

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING- AUGUST 26, 2026

The Board of Education of the Timpanogos School District met in a board meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 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 40 others were in attendance.

President Jennifer Lyman called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. President Lyman welcomed those in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT

Hyrum Clarke shared an inspirational thought centered on the importance of joy in education. Reflecting on a young ballet class, he contrasted the natural joy of young children with how that joy can sometimes diminish over time.

He connected the experience to the Timpanogos School District vision and thanked the Board for intentionally identifying joyful, thriving students as a district goal. He encouraged district leaders to continually consider whether schools and programs are protecting and cultivating joy throughout a student's educational experience.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

President Lyman reviewed the procedures for community comment and noted that seven individuals had signed up to address the Board.

Lon L. emphasized the importance of public notification and community involvement in the boundary and school closure process. Drawing from his family's experience with a previous school closure, he encouraged the Board to consider the importance of successfully blending school cultures when communities are consolidated. He also shared concerns regarding support and resources available to teachers as they prepare for the school year.

Chuck Bearce thanked Board members for their work and expressed support for the boundary study process. He acknowledged that difficult decisions would not satisfy everyone but encouraged the Board to continue relying on research, committee work, school input, student input, and community feedback. He expressed confidence that the Board would act in the best interests of students and employees.

Christian Allred, a Lindon resident and parent, spoke in opposition to school closures affecting Lindon. He expressed concerns regarding increased transportation costs and travel time, potential impacts on property values, and the effects of closure on students and community identity. He urged the Board to preserve neighborhood schools.

Jonathan Wayas, a parent and Orchard Elementary School Community Council member, asked the Board to consider special enrollment programs as part of closure and boundary decisions. He specifically discussed Spanish Dual Language Immersion and requested clarity regarding whether programs would continue, move, or otherwise change so families could plan accordingly.

Shantae Zundel, an Orem Elementary parent, expressed appreciation for the Board's work while advocating for Orem Elementary. She encouraged the Board to consider the school's strengths and future enrollment and suggested that the community should be willing to discuss additional public investment, including taxes, if needed to support neighborhood schools.

Tera Brough, a Lindon parent, expressed concern that multiple schools serving Lindon were under consideration. She asked the Board to preserve a strong Lindon community school if consolidation occurs, expressed concern that special enrollment programs could displace neighborhood students, and encouraged careful consideration of the emotional maturity of sixth-grade students if sixth grade is moved to junior high.

Jacob Perazzo, a Pleasant Grove resident and teacher, thanked the Board for the research and work supporting the boundary study. He encouraged the community to balance personal preferences with district-wide needs and expressed support for evidence-based decisions, including consideration of school closures where appropriate.

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: Board Member Grace Rex 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.

The motion passed unanimously, 7/0

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Resolution #2026-016 – Disposition of One ASD Transit Van and One ASD Utility Trailer

Superintendent Joseph Jensen presented Resolution #2026-016 declaring one ASD transit van and one utility trailer as surplus. He explained that the surplus action required agreement among the three districts.

Motion: Board Member David H. Smith moved to approve Resolution #2026-016.

Second: Board Member Grace Fugal seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

President Lyman asked about the relatively new transit van. **Board Member Michele Sorensen** explained that the 15-passenger vehicle exceeded risk-management requirements for student transportation by non-bus-driver employees. **Board Member Smith** further clarified the restrictions associated with employees transporting students in the vehicle. **Board Member Rex** asked about the utility trailer and confirmed that it was used by the Lone Peak High School band. Discussion noted that the trailer was aging, had structural concerns with the floor, and was being replaced to meet the needs of the growing band program.

The motion passed unanimously. Resolution #2026-016 was approved, 7/0

2. Resolution #2026-017 – MOU for East Shore Online and Alpine Online Replacement with Aspen Peaks School District

Superintendent Jensen introduced Resolution #2026-017, a Memorandum of Understanding with Aspen Peaks School District for shared East Shore Online, Alpine Online replacement, and related adult education services.

He explained that the agreement would provide students with opportunities for credit recovery, credit advancement, and online educational services while allowing both districts to benefit from shared resources.

Motion: Board Member Michele Sorensen moved to approve Resolution #2026-017.

Second: Vice President Sterling Hilton seconded the motion.

