

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

Governing Board for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB),  
Continued Business from the previous meeting on August 1, 2024,  
and USBE Study Session.

[August 2, 2024](#)

1:00 p.m. to 4:21 p.m.

The Utah State Board of Education held an electronic state board meeting on August 2, 2024. As Utah Code 52-4 authorized, this meeting was held electronically with an anchor location at 250 E 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84114. Vice-chair Earl and Chair Moss presided. The meeting was streamed live to the public.

**Members Present**

Chair Jim Moss

Member Randy Boothe

Member Christina Boggess

Vice Chair Molly Hart

Vice Chair Jennie Earl

Member LeAnn Wood

Member Carol Lear

Member Sarah Reale

Member Emily Green

**Members Online**

Member Brent Strate

Member Kristan Norton

**Member Absent**

Member Natalie Cline

Member Cindy Davis

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Matt Hymas

**Executive Staff Present**

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent  
Patty Norman, Deputy Superintendent  
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent  
Leah Voorhies, Assistant Superintendent

**Minutes were taken by:**

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent  
Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent  
Kelsey James, Board's Communications Coordinator

**Others Present**

Michelle Beus, Katy Challis, Elisse Newey, Bethany Anderson, Tony Bonny, Jared Felt, Ashley Biehl, Jerry Record, and Carson Miller.

**Opening Business**

Chair Moss called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

**USDB Board Meeting****ACTION: Wasatch Transportation Contract**

Mr. Carl Empey, Finance Director will discuss the requested 2.5% cost increase to the existing Wasatch Transportation contract.

**MOTION** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board approve the requested 2.5% cost increase to the Wasatch Transportation contract.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**ACTION: Utah School of the Deaf (USD) Extra Curricular Funds Request**

Dr. Michelle Tanner, Associate Superintendent of the Deaf discussed the need to increase the USD Extra Curricular Funds to \$400,000.

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board approve increasing the USD Extra Curricular Funds to \$400,000.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**INFORMATION: Growth Trends and Legislative Requests**

Superintendent Coleman discussed USDB's recent growth trends and legislative requests.

*Members Hymas and Davis joined the meeting.*

**INFORMATION: Monthly Budget Update as of June 30, 2024**

Mr. Carl Empey, Finance Director provided board members with a monthly budget update as of June 30, 2024.

**INFORMATION: 2024 Seventy-48 Presentation**

Ms. Susan Patten, Associate Superintendent of the Blind, shared the 2024 Seventy-48 presentation with board members.

**INFORMATION: Superintendent's Report**

Joel Coleman, Superintendent of the Utah School of the Deaf and Blind (USDB) presented his monthly report.

**Members Present**

Chair Jim Moss

Member Randy Boothe

Member Christina Boggess

Vice Chair Molly Hart

Vice Chair Jennie Earl

Member Sarah Reale

Member LeAnn Wood

Member Carol Lear

Member Sarah Reale

Member Emily Green

Member Matt Hymas

**Members Online**

Member Brent Strate

Member Kristan Norton

Member Cindy Davis

**Member Absent**

Member Natalie Cline

Member Joseph Kerry

**POSSIBLE UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Moss that the Board takes action on unfinished business.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**[ACTION: Draft Legislative Funding Requests for the 2025 General Session](#)**

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Moss that the Board

request for the critical personnel needs of USBE move forward for Board consideration and the Board use \$100,000 of FML funds from the Board's discretionary account to hire an independent firm to conduct a desk audit of state funded positions at USBE. The independent firm will evaluate positions to determine if the positions are adequate in job duties and responsibilities, market (both government and private sector) comparative pay and classification. The firm will analyze whether state funded positions are sufficient in quantity and alignment to ensure the capability to meet state laws and USBE rules. The SOW/RFP and selection process include at least two Board members. The timeline would be mid-December.

*Vice chair Hart passed the gavel to Chair Moss.*

*Chair Moss passed the gavel to Vice Chair Hart.*

**MOTION TO POSTPONE** was made by Member Davis and Member Boothe that the Board postpone until the Friday, August 2 agenda item.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Moss That the Board requests that staff provide a prioritization of critical need FTEs for the Board's consideration in September, including justifications for the identified critical needed FTEs throughout the agency; and the Board use \$100,000 of FML funds from the Board's discretionary account to hire an independent firm to conduct a desk audit of state funded positions at USBE. The independent firm will evaluate positions to determine if the positions are adequate in job duties and responsibilities, market (both government and private sector) comparative pay and classification. The firm will analyze whether state funded positions are sufficient in quantity and alignment to ensure the capability to meet state laws and USBE rules and to support school districts and charter schools. The SOW/RFP and selection process include at least two Board members. The timeline would be mid-December.

**The final motion, as amended, passed.**

**In Favor: Members Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hart, Hymas, Lear, Norton, Reale, Strate, Wood, and Moss.**

**Opposed: Members Green and Boggess.**

**MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Member Boothe and seconded by Member Lear that the Board direct staff "to provide prioritization and justifications for the identified critical need FTEs throughout the agency...." – incorporated into motion above without objection

**The motion to amend passed unanimously.**

#### **WITHDRAWN WITHOUT OBJECTION**

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION** was made by Member Davis and seconded by Member Lear that the Board directs staff to: 1) prepare a prioritized Request For Funding that identifies state-funded additional critical FTEs for support to districts and charter schools by the September 2024 board meeting for review by the Board; and 2) utilize \$100,000 of Federal Mineral Lease Funds to have a desk audit conducted by an external firm on the positions to be completed no later than December 15, 2024.

#### **Study Session**

##### DISCUSSION: Student Data Collection, Privacy, and Security

In this study session, members of the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) Data Governors Group provided a presentation on student data at the agency. The presentation will include information about:

- Student Data Collected at USBE - Director Aaron Brough
- Student Data Collection Processes - Director Aaron Brough and Director Jared Felt
- Student Data Privacy and Security - Director Katy Challis
- Opportunities for Data Processes - Deputy Scott Jones and Chief of Staff Sarah Young

#### **Adjournment**

**MOTION** was made by Member Hart and seconded by Member Hymas that the Board adjourn.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.  
The minutes were approved on September 5, 2024.