

Board Meeting  
Wednesday, August 26, 2026 6:00 PM  
Mountain

District Office Board Room  
346 East 600 North  
Nephi, UT 84648

Brady Blackett: Present  
Linda Hanks: Present  
Hollie Holman: Present  
Bart Mills: Present  
Janet Ware: Present  
Present: 5.

## 1. PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

1.A. Reverence - **Darin**

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance - **Bart**

## 2. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Recording Begins

2.A. Roll Call - **Linda**

All Board members were in attendance along with Superintendent Hughes and Business Administrator Clark. Those who signed the attendance role were Madalyn Nuccitelli, Dallas Wright, Bella Padilla, Brady Gempeler, Price Armstrong, and Jakoye Smith. District employees in attendance were Andy Carlsen, Sandy Nielsen, Catherine Bowring, and Erika Johnson.

2.B. **Mission Statement**

Provide a flexible and personalized learning pathway to success for each student through high expectations in a safe environment.

**Vision Statement**

Empowering our students to discover and pursue their dreams!

2.C. Approval of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes

Approval. This motion, made by Bart Mills and seconded by Janet Ware, Passed.

Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

2.D. Approval of Board Agenda

Approval Item G2 is being postponed noting a closed meeting will be held to discuss threatened or pending litigation. This motion, made by Janet Ware and seconded by Hollie Holman, Passed.

Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Item G2 is being postponed.

## 2.E. Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval. This motion, made by Hollie Holman and seconded by Brady Blackett, Passed.  
Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

### 2.E.1. Claims

### 2.E.2. Financial Reports

### 2.E.3. Staffing

### 2.E.4. Home School Affidavit Summary

## 2.F. Communications

### 2.F.1. USBA Fall Regional Meeting Information

### 2.F.2. 2026-2027 Board of Education Assignments

## 2.G. Recognition of Excellence

### 2.G.1. JHS SBO Report - **JHS SBO's**

SBO Representatives Price Armstrong, Brady Gempeler, Bella Padilla, & Dallas Wright reported on the following.

- **Summer & First Day of School:** Summer preparations finished ahead of schedule. The first day of school ran smoothly, with administration and cheerleaders greeting arriving students to ease first-day nerves—a gesture positively highlighted by parent feedback.
- **After-School Activities:** Attendance is noticeably higher than last year. Student engagement and energy remain high across events.
- **Cell Phone Policy Adaptation:**
  - Overall adaptation to the new policy is going well, though both staff and students are still adjusting.
  - Passing periods remain a challenge, with some students continuing to use phones during these times.
- **Parking Infrastructure:** Parking capacity remains a major concern. The goal is to secure enough on-campus spots for all students to prevent overflow parking in the neighborhood east of the school.
- **Homecoming Planning:**
  - **Schedule:** Homecoming Week leads up to the football game on Friday, September 25th, and the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, September 26th.
  - **Activities:** Plans include daily dress-up themes, the annual parade, and a scheduled evening activity every night after school.

### 2.G.2. DUP Sterling Scholar Recognition - **Lucinda Kay**

Item is postponed to a future meeting.

## 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SEGMENT

No Public Participation Recording 00:11:00

#### 4. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Recording 00:12:00

##### 4.A. Nephi Seminary Request Letter

###### 1. Context & Purpose

- **Issue:** Seminary programs seek to eliminate student cell phone usage during class to reduce distraction and access to unmonitored apps (e.g., Instagram, Snapchat).
- **Objective:** Allow students to access necessary study materials on monitored, district-provided devices (i.e., iPads) rather than personal mobile phones.

###### 2. District Technical Assessment & Delivery Method

- **Pushing vs. Whitelisting:** Administrative and IT research determined that directly "pushing" (automatically installing) a religious app to all student devices is inappropriate.
- **Self-Service Portal Model:** The district will whitelist the **Gospel Library app** in its "Self-Service" app catalog.
- **Student Choice:** The app will not be pre-installed. Students must voluntarily select and download the app from the portal onto their district device.

###### 3. Legal & Compliance Considerations

- **Legal Review:** District legal counsel reviewed the proposed Self-Service model and identified no legal issues or policy prohibitions, provided the app remains strictly optional.

