UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:
ACTION: Wasatch Math 1010 Waiver Pilot and Proposed UDRC Research Project

Agenda item type:
Action Item

Recommended Action:
That the Committee recommends the Board approve a two-phased evaluation plan for the Wasatch Math Waiver Pilot:

1. **Phase 1 (Immediate / Near-Term Request):** Direct USBE and USHE staff to collaborate and report near-term college matriculation, math course placement, and first-year post-secondary retention rates for the 2024 and 2025 Wasatch High School graduating cohorts.
2. **Phase 2 (Longitudinal Research Project):** Formally request that the Utah Data Research Center (UDRC) tag the Wasatch pilot cohorts, alongside an appropriate matched control group, to evaluate long-term post-secondary degree completion, math attainment, and workforce outcomes once cohort data matures (2028–2030).

Purpose of Memo:
Committee request

Background:
Wasatch School District in 2023 received a USBE waiver allowing high school juniors to take **Math 1010** (Introductory College Algebra) in place of Secondary Math 3, creating a pathway to take **Math 1050** (College Algebra) during their senior year.

In last month's Committee meeting, Chair Davis requested an agenda item: To determine whether this model should be scaled statewide, should the Board commission a formal **Utah Data Research Center (UDRC)** research project to evaluate whether the data supports the claim that offering Math 1010 in 11th grade increases post-secondary attainment and math ability.

Current Data Findings: **Operational data from Utah Valley University (UVU) and Wasatch School District shows strong intermediate high school performance. But while current data confirms strong secondary performance success and increased concurrent enrollment uptake, it does not yet prove long-term post-secondary college entrance or degree completion. The data lacks actual college matriculation, college semester-to-semester persistence, or post-secondary degree completion.**

UDRC Data Timeline Realities: UDRC connects longitudinal records across USBE, USHE, and Workforce Services. Because the pilot cohorts took junior Math 1010 between 2023 and 2025, college entrance data will only begin maturing in 2026–2027. And 4-year college completion data will not exist until 2028–2030.

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Attachments:

1. Wasatch Math Takeways