

**UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

**February 11, 2021**

A legislative meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held February 11, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held electronically and streamed live to the public.

**Members Present**

Chair Mark Huntsman  
First Vice Chair Laura Belnap  
Second Vice Chair Cindy Davis  
Member Randy Boothe  
Member Janet A. Cannon  
Member Natalie Cline  
Member Jennie Earl

Member Molly Hart  
Member Scott L. Hansen  
Member Matt Hymas  
Member Carol Barlow Lear  
Member James Moss Jr.  
Member Kristan Norton  
Member Brent J. Strate

**Executive Staff Present**

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent  
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent  
Patty Norman, Deputy Superintendent  
Angie Stallings, Deputy Superintendent

**Minutes taken by:**

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary

**Others Present**

Bryan Quesenberry, Michelle Beus—Assistant Attorneys General; Joel Coleman, Carl Empey—Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind; Jerry Record, Kathy Helgesen, Jeff Van Hulten, Malia Hite, Debbie Davis, Leah Voorhies, Whitney Phillips, Brian Olmstead, Dale Frost, David Sallay, Deborah Jacobson, Patrick Lee, Tiffany Stanley, Ben Rasmussen, Tracy Vandeventer, Aaron Brough, Jennifer Throndsen—USB E staff

**Opening Business**

Second Vice Chair Cindy Davis called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. She read the following statement: *As authorized by Utah Code 52-4, this meeting is being held electronically without an anchor location to reduce the risk to health and safety from COVID-19 by limiting the frequency of in-person meetings.*

## Meeting Minutes

**MOTION** was made by Vice Chair Belnap and seconded that the Board approve the minutes of its January 28, 2021 meeting.

Motion carried; Members Cannon, Hansen, Huntsman, and Lear absent.

## Review of Legislation

Deputy Superintendent Angie Stallings and Director of Public Affairs Jeffrey Van Hulten reviewed the following bills: 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute S.B. 131 Public Education Building Standards and Process; S.B. 184 School Assessment and Accountability Amendments; H.B. 340 Mathematics and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers Program; 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute H.B. 124 Civics Engagement Pilot Program Amendments; and S.B. 75 Special Education Least Restrictive Requirement Amendments.

## Budget Priorities

Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones and USBE Fiscal Analyst Dale Frost gave a progress report on the Board's funding request. They reviewed a comparison between the Board's budget request, the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee request, and the Governor's request.

## Action on Legislation

**MOTION** was made by Member Moss and seconded that the Board support H.B. 42 Education Agency Report Process Amendments.

Member Moss spoke to the motion, voicing that a look at the impact of a required report to a local education agency (LEA) would be an important element in the reporting process and provide fairness for LEAs. It was also noted that the bill eliminates some reports.

Other members questioned the necessity of the bill considering the Board's efforts currently taking place to eliminate and streamline reporting and cautioned that adding another requirement in the process may slow down that work.

Motion failed, with Members Boothe, Cline, Earl, Hart, Hymas, and Moss in favor, and Members Belnap, Cannon, Hansen, Huntsman, Lear, Norton, and Strate opposed; Vice Chair Davis abstained.

**MOTION** was made by Member Strate and seconded that the Board oppose S.B. 131 State Facility Energy Efficiency Amendments.

Member Strate spoke to the importance of local control and flexibility in the building of schools to reflect learning models and community needs.

Other members expressed that for high-growth areas a three-year plan is not reasonable, and that the work would require something equivalent of a building department and take the focus off other important work of the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

[For additional information on items from the meeting, see General Exhibit No. 20-05.]

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary  
Minutes approved February 18, 2021