NORTH SANPETE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
August 18, 2026

Minutes of the North Sanpete School District Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at the North Sanpete School District Office. President Richard Brotherson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice President Jeremy Madsen 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 Administrator Rickie Stewart, Accountant Bryce Warby, Board Secretary Brittany Stubbs, UEA Representative Cindy Johansen, Principals Christy Straatman, Ryan Syme, Natalie Stansfield, Stacey Peterson, and Allynne Mower, as well as Angela Thompson, Tisha Young, and Rhett Larsen.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Madsen welcomed everyone back for the new school year, recognized the efforts of fall athletes and coaches, and complimented the Opening Institute.

Mr. Bailey recognized those who work behind the scenes to support high school athletic events. He also thanked those involved with the Truth in Taxation hearing and complimented the presentation and meeting minutes.

Mrs. Goble recognized food service employees for preparing cinnamon rolls for Opening Institute and commented on the excitement surrounding the new school year.

Mr. Cook congratulated the football team on its recent win and recognized the employees, coaches, students, and community members who support district programs and activities.

Principal Straatman reported on preparations at the high school and recognized custodial staff for their assistance with relocating the counseling center. She also recognized a Sterling Scholar student and her family for their work on a xeriscaping project at the high school.

Principal Syme recognized the experience and continuity of the middle school teaching staff, noting that no teachers needed to be replaced this year and expressing appreciation for the value veteran teachers bring to instruction and student learning.

Cindy Johansen shared the excitement she has observed among students returning to school and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with students.

Principal Peterson shared the positive energy at her school and recognized instructional coaches for providing deep reading training to 67 paraprofessional employees.

Principal Mower celebrated having the school building ready for the new year without ongoing construction, allowing teachers to focus on curriculum and instruction.

Principal Stansfield recognized efforts to prepare and improve her school building and thanked Tisha Young for her assistance with school projects.

Tisha Young reported that the annual clothing drive at Mt. Pleasant Elementary benefited more than 200 children and adults from families throughout the district.

Angela Thompson recognized district registrars for their work completing student registration during a particularly busy time of year.

Bryce Warby recognized Auto Shop teacher Gerald Christiansen for his preparation for the new program and commitment to students.

Mrs. Stewart recognized employees throughout the district for their professionalism and commitment to students and emphasized the important role of support staff.

Mrs. Orton announced ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the new high school Auto Shop on August 21 and invited Board members to attend. Mrs. Goble requested that Board members receive a reminder.

Superintendent Hansen recognized the elementary principals for recommending Corbin Allred as the Opening Institute keynote speaker and reported positive feedback regarding his presentation. He also recognized Talia Casares as one of five finalists for Utah Teacher of the Year.

President Brotherson recognized the high school band, cheerleaders, drill team, and other student groups for their participation in community events over the summer, including local parades.

DATA PRIVACY PRESENTATION

Angela Thompson presented the annual data privacy update and reviewed the District's responsibility for protecting student and employee information. She discussed requirements under FERPA and the Utah Government Data Privacy Act (GDPA), emphasizing that access to information should be based on a legitimate purpose and limited to the minimum information necessary. She also discussed protecting identifiable information in Board materials and public meetings and balancing transparency with privacy requirements.

Mrs. Thompson provided an update on District privacy efforts, including revisions to policies and registration practices, development of an artificial intelligence framework, and new vendor and contract requirements under HB 55. Mr. Madsen asked whether the vendor requirements apply to the District's student information system, PowerSchool. Mrs. Thompson confirmed that they do.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the consent calendar, including the minutes of the July 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting and the August 11, 2026 Truth in Taxation Public Hearing. No corrections or additions were noted.

Business Administrator Rickie Stewart presented the financial reports, including an updated Maintenance and Operations report. She also reported on an upcoming meeting with Zions Bank to explore treasury services and potential financial benefits while maintaining the District's relationship with Cache Valley Bank. Mr. Cook asked about potential rates, savings, and merchant service fees. Mrs. Stewart stated that additional information will be provided as options are evaluated.

