MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING- AUGUST 12, 2026

The Board of Education of the Timpanogos School District met in a board meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM. The board meeting took place in the meeting room of the Alpine School District Special Education Office in Lindon, Utah.

Board members present: President Jennifer Lyman, Vice President Sterling Hilton, Guy Fugal, Grace Rex, David H. Smith, Michele Sorensen, and Ada Wilson.

Also present: Superintendent Joseph Jensen, Business Administrator Jason Sundberg, members of the administrative staff, and approximately 26 others were in attendance.

President Jennifer Lyman called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM. President Lyman welcomed those in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Katie Bowman**. Board members, district administration, staff, and members of the public joined in reciting the pledge.

President Lyman expressed appreciation to Alpine School District Superintendent Rob Smith and his wife, Melissa, for donating new United States and State of Utah flags to Timpanogos School District.

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT

Darren Draper presented the inspirational thought and introduced the concept of the **"Innovator's Dilemma,"** based on the work of Clayton Christensen. He explained that even successful organizations can struggle when they focus exclusively on current conditions rather than considering what will be needed in the future.

Mr. Draper encouraged district leaders to continually ask: if Timpanogos School District were being designed from scratch to meet the needs of students 20 years from now, what would be done differently? He connected the principle to the Board's ongoing discussions regarding school boundaries, consolidation, and grade configuration and encouraged continued intentional, forward-looking decision-making.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Lyman reviewed the procedures for public comment and noted that one individual had signed up to address the Board.

Keith Wilson thanked the Board, administration, and others involved in the boundary study and district reorganization work. He expressed appreciation that discussions during the preceding Study Session had been grounded in creating robust educational environments for students rather than being driven primarily by financial pressures.

Mr. Wilson acknowledged the district's financial challenges but stated that stronger, more robust schools could both improve opportunities for students and teachers and strengthen the district financially. He thanked the Board for articulating its vision and values and working consistently with those principles.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board President Lyman presented the minutes of the previous Board Meeting for approval.

Motion: Board Member David H. Smith moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Vice President Sterling Hilton seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

President Lyman encouraged the public to review the Board minutes and noted the effort to make them detailed and readable.

There being no further discussion, President Lyman called for the vote.

Vote: The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

EXPENDITURE REPORT/CLAIMS

Superintendent Jensen presented the expenditure report and claims as a routine business item and recommended approval.

Motion: Board Member Michele Sorensen moved to approve the expenditure report and claims as presented.

Second: Board Member Ada Wilson seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

At the Board's request, Business Administrator Jason Sundberg provided an overview of the financial reports. He explained that the reports represented the end of the first period, or July, of FY27. He reviewed the district's fund structure, including Fund 12, which will eventually become Fund 10, the General Fund, and Fund 36, which will become Fund 32.

Mr. Sundberg reported that there was nothing unusual to report at this early point in the fiscal year. Expenditures primarily reflected normal operations, including salaries, materials, and supplies.

There being no further discussion, President Lyman called for the vote.

Vote: The motion to approve the expenditure report and claims passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Resolution #2026-014 – MOU with Aspen Peaks for Data Colocation

Superintendent Jensen introduced Resolution #2026-014, a Memorandum of Understanding between Aspen Peaks School District and Timpanogos School District regarding data colocation. He explained that the agreement would allow the districts to provide backup systems for one another, creating redundancy and disaster-recovery protection for significant amounts of district and student data.

Superintendent Jensen noted that Aspen Peaks had already approved the agreement and recommended approval by the Timpanogos School District Board.

Motion: Board Member Ada Wilson moved to approve Resolution #2026-014, the Memorandum of Understanding with Aspen Peaks School District regarding data colocation.

Second: Board member Fugal seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

Board members clarified that the agreement is revenue-neutral and discussed the meaning and purpose of "colocation." Administration explained that data would be maintained in multiple locations so that one district's systems could provide backup and disaster recovery for the other.

Board Member Wilson noted the complexity and importance of the technology infrastructure involved in separating Alpine School District into three districts and expressed appreciation to technology staff for planning for data redundancy and continuity.

Administration reported that the Aspen Peaks data center, located at the ALC, was functional and nearing completion, with some final system configuration still underway. The current Alpine School District structure includes data centers in Lindon and at Westlake High School in Saratoga Springs. The new agreement would establish a similar backup arrangement between the Timpanogos and Aspen Peaks systems.

There being no further discussion, President Lyman called for the vote.

Vote: Resolution #2026-014 passed unanimously.

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2. Resolution #2026-015 – MOU with Aspen Peaks for Shared Transportation Facility

Superintendent Jensen introduced Resolution #2026-015, a Memorandum of Understanding with Aspen Peaks School District for use of a shared transportation facility. He recognized staff members who had worked extensively on the agreement and expressed appreciation for the cooperation between the two new districts.

Under the agreement, Timpanogos School District would share the existing transportation facility in American Fork with Aspen Peaks School District for an initial three-year period. The districts would formally review the arrangement after two years and determine whether extending the partnership would be mutually beneficial. Superintendent Jensen noted that the arrangement could avoid significant immediate capital costs while providing operational benefits to both districts.