Board Discussion

Board Member Smith clarified that the agreement also included adult education services, including GED preparation, and expressed strong support for maintaining those opportunities. **Vice President Sterling Hilton** supported the MOU as an effective interim solution that would provide services while allowing Timpanogos School District time to develop its future online-learning model. **President Lyman** asked about early termination of the agreement. **Hyrum Clarke** explained that the MOU could be modified by mutual agreement and that the districts would formally review the arrangement after two years to determine whether to terminate, allow it to expire, or extend it. **Board Member Rex** supported the interim arrangement and suggested that the districts consult high school registrars regarding grading practices that can affect student transcripts. **Board Member Wilson** asked about the financial structure. **Mr. Clarke** explained that operating costs and employee allocations would generally be based on programming rather than district enrollment. **Board Member Smith** asked whether Aspen Peaks had approved the agreement. **President Lyman** noted that the Aspen Peaks Board was scheduled to consider the MOU the following day.

The motion passed unanimously. Resolution #2026-017 was approved, 7/0.

SCHOOL CLOSURE, SPECIAL PROGRAM, AND BOUNDARY STUDIES

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Superintendent Jensen provided background on the boundary study and encouraged the public to review previous Study Sessions for additional detail. He emphasized that naming schools for study did not mean the Board intended to close every school listed. Schools that could receive students or otherwise experience significant impacts were also being named in order to provide greater transparency. Superintendent Jensen reiterated that the district did not begin the process by asking which schools should close. The guiding question was how to provide a robust school experience for every student. He explained that low enrollment can limit specialty programs, course offerings, collaboration opportunities, and other educational experiences. **President Lyman** explained that state statute requires schools being considered for closure or consolidation to be specifically named. She emphasized that the Board was formally placing options under study while continuing to gather information and public feedback and that no final closure decisions had been made.

3. School Closure Study and Notice – Canyon View Junior High School

Board Member Ada Wilson moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Canyon View Junior High School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Guy Fugal.**

President Lyman noted that closing Canyon View could require significant changes to high school boundaries but said including the school in the study would preserve flexibility. **Board Member Sorensen** emphasized the importance of student identity and true feeder patterns. **Board Member Rex** agreed that

Canyon View presented challenges but supported keeping the option open so the Board could receive additional public feedback. **Vice President Hilton** emphasized that excluding Canyon View at this point would prematurely remove it from consideration.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

4. School Closure Study and Notice – Oak Canyon Junior High School

Board Member Guy Fugal moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Oak Canyon Junior High School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Grace Rex.**

Board Member Smith acknowledged his long professional connection to Oak Canyon and recognized the emotional nature of considering school closures. **Board Member Rex** noted Oak Canyon's strong setting and community. **President Lyman** acknowledged her family's personal connection to Oak Canyon. **Board Member Sorensen** discussed declining enrollment in the area and noted that the region has several schools located within a relatively small geographic area. She explained that declining enrollment had contributed significantly to the need for the study.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

5. School Closure Study and Notice – Orem Junior High School

Board Member Grace Rex moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Orem Junior High School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Michele Sorensen.**

Board Member Smith reflected on his family's connection to Orem Junior High and again emphasized the emotional impact of the decisions. **Superintendent Jensen** acknowledged his personal and professional connections to both Orem Junior High and Oak Canyon and reiterated that the three junior highs were being studied to preserve options, not because all three would close. **Vice President Hilton** clarified that the study could ultimately result in no junior high closure if the Board concluded that was the best outcome. **President Lyman** noted that no high school had been named for closure, effectively taking high school closure off the table at this stage. **Board Member Rex** emphasized her belief that true feeder patterns could provide significant benefits for students.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

6. School Closure Study and Notice – Aspen Elementary School

Board Member Michele Sorensen moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Aspen Elementary School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board President Jennnifer Lyman.**

Board Member Wilson noted that Aspen Elementary had explored several options over the years to increase enrollment, including Chinese immersion. She recognized Aspen as a strong neighborhood school with a caring culture and acknowledged its efforts to respond creatively to enrollment challenges.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

7. School Closure Study and Notice – Bonneville Elementary School

Board President Lyman moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Bonneville Elementary School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **Vice President Hilton seconded the motion.**

President Lyman noted that the Board had visited every district school and explained that enrollment was being used as an initial indicator in evaluating the broader robust-school criteria. **Vice President Hilton** clarified that enrollment was one measure connected to the larger set of robust-school considerations.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

8. School Closure Study and Notice – Foothill Elementary School

Vice President Hilton moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Foothill Elementary School, including its ALL program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member David H. Smith.**

President Lyman explained that special enrollment programs were being named to preserve the Board's ability to move, modify, or close programs as part of future consolidation decisions. **Board Member Sorensen** discussed the district's goal of providing gifted and talented opportunities at every elementary school and referenced the possibility of gifted and talented specialists supporting students across schools. **President Lyman** emphasized the importance of creating access to advanced learning opportunities for students whose families may not be able to transport them to magnet programs.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

9. School Closure Study and Notice – Lindon Elementary School

Board Member Smith moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Lindon Elementary School, including its ALL program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Ada Wilson.**

