

Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 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 - **Bart**

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

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. District Employees in attendance were Erika Johnson, Catherine Bowring, Sandra Nielsen, Andy Carlsen, and Legal Council Brittany Tellez. Those who signed the attendance role were Myrna Trauntvein, Marcie Keen, Breanna Burrows, Gretta Burrows, Stacy Stoker, Diane Blackham, Garrett Blackham, Natalie Jones, Devin Jones, Dustin Robinson, Sally Robinson, Alice Bingham, Brady Gempeler, Madalyn Nuccitelli, Price & Gus Armstrong, Isaac Dansie, Heidi Jones, River Demers, Chelsey Jensen, Alloa Demers, Jacob Thorn, Jacquelyn Thorn, Oliver Thorn, Kurt & Denise Winnie, Khloey Winnie, Kashlynn Winnie, Debbie Francom, Kyleah Winnie, Bryson Winnie, Nathan Demers, Havana Demers, Ace Robinson, Dash Robinson, & Shari Cowan.

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 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

2.D. Approval of Board Agenda

Approval noting there will be a closed meeting to discuss character and competence of an individual. 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

2.E. Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval. This motion, made by Brady Blackett 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.E.1. Claims

2.E.2. Financial Reports

2.E.3. Staffing

2.E.4. Policies with Minor Code or Language Changes

- BAA Board Legal Status: Powers and Duties
- BBB Board Members: Elections & Redistricting
- BBC Board Members: Vacancies on the Board
- BBD Board Members: Conflicts of Interest
- BD Board Internal Operations
- BE Board Meetings
- BEC Board Meetings: Closed Meetings
- BL Administrative Personnel
- BU District Annual Reports
- CAB Revenue & Budgeting: Local Revenue

2.E.5. Deletion of Policy CCA Procurement of Construction: School Construction Bidding

2.E.6. LEA Specific Licenses

2.E.7. Home School Affidavit Summary

2.F. Communications

2.F.1. USBA Regional Meeting

2.F.2. CUES Legislative Discussion

2.G. Recognition of Excellence

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

Meeting Segment: Drew High School SBO Report

- **Student Presenters:**
 - **Price Armstrong:** SBO President
 - **Brady Gempeler:** SBO Vice President
 - **Isaac Dansie:** Senior Class President
 - **Alice Bingham:** Senior Class Vice President
- **School Atmosphere & Policies:**

- **Engagement:** High student attendance and excitement at activities; positive, renewed school climate.
- **Cell Phone Policy:** Implementation is going well with minimal issues/hiccups.
- **Upcoming Homecoming Week Details (Theme: "Storybook Homecoming"):**
 - **Monday:** Pajama dress-up (*Children's books*); Powder Puff game.
 - **Tuesday:** Superhero dress-up; inaugural **Car Smash** event.
 - **Wednesday:** Grade-level color dress-up; Pep rally with class games; *Lighting of the J.*
 - **Thursday:** Fancy dress-up (*The Great Gatsby*); Mix-and-mingle party with a soft drink bar.
 - **Friday:** Juab gear/Blackout dress-up; Club/Sports Parade (~1:30 PM); Homecoming football game; Post-game bonfire.
 - **Saturday:** Homecoming Dance held at the **high school** (moved from Painters).

2.G.2. Nebo View Elementary Students Gus Armstrong, Havana Demers, Gretta Burrows, Dash Robinson, Leo Jones, Oliver Thorn, & Khloey Winnie. Instructional Coach Diane Blackham- **Principal Keen**

Principal Keen presented the students because of their excellence in commitment to reading.

- **Last Year's Theme:** "Commitment is Key, Stick With It" (District theme: Commitment).
- **Achievement:** Students achieved well above typical growth on their individual Acadience reading growth pathways.
- **Recognition Focus:** Honored for their perseverance, daily effort, responsiveness to feedback, and refusal to give up through reading challenges.

Diane

- **Data-Driven & Practical Support:** Translates reading instruction expertise into hands-on classroom strategies, partnering directly with teachers to analyze student data and plan targeted next steps.
- **Creative Goal Tracking:** Spearheaded the successful school-wide goal-setting initiative inspired by bricks in Mr. Quinn's room, designing the framework for teachers to set, track, and celebrate student progress.
- **Above-and-Beyond Dedication:** Voluntarily dedicated personal time to paint, carve student initials, and mount the bricks for display.
- **Impact:** Outstanding commitment, creativity, and work ethic have significantly improved literacy outcomes and supported staff across Nebo View Elementary.

