center**.

Staff reviewed previous Board direction authorizing design and construction planning and summarized work completed to date, including selection of an architectural firm and review of construction proposals. The proposed facility would centralize district administrative functions while utilizing adjacent existing operations buildings for technology, maintenance, purchasing, nutrition services, and warehouse operations.

Alternative options previously considered—including leasing office space, remodeling existing schools, and utilizing Valley View facilities—were reviewed. Administration explained that each alternative presented significant cost, parking, operational, or efficiency challenges that made new construction the preferred long-term solution.

Staff reviewed the proposed site layout, anticipated building size, estimated project cost, office configuration, professional development space, and boardroom design. Members discussed the opportunity to create a centralized facility that supports collaboration among district departments while providing space for Board meetings, professional learning, and future district growth.

Administration confirmed the project would be funded through existing **capital building funds** previously allocated during district formation and would not require additional operational funding, lease revenue bonds, or long-term debt. Board members also discussed opportunities to utilize the building's prominent State Street location to highlight district accomplishments and strengthen community engagement.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:36 PM.