Motion: Board member Fugal moved to approve Resolution #2026-015, the Memorandum of Understanding with Aspen Peaks School District for a shared transportation facility.

Second: Vice President Hilton seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

The Board discussed the three-year term and confirmed that the districts would begin a formal review approximately two years after operations begin in July 2027. If the arrangement were not working, the remaining year would provide Timpanogos School District time to secure a permanent transportation facility.

President Lyman discussed how the transportation discussions had evolved as the new districts hired staff and developed clearer operational needs. She expressed appreciation that staff from both districts had been able to develop an arrangement that appeared mutually beneficial.

Board Member Sorensen asked about changes in the scope of shared services. Staff explained that earlier discussions had considered various arrangements, but once transportation leadership from both districts became directly involved, there was strong support for developing a more comprehensive partnership.

Board members and staff emphasized that the agreement did not eliminate transportation costs. Timpanogos School District would continue to bear its operational expenses while sharing certain facility and personnel costs. Five facility/service positions would be shared, while Timpanogos would retain autonomy over its own bus drivers.

Hyrum Clarke reviewed revisions made during negotiations. These included a dispute-resolution process that would begin with transportation leadership, proceed to the superintendents if necessary, and ultimately allow for mediation. The agreement was also revised to establish the three-year term with the option to extend and to make the document's defined terms and financial provisions easier to understand.

The Board discussed the financial benefits of sharing the facility compared with constructing a separate transportation center. Based on current estimates, the arrangement would allow the district to defer substantial capital expenditures for many years while still providing the transportation infrastructure necessary to begin operations.

Board members expressed appreciation to Aspen Peaks School District, TSD staff, transportation leadership, and legal counsel for developing the agreement. Members noted that sharing the facility represented cooperation between the new districts and could provide long-term benefits to both.

There being no further discussion, President Lyman called for the vote.

Vote: Resolution #2026-015 passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Superintendent Jensen noted that the Aspen Peaks School District Board was scheduled to consider the agreement at its Board Meeting the following evening.

<u>3. Approval of 2027 Board Calendar</u>

The Board reviewed the proposed 2027 Board Meeting calendar.

Motion: Board member Rex moved to approve the 2027 Board calendar as presented.

Second: Board member Smith seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

President Lyman noted that the proposed calendar would provide advance notice for Board members and the public. She also highlighted a plan for Board members to have opportunities to conduct meetings during the year.

The Board noted that the July 14, 2027 meeting was anticipated to be the first Board Meeting held in the new Timpanogos Education Center, assuming construction remained on schedule.

Board Member Sorensen asked about the calendar showing one meeting in July and three dates in August. Business Administrator Sundberg explained that one August date was being reserved as a potential Truth in Taxation hearing date. Reserving the date in advance would provide flexibility should such a hearing become necessary; the meeting could later be canceled if it was not needed.

President Lyman noted that reserving dates in advance is easier than attempting to add meetings later.

There being no further discussion, President Lyman called for the vote.

Vote: The 2027 Board calendar was approved unanimously.

<u>SUPERINTENDENT REPORT</u>

Superintendent Jensen welcomed **Sandra Haslam**, the district's new Director of Nutrition Services, and **Kraig Binkerhoff**, the new Director of Human Resources.

He highlighted a recent meeting of the Teaching and Learning Team and expressed enthusiasm about the work underway to translate the district's vision and values into practices that will affect classrooms and individual students. He noted that while much public attention is focused on visible issues such as facilities, transportation, boundaries, and school configuration, the instructional work occurring behind the scenes will ultimately be central to the success of Timpanogos School District.

Superintendent Jensen emphasized that the district's robust school criteria extend beyond school size and configuration and include educational elements that should be present in every school regardless of boundary or consolidation decisions.

Superintendent Jensen also expressed enthusiasm for the shared transportation agreement with Aspen Peaks School District, describing it as an example of how a thoughtful process and continued collaboration can produce a strong outcome.

He thanked community members who had communicated concerns regarding the potential Anderson Farms transportation site and said the experience demonstrated the district value of

open communication that assumes goodwill. He encouraged the Board, administration, and community to continue applying that principle during upcoming discussions regarding boundaries, grade reconfiguration, school closures, and consolidations.

He clarified that naming a school for formal study does **not** mean the school will necessarily close. He explained that the Board could, for example, identify multiple junior high schools for study while ultimately considering the closure of only one. Similarly, more elementary schools may be identified for study than would ultimately close because surrounding schools could also be affected by boundary changes or consolidation. He emphasized the importance of transparent communication as the process moves forward.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS & COMMENTS

Board Member Ada Wilson

Board Member Wilson noted that the start of school was approaching on August 19. In her role with Alpine School District, she would be visiting schools and attending faculty meetings on August 14 and 17. She informed Timpanogos Board members that Alpine School District Board members had been given permission to invite them to attend those faculty meetings as guests. She described the meetings as a valuable opportunity to meet faculty members, become more familiar with individual schools, and help begin the school year positively.