Board Member Wilson acknowledged that Lindon Elementary had previously faced closure discussions and recognized the difficulty of renewed uncertainty for the community. **President Lyman** praised the school's strong culture and community. **Board Member Rex** expressed hope that current decisions would create long-term stability so communities would not repeatedly face possible closure. **Business Administrator Jason Sundberg** explained that official October 1 enrollment counts would be used to develop updated projections for presentation to the Board in November. **Vice President Hilton** emphasized the importance of universal screening for gifted and talented students. **Board Member Wilson** added that future programming could include multiple entry and exit points.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

10. School Closure Study and Notice – Northridge Elementary School

Board Member Wilson moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Northridge Elementary School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Guy Fugal.**

Following brief discussion, the Board voted.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

11. School Closure Study and Notice – Orchard Elementary School

Board Member Fugal moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Orchard Elementary School, including its Spanish DLI program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Grace Rex.**

Board Member Sorensen noted that if the Board ultimately chose to close a special enrollment program, discussions had included grandfathering students already participating in the program. **President Lyman** added that program matriculation from elementary school through junior high and high school would also need to be considered.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

12. School Closure Study and Notice – Orem Elementary School

Board Member Rex moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Orem Elementary School, including its ALL program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Sorensen.**

Vice President Hilton noted that Orem Elementary differed from many other schools under consideration because its enrollment currently met the robust-school criteria. He explained that it was being included because changes to neighboring schools could significantly affect Orem Elementary. **Board Member Smith** noted that Orem Elementary was also one of the district's schools projected to experience some growth. **Board Member Rex** recognized the school's successful PTA-sponsored play program. **Board Member Wilson** acknowledged her personal connection to Orem Elementary and reflected that Board members must consider all Timpanogos schools and students, not only those with which they have personal connections.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

13. School Closure Study and Notice – Parkside Elementary School

Board Member Sorensen moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Parkside Elementary School, including any special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board President Lyman.**

Board Members Rex and Wilson acknowledged that the Parkside community had already experienced significant change following the closure of Geneva Elementary. **Board Member Wilson** praised Principal John Shelton and the school community for successfully building a strong culture. **President Lyman** noted that Parkside could experience significant changes without necessarily closing and said formally including the school would provide the community an opportunity to participate in the process.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

14. School Closure Study and Notice – Rocky Mountain Elementary School

A motion was made by Board President Lyman to initiate a study of the closure of Rocky Mountain Elementary School, including its Portuguese DLI program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board Vice President Hilton.**

President Lyman discussed challenges that can arise when special enrollment programs are used to increase enrollment at under-enrolled schools. She referenced split-grade classrooms as an example of the impact low neighborhood enrollment can have on students and teachers. She emphasized the need to create schools that can support strong special programs while also providing robust opportunities for neighborhood students.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

15. School Closure Study and Notice – Windsor Elementary School

Vice President Hilton moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure of Windsor Elementary School, including its Spanish DLI program and any other special enrollment programs, and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Smith.**

Board Member Sorensen recognized the previous uncertainty experienced by the Windsor community and thanked Principal Jenny Moore for her participation in the elementary boundary committees. **President Lyman** discussed the importance of making decisions in a timely manner, noting that prolonged uncertainty can affect staffing and school culture. She said the goal of making final decisions by December would allow communities time to plan and begin transition work. Board Member Sorensen emphasized that significant work would continue after decisions were made to support students, teachers, and communities. **Board Member Rex** expressed hope that the Board could make long-term decisions that would prevent communities from repeatedly facing possible closure.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

16. Special Enrollment Program Study and Notice – Cascade Elementary Chinese DLI

Board Member Smith moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure or movement of the Chinese DLI program and any other special enrollment programs at Cascade Elementary School and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Wilson.**

Vice President Hilton clarified that Cascade Elementary itself was not being studied for closure. The action was intended to provide flexibility to move or modify the Chinese DLI program as boundaries and configurations were studied. **Board Member Rex** recognized the Cascade community for successfully navigating rebuilding, relocation, and consolidation with Sharon Elementary and praised the community and PTA for supporting families through those changes.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

17. Special Enrollment Program Study and Notice – Cherry Hill Elementary Spanish DLI

Board Member Wilson moved that the Board initiate a study of the closure or movement of the Spanish DLI program and any other special enrollment programs at Cherry Hill Elementary School and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Fugal.**

Board Member Wilson recognized Cherry Hill as the location of Alpine School District's first DLI program and noted its long history. **President Lyman** discussed Cherry Hill's distinctive DLI model, which serves both English-speaking students learning Spanish and Spanish-speaking students, and said the model would be valuable to study as the district evaluates future DLI programming.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

