SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2026

Board Meeting

The Murray City School Board met in a regular board meeting on September 10, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were President Kelly Taeoalii, Jaren Cooper, Kami Anderson, Elizabeth Payne, Jill Weight, Jennifer Covington, Superintendent, Richard Reese, outgoing Business Administrator, and Brian Ipson, Business Administrator. The meeting was held at the District office, located at 5102 South Commerce Drive, Murray, UT.

Pledge of Allegiance

The audience was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Murray Council PTA guests Asher Maples (Riverview Jr) and Henri Maples (Longview Elementary).

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included Approval of Minutes – August 7, 2026 and August 13, 2026, Claims, Financial Report for August 2026, PS 417.3 Emergency Safety Interventions (2nd Reading), PS 403 Student Enrollment Eligibility & Registration Requirements (2nd Reading), PS 443 Intra-District, Non-Resident, and Foreign Exchange Student Enrollment (2nd Reading), and GS 05 Language Access Services. Elizabeth Payne made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Delegations

PTA – Ashley Maples, PTA President for the Murray PTA, reported that the PTA is planning to create great experiences with a budget that's slightly cut back this year. PTA planning collaboratively surrounding the closure of Liberty Elementary and helping to incorporate those families into their new schools.

Murray Education Association (MEA) – Christy Vuyk, President, reported that the school year is off and running, with a good start. Many teachers in the district have received classroom grants from the MEF and are appreciative. There is some anxiousness surrounding the changes that are coming next school year.

Murray Association of Administrators (MAA) – Shana Ichimura reported on behalf of Earl Kauffman, President of MAA. She reported that school administrators are gathering and organizing schedules for school community councils and getting meetings set up. They are appreciative of the collaborative support of the PTA Murray schools.

Murray Education Support Professionals (MESPA) – Thayn Burnett, President, was present but did not have items to report.

Riverview Junior High – The project is progressing in construction. Ongoing activities include tile work in bathrooms, roofing (nearly completed), exterior metal paneling, interior hallway cement pours, framing nearly completed throughout, drywall 2nd floor, millwork. Kitchen area plumbing and drilling of heat exchange wells have been completed.

Apex Center – GMP for the Apex Center approved in board meeting on August 27, 2026. Groundbreaking occurred September 9, 2026. Perimeter fencing for the project has been put up and the project will now get into full swing.

SP 900.5 Employee Dress Code – 2nd Reading, Scott Wihongi, Assistant Superintendent, presented this updated policy as a second reading with modifications/clarifications in the policy related to the definition of bottoms and shorts. Jaren Cooper made a motion to approve the policy. Kami Anderson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

PS 401 Attendance – 2nd Reading, Darren Dean, Director of Human Resources and Student Services, presented this updated policy with changes as previously discussed in the August 27 study session. Jaren Cooper made a motion to approve the policy. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

ROAR (Rapid Online Assessment of Reading) – Bruce Eschler, Director of Secondary Education, presented on a proposal to beginning using the assessment in junior highs, potentially being further implemented in the high school. ROAR is a free literacy assessment developed by Stanford. The District would partner with Stanford to collect data for research purposes. Parents will have the ability to opt in or out of the data collection/research part of it. Superintendent Covington noted that there are also numeracy options for future consideration. Kami Anderson made a motion to approve the District beginning use of ROAR. Jill Weight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Report of the Superintendent

PS 456 Use of Sex-Designated Privacy Spaces - Superintendent Covington presented a first reading of the proposed policy which requires students to use the sex-designated privacy space that corresponds with the student's sex at birth, in compliance with state statute. The policy allows for alternative privacy spaces in the case of gender identity which differs from sex at birth and due to a reasonable fear of bullying. Schools have already been implementing these practices.

The published agenda included a possible closed session for Personnel, Property, and Legal matters. Board President Kelly Taeoalii stated that the District did not have a need for a Closed Session. The Board meeting was then adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Kelly Taeoalii – Board President

Business Administrator – Brian Ipson