Mrs. Stewart also reported on a proposed substitute management platform that integrates with PowerSchool and is intended to streamline substitute scheduling, reduce administrative responsibilities for school secretaries, and provide improved staffing and attendance information to administrators. Mrs. Goble and Mrs. Johansen asked about system functionality and teacher training. Mrs. Stewart stated that the system is designed for ease of use and is expected to take approximately 60–90 days to implement.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the consent calendar as presented. Mrs. Goble seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

TRUTH IN TAXATION

The Board continued discussion of the proposed property tax increase following the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing held August 11, 2026.

Mrs. Goble stated that the tax increase breakdown provided by administration was helpful in evaluating the proposal. She noted that property tax relief programs are available through Sanpete County for qualifying taxpayers and acknowledged both the financial impact of a tax increase on community members and the District's identified needs.

Business Administrator Stewart reviewed the proposed tax rate and discussed the relationship between the District's voted and capital levies and the state guarantee. She explained that the District must maintain the required level of local tax effort to maximize state-guaranteed funding and discussed options for allocating the tax rate between levies. The Board also discussed the possibility of making smaller tax rate adjustments more frequently rather than waiting several years and requiring a larger adjustment.

President Brotherson expressed concern about returning to Truth in Taxation each year and discussed the importance of reaching and maintaining the local tax effort necessary to preserve state-guaranteed funding. Mrs. Stewart explained that levy rates could be adjusted in future years and that capital levy increments could be shifted to the voted levy as one option for meeting the required local effort. She noted that reducing capital revenue would not eliminate the District's capital needs.

The Board discussed the financial consequences of not maintaining the required local effort, including the potential loss of approximately $2.5 million in state-guaranteed funding and the difficulty of absorbing that reduction within the existing budget. Discussion included the potential effects on staffing, programs, and building maintenance.

Mrs. Goble stated that she had struggled with the decision and emphasized the need for the District to develop a longer-term three- to five-year plan rather than addressing the issue one year at a time. Mrs. Stewart agreed that the District should clearly communicate how additional revenue is used and demonstrate results to the public. She also discussed ongoing efforts to identify efficiencies and reduce expenditures without negatively affecting student opportunities.

The Board discussed the importance of addressing visible facility needs and demonstrating responsible use of taxpayer funds. President Brotherson acknowledged the burden of increased property taxes while noting the responsibility of the current community to support education for today's students. He also suggested that the District help make community members aware of available property tax relief programs.

President Brotherson made a motion to change the approved tax rate to 0.004937. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes

Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – No

The motion passed 4-1.

Mr. Cook explained his opposition to the tax rate increase, citing the financial burden on community members and the need to continue identifying savings and alternative revenue sources. He discussed potential revenue from treasury and credit card transactions, grants, and other opportunities and emphasized the importance of demonstrating efforts to control expenditures. Mrs. Stewart acknowledged the need to identify efficiencies and additional revenue while noting that inflation continues to increase District operating costs.

Mr. Cook also emphasized the need for greater public communication regarding future tax increases and the specific uses of additional revenue. Mrs. Stewart agreed that the District should clearly communicate how tax revenues are used and the results achieved.

The Board and administration discussed measures of student success beyond standardized test scores, including graduation, career preparation, student opportunities, life skills, individual growth, and positive educational experiences. Mr. Cook expressed support for public education and indicated that he had concerns with two items in the proposed budget and intended to vote against its approval.

President Brotherson made a motion to approve the FY27 budget. During consideration of the motion, Mr. Cook asked whether three bids had been obtained for the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School furnace project and whether a scissor lift had been selected for the bus garage. Superintendent Hansen confirmed that three bids had been obtained for the furnace project and that a scissor lift had not yet been selected or purchased. Mr. Madsen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – No

The motion passed 4-1.

Following the vote, Mr. Bailey discussed the challenges created by Utah's public education funding structure and the requirement for districts to demonstrate local tax effort in order to receive state funding. He expressed concern about the District's ability to adequately address aging facilities and future capital needs while maintaining competitive employee salaries and benefits. He encouraged continued communication with state legislators regarding the financial challenges facing rural school districts.

Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Goble also discussed the need to work with state legislators regarding public education funding and the particular challenges facing rural districts. Principal Straatman noted that the District pursues available grants but that applying for and administering grants requires significant staff time and resources.

President Brotherson asked Mrs. Stewart whether the Board had completed all necessary actions related to the tax increase and budget approval. Mrs. Stewart advised that an additional motion should specify the $750,000 increase in property tax revenue resulting from the tax adjustment.

President Brotherson made a motion to approve the FY27 budget, including a $750,000 increase in property tax revenue resulting from the tax adjustment. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – No

The motion passed 4-1.

NSSD STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031

Mrs. Orton presented an update on implementation of the NSSD Strategic Plan. She reviewed the progress-tracking document and explained that completed, ongoing, and not-yet-started actions are identified by color. With teachers just returning from summer break, many school-level actions are beginning, and the document will be updated throughout the year as implementation progresses.

Mrs. Goble expressed appreciation for the progress-tracking format. President Brotherson requested that future updates include additional detail regarding actions being taken to provide targeted student support. Mrs. Orton stated that additional information will become available as implementation progresses.

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Letters of resignation from B. Willis, H. Booher, K. Brothersen, K. Smith, L. Rees, S. Swapp, W. Ryan, E. Madsen, C. Nielsen, H. Church, A. Johnson, P. Broadhead, P. Anderson, and K. Gates were presented for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Cook made a motion to accept the resignations as presented. Mr. Madsen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Employees Hired:

C. Frandsen	Ft. Green	Teacher Assistant
A. Tapia	Ft. Green Pre-K	Preschool Lead
H. Rasmussen	Fairview	Teacher Assistant
B. Young	Fairview	Teacher Assistant
N. Nielsen	Fairview	Custodial Assistant
B. Pehrson	Moroni	Teacher Assistant
K. Stevens	Moroni	Teacher Assistant
A. Goble	Moroni	Teacher Assistant
A. Rawlings	Moroni	Teacher Assistant
J. Johansen	Moroni	AmeriCorps TA
E. Anderson	Moroni	Part-Time Secretary
A. Hafen	Moroni	Teacher Assistant
A. Cook	Moroni Pre-K	Teacher Assistant
H. Ringlee	Mt. Pleasant Elem	Teacher Assistant
A. Jorgensen	Mt. Pleasant Elem	Teacher Assistant
T. Hammond	Mt. Pleasant Elem	Teacher Assistant
K. Rutter	Mt. Pleasant Elem	Custodial Assistant
A. Schobert	NSHS	Teacher Assistant
A. Johansen	NSHS	Teacher Assistant
C. Spaulding	NSHS	Teacher Assistant
M. Terry	NSHS	Teacher Assistant
H. Smith	NSHS	Teacher Assistant
C. Dressen	NSHS	Assistant Drill Coach
T. Earl	NSHS	Assistant Boys Golf Coach
K. Eliason	NSHS	Assistant Boys Golf Coach
A. Green	NSHS	Food Service Worker
S. Seely	NSMS	Teacher Assistant
E. Goodbar	NSMS	Teacher Assistant

J. Daniels	NSMS	Food Service Worker
P. Grindorff	NSMS	Part-Time Technology Specialist
N. Roundy	PCS	Part-Time Evening Custodian
H. Thorup	SCE	PE Specialist/Teacher Assistant
A. Christiansen	SCE	Teacher Assistant
M. Johnson	SCE	Health Aide/Teacher Assistant
A. Green	Transportation	Bus Driver
A. Dain	All Schools	Substitute
T. Longernecker	NSHS	Volunteer Assistant Football Coach

LEA-Specific License

Superintendent Hansen presented Gerald Christiansen for approval of an LEA-specific educator license to serve as the high school Auto Shop teacher. He explained that Mr. Christiansen is an experienced automotive professional who will work toward state certification while teaching in the District's auto technology program.

Mrs. Goble made a motion to approve an LEA-specific educator license for Gerald Christiansen for the 2026–2027 school year. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Superintendent Hansen clarified that an LEA-specific license is valid only within the District and is approved for a three-year period. President Brotherson asked whether other District educators hold LEA-specific licenses. Superintendent Hansen confirmed that they do and stated that those licenses will be reviewed with the Board next month.