18. School Boundary Study and Notice – All High Schools

Board Member Fugal moved that the Board initiate a study of potential boundary changes for each high school in Timpanogos School District and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Rex.**

Board Member Rex expressed interest in receiving public feedback regarding how much or how little high school boundaries should change.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

19. School Boundary Study and Notice – All Junior High Schools

Board Member Rex moved that the Board initiate a study of potential boundary changes for each junior high school in Timpanogos School District and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board member Sorensen.**

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

20. School Boundary Study and Notice – All Elementary Schools

Board Member Sorensen moved that the Board initiate a study of potential boundary changes for each elementary school in Timpanogos School District and direct district employees to notify the public. **The motion was seconded by Board President Lyman.**

Board Member Wilson asked for clarification regarding the purpose of the final boundary studies.

President Lyman clarified that these actions specifically opened studies of possible boundary changes that could result from efforts to bring schools into alignment with the district's robust-school criteria.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS & COMMENTS

Board Member David H. Smith reported on the Board's meeting earlier that day with the Orem City Council. He described it as a valuable opportunity for city and district officials to exchange information and discuss how they can work together to serve students and residents. He noted that a similar meeting with Lindon City was planned.

Vice President Sterling Hilton reflected on the school closure and boundary actions taken during the meeting. He emphasized that the work was not being driven solely by finances and was not being undertaken without compassion. He encouraged community members to both “zoom in” to understand their individual schools and “zoom out” to consider the district as a whole. He committed to genuinely listening to community feedback while recognizing that listening does not necessarily mean agreeing with every position. He emphasized the Board's responsibility to ultimately consider what is best for all Timpanogos School District students and schools.

Board President Jennifer Lyman expressed appreciation for the district's principals and their contributions to the boundary study. She recognized their experience, perspective, and willingness to consider the district as a whole. She acknowledged that the process would require difficult and sometimes painful decisions but expressed confidence in the district's principals, teachers, staff, and leadership. President Lyman encouraged continued public participation and emphasized that community feedback was being heard and considered, even when Board members might ultimately reach different conclusions.

Board Member Michele Sorensen shared an interaction with a teacher who acknowledged that the boundary study could personally affect her but expressed trust that the Board was working to make the best possible decisions. She encouraged community members to review the work that preceded the naming of schools, including the robust-school criteria developed through input from the public, administrators, district leadership, and Board members. She encouraged positive, constructive communication and emphasized the district value of two-way communication that assumes goodwill.

Board Member Grace Rex expressed appreciation for the strong community attendance and participation. She reiterated her support for moving ninth grade to high school and, where possible, creating true feeder patterns. She reflected on her family's experience when Sierra Park and Hillcrest were combined to create Centennial Elementary and acknowledged the difficulty of school consolidation. Board Member Rex explained that after visiting schools and studying current instructional practices, she had become increasingly convinced that robust schools support stronger teacher collaboration and improved opportunities for students. She also acknowledged the need to balance educational resources with taxpayers' ability to absorb additional costs.

Board Member Guy Fugal reported on the Board's meeting earlier that day with the Orem City Council, noting that it was the second opportunity for the two governing bodies to meet. He described the meeting as part of the Board's ongoing outreach to the cities within Timpanogos School District and said it provided a valuable opportunity for city and district officials to share information, hear one another's perspectives, and discuss how they can work together to serve students and community members. He noted that a similar meeting with Lindon City was planned in the coming weeks and expressed appreciation for continued opportunities to build relationships and communicate with local government partners.

Board Member Ada Wilson thanked those who participated in public comment and said both supportive comments and concerns were valuable. She encouraged community members to review the Study Session for additional information regarding programs, timelines, and upcoming decisions. Board Member Wilson reflected on previous Truth in Taxation hearings and stated that she could not support asking taxpayers for additional resources without first demonstrating that the district was using existing resources responsibly. She also reported on the meeting with Orem City and highlighted the city's Fire Cadet Program, safe routes efforts, and school resource officer support.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Jensen reflected on the size and complexity of the boundary study and emphasized that there were many interconnected factors. He reiterated that no final outcomes had been predetermined and that the district would continue studying scenarios and gathering information during the coming months. Superintendent Jensen emphasized the human element of the process and referenced the opening words of the district vision, **“Together, we.”** He praised the Board for approaching the work with humanity and courage and stated that formal notices and continued community outreach would occur throughout the study period. He emphasized that continued public involvement would help the district make better decisions and ultimately provide each student with a strong educational experience.

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: Vice President Hilton seconded the motion.

The board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously, 7/0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:52 p.m.