



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

A regular meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held on July 10, 2026, and was scheduled to start at 8:00 AM. Chair Hymas and Vice Chairs Bollinger and Wood presided. As authorized by Utah Code Section 52-4, this meeting was held at the Zermatt Resort, 784 W Resort Drive, Midway, UT 84049. The public can retrieve the audio through the Public Meeting Notice website.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas	Member Sarah Reale
First Vice-Chair Amanda Bollinger	Member Jennie Earl
Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood	Member Rod Hall
Member Joseph Kerry	Member Christina Boggess
Member Carol Lear	Member Joann Brinton
Member Erin Longacre	Member Cole Kelley
Member Cindy Davis	

Members Absent

Member Green

Executive Staff Present

Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent
Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
Kelsey James, Board Communications Coordinator

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Others Present

Matt Winters, USBE AI Specialist, and Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent of Financial Operations.

Opening Business

Chair Hymas called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

Utilize Technology: AI Training

Matt Winters, an AI Specialist, presented on how Artificial Intelligence tools can enhance educational productivity.

- Lead on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education policy and guidance
- Support LEAs in implementing AI technologies
- Develop resources for safe and ethical AI use

Education Funding

The board members conducted a review of the educational budget and program evaluations. The presentation and breakout groups received support from Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones and Assistant Superintendent Deborah Jacobson.

Legislative Priorities

The items listed below were carried over from the Study Session held on June 5, 2026, regarding the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Formulation Process.

MOTION was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board include the following as legislative priorities for 2027:

- Appropriate funding formulas for ~~all students~~ special education
- Prioritize WPU Increases over line-item programs
- Provide ongoing funding to support early literacy and/or mathematics

MOTION was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Bollinger that the Board amend to strike “all students” and replace with “special education”

The motion carried.

11 IN FAVOR: Members Brinton, Wood, Davis, Longacre, Bollinger, Earl, Boggess, Hymas, Kerry, Boothe, and Lear.

1 ABSTAIN: Member Kelley

The items listed below were deferred from the board meeting scheduled for June 5, 2026.

The Board deferred the legislative priorities for 2027 items to the meeting scheduled for August 6, 2026.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Kelley that the Board amend to add to the list “UPPAC Reform.”

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member that the Board add to the list “Free Speech Protections in Public Schools.”

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes were approved August 6, 2026.