2.H. Academic Achievement Report

2.H.1. Special Ed Programs Update - **Director Bowring**
Key Strategic Focus Areas

- **IEP Quality & Growth:** Enhancing IEP standards, improving state assessment growth percentiles, and expanding general education co-teaching.
- **Inclusion & Transition:** Elevating meaningful inclusion and strengthening post-secondary adulthood transition programs.

Program & Capital Highlights

- **Connections Academy (Post-High):** Rebranded transition program led by Tammy Hoops. Students are actively establishing community partnerships and vocational placements (admin support, logistics, customer service) with local businesses and city leadership.
- **Red Cliffs Inclusive Playground:** Construction complete on an accessible playground featuring shade structures, rubberized turf, tactile/musical play stations, and wheelchair-accessible basket swings.
 - **Ribbon-Cutting Ceremonies (Monday):** 9:00 AM (Preschool), 9:30 AM (Kindergarten), and 10:00 AM (SpEd Class).

Department Statistics & Operations

- **Student Population:** 337 total SpEd students (~13-14% district ratio, aligned with target state/national metrics).
- **Key Classrooms:** 15 severe/profound students at the High School; 14-15 students at Red Cliffs Elementary.
- **Related Services:** 207 speech students (served by 3.5 Pathologists and 3 Technicians); OT and PT services delivered via certified assistants and contracted licensed supervisors.
- **Staffing Acknowledged:** Diane Park (Admin Support), Kandi Dansie (SpEd Coordinator), and Heidi Robins (School Psychologist). Sandy Nielsen was later recognized for all of the work she does with the Pre-school program.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SEGMENT

Recording 00:44:00

No Public Participation

4. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Recording: 00:45:00

4.A. JHS Cell Phone Policy Report - JHS Admin Cell Phone Policy Implementation & Enforcement

- **Student Reception:** Feedback from the Principal's Roundtable is overall positive. Students requested cell phone access during lunch, but the policy will remain strict to prevent ongoing enforcement issues.
- **Staff Compliance:** Teachers and administration strictly adhere to the policy, utilizing portable walkie-talkies for internal communications instead of personal cell phones.
- **Enforcement & Disciplinary Steps:**

- **Classroom Protocol:** Confiscated phones are placed in labeled paper bags and stored securely in the main office.
- **1st Offense:** Logged in the system; returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- **2nd Offense:** Logged; parent/guardian must retrieve the phone.
- **Subsequent Offenses:** Progresses toward potential suspension (repeat offenses are currently rare).
- **Facility Action Item:** Students reported using phones to check the time due to a lack of wall clocks in classrooms; administration is evaluating solutions.

4.B. Capital Projects Update - **Dr. Hughes** **High School**

- **Completed:** HVAC wiring systems update, basketball floor restoration, hallway LED lighting upgrades, exterior door replacements (~6 doors), and ADA compliant doors.
- **On Watchlist/On Hold:** Safety glass and general HVAC upgrades.

Junior High School

- **Completed/In Progress:** Science lab renovation (shelving/flooring to accommodate a new teacher), complete renovation of the 1970s-style restrooms, creation of an ADA family restroom (converted from a custodial closet behind a trophy case), classroom LED lighting upgrades, and a front lobby redesign (added a divider wall and stools instead of swivel chairs).
- **On Watchlist/On Hold:** Exterior safety deck glass front (held for a year at Principal Francum's request to evaluate traffic flow; \$80k external vestibule proposal rejected).

Auditorium

- **Completed/In Progress:** Stage lighting upgrade underway via a new contractor system.
- **Scheduled:** House light resurfacing for 24 lights scheduled for January (requiring seats to be removed and scaffolding brought in for 30 days). Stage floor resurfacing/overlay solutions are currently being evaluated.

Mona Elementary School

- **Completed:** Classroom carpet upgrades, new student desks, emergency safety lights in the windowless SPED room, stage floor resurfacing, and updated front door key fob access.
- **Water Damage Mitigation:** Removed exterior dirt berms due to unexpected black mold, replaced insulation, and pulled up sprinklers. Next step is pouring a concrete skirt around the perimeter to direct water away.

Nebo View Elementary School

- **Completed:** Reallocated space to accommodate 60 new students (turned the coach classroom into a classroom), added emergency safety lights, and installed new storage cabinets and replacement countertops.

