

Ascent Academies of Utah

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: August 10, 2026

Location: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86493309984>

Board Members Present: Chris Bleak, Mike Greenhalgh, Jim Horton, Tyler Schvaneveldt

Excused: Stuart Adams

Others Present: Wade Glathar, Brandon Fairbanks, Gabe Clark, Heidi Bauerle, Dawn Benke, Hannah Jones, Joe Dunlop



MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER Chris Bleak called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

REPORTS

- **Director Report**

Wade Glathar reported that enrollment stands at 121 students (4%) above the annual goal as of August 6, with 11 added that week, while noting some unenrollment is expected around the start of the school year. Twenty-six teachers attended the weeklong Confratute SEM training at the University of Connecticut in July and reported it was highly worthwhile; they will present takeaways at their campuses through the year, and Ascent is bringing three UCONN presenters out for a full-day SEM training on August 14. The report noted a new invoice for the Special Education add-on to Benchmark Advance (the 2026 edition of the program having been approved at the prior meeting). An attendance report was also provided in response to a prior Board request, showing slightly improved attendance rates at every campus except West Jordan, with all campuses varying by less than 5% and remaining strong overall.
- **Finance Report**

The draft financial statements for the first month of the fiscal year were presented. The Statement of Financial Position shows total assets of \$92.2M, operating cash of \$15.6M, restricted cash of \$7.3M, and a fund balance of \$3.05M. The Statement of Activities reports year-to-date income of \$3.65M (9.1% of the \$40.2M annual budget) against expenses of \$1.31M (3.4% of budget), yielding net income of \$2.34M — well ahead of the budgeted pace early in the year, as expected in July. The statements are marked DRAFT and presented for review.

CONSENT ITEMS

- June 8th, 2026, Board Meeting & Closed Session Minutes
Jim Horton made a motion to approve the June 8th, 2026, Board Meeting & Closed Session Minutes. Tyler Schvaneveldt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.

VOTING & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Award RFP for Food Service Management Company
The Evaluation Committee recommends to the school's Board of Directors that it award the contract for Food Service Management Company services to Lunch Pro for a period of 5 years. The Food Service Management Company administers the school's meal program, including menu planning, meal preparation and delivery, staffing, and compliance with the requirements of the National School Lunch Program and applicable Utah State Board of Education and USDA regulations. Proposals were solicited in accordance with federal and state procurement requirements and were evaluated on cost, program compliance, food quality and nutritional standards, service capacity, and references.
Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to award the Food Service Management Company RFP to LunchPro. Tyler Schvaneveldt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.
- Award RFP for Occupational Therapy Services
A Request for Proposal was issued for occupational therapy services in accordance with the Utah Procurement Code. Proposals were evaluated on qualifications and experience, staffing capacity, service model and responsiveness, references, and cost. The Evaluation Committee recommends to the school's Board of Directors that it award the contract for Occupational Therapy services to Educational Therapy Services for a period not to exceed 5 years.
Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to award the Occupational Therapy Services RFP to Educational Therapy Professionals. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.
- Insurance Renewal
The Board is asked to approve payment of the premium for insurance coverage for the 2026–2027 school year. The school carries its primary property & casualty, liability, and related insurance coverage through Hanover Insurance Company. The renewal premium for 2026-27 is \$133,418.

Tyler Schvaneveldt made a motion to approve the Insurance Renewal premium for \$133,418. Mike Greenhalgh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.

- Confratute Purchases

It is recommended that the Board approve the Confratute purchases in the total amount of \$61,610.55 and authorize the Director to execute the associated payments.

Jim Horton made a motion to approve the Confratute purchases as discussed. Tyler Schvaneveldt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.

- Benchmark Curriculum Invoice

The Board is asked to review and approve the Benchmark Advance Supplemental Materials Invoice for \$53,350.00.

Tyler Schvaneveldt made a motion to approve the Benchmark Curriculum Invoice. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.

- Policies

- Electronic Resources Policy
- Capitalization and Expense Policy
- Paid Parental and Postpartum Recovery Leave Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Purchasing and Disbursement Policy
- Sex Education Instruction Policy

Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to approve the policies listed above as discussed. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.

CALENDARING

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 12, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

CLOSED SESSION - to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(a).

This item was tabled.

ADJOURN

At 9:24 AM Mike Greenhalgh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Horton seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Votes were as follows: Chris Bleak, Aye; Tyler Schvaneveldt, Aye; Jim Horton, Aye; Mike Greenhalgh, Aye.