Board Member Guy Fugal

Board Member Fugal reflected on comments made during the preceding Study Session regarding the importance of making timely decisions as the district considers potential school consolidations and closures. He referenced his own experience advocating to keep Valley View Elementary open and acknowledged that, in hindsight, extending the process may not have ultimately served the community well. He encouraged the Board to learn from prior experiences and avoid unnecessarily prolonging uncertainty for school communities when difficult decisions need to be made.

Board Member Fugal also reflected on attending the Region 8 PTA Summit the previous day. He expressed appreciation for the size, organization, and enthusiasm of the event and noted how much parent engagement and PTA involvement have grown over the years. He thanked Board Member Sorensen for her leadership and expressed appreciation for the large number of parents and volunteers who participated.

Board Member Grace Rex

Board Member Rex complimented Board Member Sorensen on the Region 8 PTA Summit and described it as a valuable opportunity to gather with so many invested parents and volunteers.

She also encouraged members of the public to watch the Study Session held earlier that day, noting that the Board had discussed several significant issues and upcoming decisions. She invited community members to continue providing feedback and sharing their perspectives so the Board could consider that input as it works toward decisions that best serve students and families.

Board Member David H. Smith

Board Member Smith recognized a group that had attended the meeting as part of their work toward a Citizenship in the Community badge and acknowledged former Alpine School District principal Shelly Schroeder, who was accompanying the group.

He also reported on preparations for Silver Peak and TTEC, noting that both programs had experienced several challenges as facilities were prepared for the beginning of the school year. Despite those difficulties, both remained on track to open August 19. He specifically recognized staff members who had worked extensively to prepare the facilities and resolve issues, including challenges related to air conditioning.

Board Member Smith reflected on the considerable progress Timpanogos School District had made since the Board first began meeting in November 2025. He noted that the Board initially faced many unresolved questions and frequently stated that "everything is on the table and nothing has been decided." He observed that the district has now reached a point where decisions are being made and options are being removed from consideration, which he described as necessary and positive progress toward the district's opening.

Board President Jennifer Lyman

President Lyman reflected on attending the Alpine School District Administrative Conference the previous week. As someone who had not worked professionally in education, she appreciated the opportunity to interact with administrators, principals, assistant principals, and members of the future Timpanogos leadership team and expressed excitement about the people who will lead the district's schools.

She also reflected on attending the Region 8 PTA Summit, noting that PTA involvement was more familiar to her because her own involvement in public education began as a parent through PTA. She observed that although the Administrative Conference and PTA Summit were very different events, both were centered on providing an exceptional educational experience for students.

President Lyman encouraged continued public involvement as the Board approaches significant decisions. She acknowledged receiving substantial feedback from constituents and stated that she has come to value public comments, including those that differ from her own views, because they provide important information for Board consideration.

She concluded by encouraging Board members and community members to join and participate in their local PTAs. She emphasized that greater family and community engagement strengthens schools and improves outcomes for students.

Vice President Sterling Hilton

Vice President Hilton expressed enthusiasm regarding the newly approved shared transportation agreement with Aspen Peaks School District, describing it as a positive outcome for both districts. He reflected that the agreement demonstrated the value of establishing a thoughtful process, remaining committed to that process, and allowing it to lead to a strong solution.

He thanked residents of the Anderson Farms community for communicating their concerns when the property was being considered as a possible transportation location. He expressed appreciation for their willingness to participate in the process and connected the experience to the district value of open communication that assumes goodwill.

Vice President Hilton encouraged the Board, administration, and community to continue applying that value as discussions move into more challenging areas involving boundaries, grade configurations, consolidations, and possible school closures. He acknowledged that those topics would likely generate strong emotions but stated that respectful communication and an assumption of goodwill would help the district reach better outcomes.

He also clarified that identifying a school for formal study does not mean the school will ultimately close. He explained that the Board may identify multiple junior high or elementary schools for study while ultimately closing considerably fewer schools. Schools may be included because they could be directly or substantially affected by a neighboring closure or boundary adjustment. He emphasized the importance of being transparent with the public about that distinction.

Board Member Michele Sorensen

Board Member Sorensen requested an update on the district hiring process, particularly in relation to the employment transition requirements associated with the district reorganization. Administration reported that district-level hiring was nearing completion, with approximately 80–90 percent of administrative, professional, and classified district positions filled.

Board Member Sorensen noted that the district was moving into Phase Three of the boundary study, where options were beginning to narrow and some matters were being taken off the table. She reported that the Communications Committee was working to develop Frequently Asked Questions and other materials to help the public access accurate information. She encouraged community members to use the Boundary Study section of the Timpanogos School District website as the primary source for information being used by the Board and administration.

She concluded by reflecting on the Region 8 PTA Summit, where more than 300 volunteers gathered from across the area. As Vice Chair of Region 8 PTA, she expressed appreciation for the strong participation and emphasized the importance of aligning PTA efforts with the goals of schools, principals, and teachers. She expressed hope that the same momentum, collaboration, and commitment to students would continue as PTAs transition into Timpanogos School District.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board and no need to convene a Closed Session pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-205, President Lyman entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Board member Smith moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Board Member Michele Sorensen seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately **7:10 p.m.**