##### 4.B. Academic Achievement Calendar

Dr. Hughes presented about the plans for having school report back on the Board's SMART goals progress throughout the school year. The calendar was presented to the board. Board Member Ware suggested the Elementary School's be on their own month since there are 3 of them and not doubled up with one of the secondary schools. Dr. Hughes will look at the schedule and make adjustments as he sees fit.

##### 4.C. Policy FDEB Prohibited Food Additives

The Juab School District will not move forward with adopting the state-level food dye policy. Legal Exemption provided under Utah Code 53G-9-205.2. School districts with 5,500 students or fewer are exempt from mandatory participation.

##### 4.D. Follow up on Cell Phone Policy

- The board agreed to bring the policy back to the agenda for a progress report in **September**.
- Reports will cover metrics from secondary schools: confiscation numbers, students on steps 1-3 of discipline, tardiness trends, and specific "trouble spots" like lunchtime enforcement.

- Board members raised concerns regarding students needing devices for medical reasons (e.g., blood sugar tracking apps) and the privacy/social friction of having to pull out a phone.
  - The tech department will look into whether essential medical or educational apps can be loaded onto school-issued iPads while navigating personal data privacy limitations.
- **Teachers & Parents:** Unsolicited feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with teachers expressing gratitude for reduced distractions and parents appreciating set boundaries.
- **Students & Adjustment:** Board members acknowledged device addiction and habit loops, emphasizing that students and adults alike need grace and time to adapt to the new normal.
- Principal Quarnberg set a collaborative tone during a school assembly by challenging students to hold *him* accountable if they catch him using his phone casually, offering a pop or candy bar out of his own pocket if caught.
- The board emphasized that administrative follow-through, consistent enforcement across all staff, and active supervision during out-of-classroom times (like lunch and passing periods) are critical to preventing the policy from fading out.

## 5. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

Recording 00:44:00

### 5.A. Approval of Policies for Second Reading

- DBAE Bereavement Leave
- GN District Communications

Approval. This motion, made by Bart Mills and seconded by Hollie Holman, Passed.  
 Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea  
 Yea: 5, Nay: 0

### 5.B. Approval of Policy DADA Employment Transfers for First Reading

Approval. This motion, made by Janet Ware and seconded by Brady Blackett, Passed.  
 Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea  
 Yea: 5, Nay: 0

### 5.C. Approval of Policy GBA Board of Education Hotline for First Reading

Approval. This motion, made by Brady Blackett and seconded by Hollie Holman, Passed.  
 Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea  
 Yea: 5, Nay: 0

5.D. Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed property tax increase; adoption of the Juab School District final property tax rates and revenues for Tax Year 2026 through Utah State Tax Commission Form PT-800, Resolution Adopting Final Tax Rates and Budgets; and adoption of the Juab School District Final FY2026–27 Budget and appropriations.

- Consideration and possible action on the proposed increase above the certified tax rate and the budgeting of the resulting additional ad valorem property tax revenue.
- Consideration and possible adoption of Utah State Tax Commission Form PT-800, Resolution Adopting Final Tax Rates and Budgets, establishing Juab School District's final property tax rates and revenues for Tax Year 2026.
- Consideration and possible adoption of the Juab School District Final FY2026–27 Budget and related appropriations.

I move that the Juab School District Board of Education, having completed the notice and public hearing requirements of Utah Code Section 59-2-919 and having considered the public comments received, approve the proposed property tax increase above the certified tax rate and the budgeting of the resulting additional ad valorem property tax revenue for capital improvements and expansion of the District's Career and Technical Education facilities. I further move that the Board: Adopt the Resolution approving the property tax increase and the final property tax rates and revenues for Tax Year 2026; Adopt Utah State Tax Commission Form PT-800, Resolution Adopting Final Tax Rates and Budgets, including all final Juab School District property tax rates and revenues shown therein for Tax Year 2026; Adopt the Juab School District Final FY2026-2027 Budget and related appropriations, including the additional property tax revenue generated by the approved tax increase; and Authorize the Board President and Business Administrator to sign, certify, submit, and make any necessary administrative corrections to the Resolution, Form PT-800, budget documents, and related compliance materials, provided that no such correction changes the tax rates, property tax revenues, or appropriations approved by the Board. This motion, made by Bart Mills and seconded by Hollie Holman, Passed.

Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

## 6. ITEMS FOR BOARD INFORMATION

- September 7 - Labor Day
- September 12 - 9/11 Day of Service
- September 16 - Board Meeting

Recording 00:56:00

## 7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

1:00:00

**Hollie**

- **Daughters of Utah Pioneers (DUP) & Sterling Scholars:** Highlighted the interactive QR code project created by high school Sterling Scholars at the fair to introduce community members to local historical figures.

**Janet**

- **9/11 Day of Service Details:**

- **Nephi:** Kickoff at 9:00 a.m. at two local parks with a memorial program featuring the American Legion, high school choir, and Nephi Stake children's choir. Activities include assembling adult hygiene kits (distributed through Hearts Knit Together) and grounds maintenance at the DUP museum and regional jail.
- **Mona:** Includes a 7:30 a.m. fun run, 9:00 a.m. community cleanup at four town entrances, and a 10:30 a.m. program.
- **Student Leadership:** Sterling Scholars are serving on the East Juab County Steering Committee, managing digital outreach, MCing events, and providing QR code access for local volunteer opportunities, senior care assistance, and food pantries.

## **Bart**

- **Staff & Employee Appreciation:** Expressed appreciation for teachers, aides, custodians, food service workers, and administration, emphasizing the significant behind-the-scenes work required to run schools and manage student experiences.
- **Truth in Taxation Hearing:** Commended Business Administrator Clark for leading a clear, informative presentation that addressed community questions and resolved financial concerns prior to passing the measure.

## **Linda**

- **Opening Institute:** Thanked district staff and Superintendent for organizing the opening event, lunch, and keynote presentation.
- **School Visits & Opening Week:**
  - **High School & Junior High:** Observed back-to-school assemblies. Noted the energy in each respective building and the great kickoff to the school year.
  - **Red Cliffs Elementary:** Attended the opening assembly where former teacher Ann Peterson and her husband recognized teacher Jodi Sipple on behalf of JustServe for her work with students and Unified Sports. Highlighted Principal Mecham for greeting students individually by name
- **Local Agricultural Resolution:**
  - Introduced a resolution advocating for better utilization of local farming products within Utah and schools.
  - Reported that the resolution passed unanimously with the Utah School Boards Association Board of Directors and will advance to the Pacific Region meeting in October, with potential progression to the National School Boards Association.

## **Dr. Hughes**

- **Community Support & Fundraising:**
  - Highlighted local efforts at the fairgrounds that raised \$250,000-\$300,000 for local farmers impacted by recent fires.
  - Recognized contributions from local businesses for district events, including Apple Spice providing lunch for staff during the Opening Institute.

- **Elementary Engagement:** Praised Mona Elementary for hosting a student writing night featuring a guest author.
- **Upcoming Service:** Expressed gratitude for widespread community and business participation across Juab County leading up to the annual Day of Service.

## Darin

- **Annual Audit Update:** Reported on the ongoing annual audit conducted during the first week of school.
- **Team Participation:** Expressed gratitude to district staff across departments for assisting auditors, noting that the audit process is approximately 80% complete.

### 7.A. Upcoming Agenda Items

Board members were given time to request specific items to be on upcoming board meeting agendas. Dr. Hughes informed the board that building facility use agreements will be coming soon for discussion. Board President Hanks requested that the Board be informed of whom the Sterling Scholars are at the first of the school year and still recognize them after competing in the Spring.

## 8. CLOSED MEETING

Move into closed meeting to discuss threatened or pending litigation. This motion, made by Janet Ware and seconded by Brady Blackett, Passed.

Brady Blackett: Yea, Linda Hanks: Yea, Hollie Holman: Yea, Bart Mills: Yea, Janet Ware: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

8.A. Discussion of the character and competence of an individual, collective bargaining, threatened or pending litigation, purchase and/or sale of real property, water shares, security systems, investigative proceedings, deliberations, information regarding trade secrets, procurement process.

\*\* With nothing left on the agenda the meeting was closed at 7:41 p.m.\*\*