Red Cliffs Elementary School

- **Completed/In Progress:** Multi-year classroom carpet replacement rotation (year 1 of 4) and a full renovation of the kitchen freezer/fridge unit to fix air pockets and mold issues.
- **On Watchlist/On Hold:** Epoxy aggregate kitchen flooring postponed until next year due to ongoing kitchen construction.

District-Wide & Additional Updates

- **Roof Maintenance:** Current priority leak identified over the Juab Junior High library following recent rain; Red Cliffs is slated as the next major roof priority.
- **New Facility/Building:** Target move-in remains late October/early November. Requires an unexpected electrical system upgrade to handle the power load, coordinated with the city.
- **Upcoming Planning:** Capital facility priorities will be reviewed in the November work session.

4.C. Secondary Grading Report - Dr. Hughes

1. Executive Summary & Grading Shift

- **Context:** The district is transitioning from a 1-4 competency-based grading system back to traditional letter grades (A-F) and percentage scales.
- **Rationale:** Addresses long-standing parent and student confusion, technical limitations in grading platforms, and college admissions reporting requirements.
- **Communication Impact:** Transitioning directly to traditional letter grades and percentages (4.0 scale equivalents) has significantly reduced inbound parent inquiries compared to previous years.

2. Secondary Grading Structure

The secondary grading scale is standardized into three core weighted categories:

- **Summative Assessments:** 50%
- **Formative Assessments:** 40%
- **Participation & Attendance:** 10%

3. Implementation Models by School Level

Metric / Aspect	Junior High School	High School
System Standard	School-Wide: Single uniform 3-point daily rubric across all classes. • 3 pts: Present, on time, and on task.	Department-Based: Criteria tailored by department (e.g., PE dress-out, shop safety, math engagement).
Daily Scoring Criteria	• 2 pts: Tardy or lapse in participation. • 1 pt: Required redirection. • 0 pts: Absent or off-task.	Points deducted for unexcused absences, tardies, cell phone misuse, or lack of engagement.
Absence Flexibility	Drops the 3 lowest daily participation scores per quarter for personal/family absences.	Points are not penalized for school-sanctioned extracurricular activities (e.g., athletics, student government).

4. Board Discussion & Feedback

- **Attendance vs. Participation:** A board member raised concerns that conflating attendance with participation may penalize actively engaged students who miss class while rewarding passive attendance.
- **Importance of Tier 1 Instruction:** Administration emphasized that physical presence during Tier 1 instruction is critical to preventing learning deficits and supporting district-wide attendance goals.
- **Student Feedback:** High school leadership noted positive feedback from the student principal's roundtable regarding clear percentage tracking and better alignment with college systems.

5. Action Items & Next Steps

- **Upcoming Policy Presentation:** Board to review a formal policy reflecting state legislation regarding attendance/participation scoring.
- **First Quarter Data Report:** High school and junior high administration will present Q1 data comparing attendance trends, participation averages, and overall grade distributions against prior-year metrics.

4.D. Academic Achievement Report Calendar - **Dr. Hughes**

Calendar was updated per Board request to isolate Elementary School's from reporting on the same months as other schools.

4.E. Fraud Risk Assessment - **Darin**

B.A. Clark presented the Fraud Risk Assessment that is a requirement for the District to complete every year. He fills the assessment out along with the auditors.

5. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

Recording 1:54:00

5.A. Approval of the 2027 Board Meeting Schedule

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.B. Approval of the 2027-2028 School Calendar

No Action taken needed discussion about Parent Teacher Conference dates. Bring Back in October

5.C. Approval of Policies for Second Reading

- DADA Employment Transfers
- GBA Board of Education Hotline

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

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

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

5.D. Approval of Policy BEA Board Meetings: Notice Requirements for First Reading - **Darin**

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

Updates to code regarding notification rules for Truth in Taxation.

5.E. Approval of Policy BEE Board Meetings: Electronic Meetings for First Reading - **Darin**

Approval. This motion, made by Brady Blackett and seconded by Bart Mills, Passed.

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

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Updates to code regarding notification rules for Truth in Taxation and required virtual participation.

5.F. Approval of Policy CAC Revenue & Budgeting: Budget for First Reading - **Darin**

Approval. This motion, made by Bart Mills 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

New code about tax rate and budgeting requirements that reflect the existing tax rate and proposed tax rate. And public notice requirements.