<u>SUPPORT SERVICES</u>

School Building Evaluations

Superintendent Hansen presented preliminary findings from the KMA building evaluations. He explained that building systems were evaluated by various professionals and assigned preliminary condition ratings. Mrs. Stewart noted that the evaluations included interior and exterior building conditions, site considerations, and a preliminary list of priorities.

The Board discussed several preliminary facility concerns, including aging building systems, electrical capacity, and portions of the Pleasant Creek building. Superintendent Hansen reported that the electrical system at North Sanpete High School is currently at capacity, and Mrs. Orton noted that future additions or renovations may require electrical systems to be brought into compliance with current standards.

Superintendent Hansen emphasized that the evaluations are still in progress. Additional information is expected for the September Board work meeting, with a comprehensive evaluation anticipated in October. President Brotherson requested that the Board continue to receive information as it becomes available.

Mount Pleasant Elementary Boiler Replacement – Contract Award

Superintendent Hansen presented the results of the RFP process for the Mount Pleasant Elementary School boiler replacement project. He explained that proposals were evaluated using established criteria and not solely on price. Commercial Mechanical Systems & Service, LLC was determined to be the best overall proposal at $237,827.00, approximately $100,000 below the amount originally budgeted for the project. Substantial completion is anticipated by the end of October.

Mr. Cook made a motion to award the Mount Pleasant Elementary School Boiler Replacement Project contract to Commercial Mechanical Systems & Service, LLC in the amount of $237,827.00, as presented. Mrs. Goble seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

Superintendent Hansen provided an update on traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at North Sanpete High School, including relocating stop signs to the crosswalk on 700 South, reducing the speed limit to 20 mph, and creating a more defined student pick-up and drop-off area.

Principal Straatman discussed concerns regarding the traffic pattern at the parking lot exit and crosswalk. She reported that school staff and local law enforcement will monitor traffic as school begins and address identified safety concerns. President Brotherson emphasized that the traffic pattern should be clear and intuitive for all drivers.

District Fleet Vehicle Markings

Superintendent Hansen presented a proposed design for District fleet vehicle markings using perforated rear-window graphics at an estimated cost of $250 per vehicle. Mr. Cook expressed concerns regarding driver visibility and suggested individually numbering District vehicles for easier identification.

Mrs. Goble recommended further discussion at a future Board work meeting. The Board agreed to defer consideration of the vehicle markings until a work meeting.

Panic Device Options

Superintendent Hansen presented options for implementing classroom panic devices. He explained that the District had previously budgeted approximately $23,000 to upgrade the existing Audio Enhancement system, which is not currently a state-approved vendor. Alternatively, the District may select one of two state-approved vendors available at no cost to the District for three years.

The Board discussed compliance requirements, integration with local emergency dispatch, and the need for additional review before selecting a specific vendor. Superintendent Hansen reported that local public safety officials are assisting with evaluating system integration and that the District must notify the state of its vendor selection by September 16.

Rhett Larsen, who was in attendance, was invited to provide information based on his experience with the USBE School Safety Center. Mr. Larsen discussed the importance of considering statutory compliance, functionality, and emergency dispatch integration when selecting a system.

Mr. Madsen made a motion to proceed with one of the two state-approved panic device vendors at no cost to the District in place of the previously budgeted Audio Enhancement upgrade. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cook requested that Superintendent Hansen also consult with other superintendents regarding their experience with the available systems.

<u>STUDENT SERVICES</u>

School Choice

Twenty-nine school choice enrollment requests were presented for Board approval. All requests presented had received approval from the respective school principals.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the 29 school choice requests as presented. Mr. Cook seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

<u>TRAVEL REQUESTS</u>

In-State Overnight Travel

The Board was notified of upcoming in-state overnight travel for the Boys Golf team to Roosevelt, UT for a tournament September 20-22, 2026.