5.G. Approval of Policy BFA School Closures and Boundary Changes for First Reading - **Dr. Hughes**

Approval. 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

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Changes to the code require notification and options for public comment if a "special class" is being relocated or affected by a school closure or boundary change or for other reasons.

5.H. Approval of Policy CCA Procurement of Construction: School Construction

Requirements for First Reading - **Dr. Hughes**

Approval. This motion, made by Bart Mills 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

Policy CCG being reclassified as CCA with significant changes to the state code surrounding New School Construction.

5.I. Approval of Policy DKBA District Employee & Student Relations for First Reading - **Dr. Hughes**

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

New policy presented that is not governed by code but was written as an added layer of professional and ethical relationships between students and employees post high school.

5.J. Approval of Policy EFBC Grading: Credit Through Testing for First Reading - **Catherine**

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

New policy to offer testing out options for core graduation class requirements. USBE will establish the tests, the school will need to administer the tests. The testing option will be available for the 2027-2028 school year.

6. ITEMS FOR BOARD INFORMATION

- September 30 - CUES Legislative Discussion
- October 1 - USBA Fall Regional Meeting Bar W 6:00 pm
- October 15-19 - Fall Break
- October 21 - Board Meeting
- November?? - Board & Principals (Education Dive) All-Day
- November 18 - Study Session
- November 18 - Board Meeting
- December 16 - Board Meeting
- December ?? - Board Holiday Dinner & Farewell Linda

Recording 2:23:00

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Recording 2:24:00

Janet

- **Day of Service & Sterling Scholars:** Praised Sterling Scholar students for their hard work, real-world teamwork, and community cleanup efforts along the Mona entrance highways.
- **Veterans Memorial Service:** Commended the American Legion for their ceremony involving Taps and flag folding during a program set against background road construction.

Bart

- **School Band & National Anthem:** Expressed appreciation for the school band's camaraderie and praised an individual student for bravely playing the National Anthem on electric guitar at a football game.

Hollie

- **CAPS Internship Program:** Mentioned running into Allie G at the high school with student interns working under Hunter. Praised the CAPS program for connecting students with real-world professionals (like Hunter and Bart) and external experts from BYU.

Brady

- **Groundskeepers & Facilities:** Recognized the groundskeeping staff and generous community members for maintaining the athletic fields, noting an out-of-town guest called it "the nicest natural surface football field in Utah."
- **Girls' Soccer Field:** Mentioned helping paint the "J" alongside Andrew Davidson and Rick K, noting that groundskeepers mowed the grass tight on the soccer field to give the players better playing conditions.
- **Soccer Field Dimensions & Relocation:** Explained that the previous soccer field was narrower than ideal, limiting practice setups. Clarified that the football and soccer programs, along with administration, coordinated moving soccer to the practice field to get a full-size field closer to locker rooms.
- **Community Donations & School Spirit:** Highlighted donated electrical work to adjust the scoreboard. Celebrated increased cross-sport attendance (e.g., volleyball team attending soccer games) and larger student sections, crediting Mr. Soper's initiative.

Linda

- **9/11 Flag Memorial:** Praised the American Legion, Mayor Seely, and local law enforcement for spending ~11 hours setting up a 9/11 memorial flag display across city and county lines. Noted that special needs students helped place flags on the city's watered lawn.

- **Christmas in the County & Literacy:** Reported on the "Christmas in the County" committee meeting, highlighting literacy initiatives like re-erecting storybook displays, hosting a coloring contest, and judging student essay submissions.
- **Teen Center:** Praised Heather Westring and student-managed booths in Nephi and Mona for raising awareness and collecting donations for the Teen Center.

Dr. Hughes

- **Administrative Recognition:** Commended key district staff members individually for their leadership and hard work:
 - **Andy:** For supporting the new junior high administration and instructional coach transitions.
 - **Brittany:** For ongoing administrative support.
 - **Sandy:** For leading the implementation of state-mandated K-3 Individual Reading Plans (IRPs).
 - **SPED Staff-Catherine:** Recognized the Special Education team (including Heidi and Kandi) for bringing new energy and high student engagement.
 - **Erika:** For essential organizational support across district meetings.
 - **Finance Team:** Praised the meticulous step-by-step execution of the Truth in Taxation process, which earned official state approval while other districts were placed under review.

8. CLOSED MEETING

Move into closed meeting to discuss character and competence of individual(s) and threatened or pending litigation 8:45 pm. This motion, made by Hollie Holman and seconded by Bart Mills, 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 9:37 P.M.****