<u>POLICIES</u>

G-35: Mobile Computing, Storage Devices, and Personal Electronic Devices

Policy G-35: Mobile Computing, Storage Devices, and Personal Electronic Devices was presented to the Board in first read following revisions made in response to Board discussion at the July meeting. The revised policy allows high school students to use personal electronic devices during lunch.

Mr. Madsen made a motion to approve Policy G-35 in first read as presented. Mrs. Goble seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

E-41: District Attendance

Policy E-41: District Attendance was presented to the Board in first read following comprehensive revisions in response to changes in state law. Angela Thompson reviewed significant changes related to absences, GPA requirements, required interventions, and parent notification.

The Board and administration discussed implementation of the policy, including the 2.0 cumulative GPA requirement and additional responsibilities for attendance secretaries. Mrs. Thompson reported that school handbooks will need to align with the policy and that procedures and attendance codes are being developed to support consistent implementation.

Mr. Madsen made a motion to approve Policy E-41 in first read as presented. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Mr. Cook asked how administrator absences are tracked. Mrs. Stewart explained that employee absences, leave requests, and leave balances are managed through the employee portal, with leave requests approved by the employee's direct supervisor.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

NSHS Spanish 1010

Principal Straatman provided an update on Spanish 1010 at North Sanpete High School. She explained that the course was added approximately two years ago as an option for students who did not pass the AP Spanish exam but has not generated sufficient enrollment to continue. Spanish 1010 has been removed from the schedule and replaced with an additional ESL Learning Strategies class. Students may return to AP Spanish, and Spanish 1010 may be offered again in future years if sufficient interest exists.

The Board and administration also discussed participation in the Spanish Dual Language Immersion program. Superintendent Hansen reported that all of last year's eighth-grade DLI students are continuing in the program as ninth graders. Principal Syme reported that all but two of last year's sixth-grade DLI students are continuing in seventh grade, representing the program's highest retention that he knew of. Principal

Straatman reported that increased participation at the high school has resulted in the addition of a second Bridge course and discussed continued efforts to strengthen AP Spanish instruction.

MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Madsen provided an update on the proposed student school board program. Following additional review of state requirements, Angela Thompson explained that establishment of the program must be student-driven and require demonstrated student interest. Principal Straatman discussed using the Student Advisory Council as the framework for the program and incorporating the requirements into the student handbook. Proposed handbook revisions will be presented to the Board for approval in September.

President Brotherson asked Mr. Madsen for an update regarding MasterBoard. Mr. Madsen reported that he is continuing to work on restoring access.

The Board discussed procedures for upcoming work meetings, including submitting topics in advance to allow time for agenda preparation and distribution of supporting materials. The first work meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2026, and will include discussion of expectations and procedures for future work meetings. The KMA building evaluations were also identified as a potential work meeting topic.

Mr. Cook requested future review of Policies C-13, *Selection, Hiring, and Appointment of Educational Administrators*; D-45, *Recruitment, Hiring, and Appointment of Education Support Personnel and Substitute Personnel*; and D-15, *Recruitment, Hiring, and Appointment of Teachers*. President Brotherson asked Mr. Cook to bring proposed changes for Board consideration.

Mr. Cook asked for updates on facility items at North Sanpete High School. Principal Straatman reported that repairs had been made to concrete at the exterior railing, with some additional work remaining. Mr. Cook also reported that he had arranged to have a middle school classroom painted at no cost to the District.

Mr. Cook and Principal Straatman discussed a previously considered proposal to convert a grass area in front of North Sanpete High School into additional public parking. Principal Straatman reported that current student parking appears sufficient and that updated parking counts can be collected after school begins. Mr. Cook requested that the parking information be brought to a future work meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by President Brotherson and seconded by Mrs. Goble to exit regular session and enter executive session to discuss a pending legal matter and the character or professional competence of an individual.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 9:13 p.m.

A motion was made by President Brotherson and seconded by Mr. Bailey to exit executive session and return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Madsen – Yes
Mr. Brotherson – Yes
Mr. Bailey – Yes
Mrs. Goble – Yes
Mr. Cook – Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting returned to regular session at 10:34 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Goble and seconded by Mr. Bailey to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.