



# Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Governing Board Meeting,  
Continued Business from the previous meeting on December 6, 2024,  
and USBE Work Session.

1:00 to 5:19 PM

The Utah State Board of Education held a state board meeting on December 6, 2024. This meeting was held at 250 E 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84114. Chair Moss presided. The meeting was streamed live to the public.

## Members Present

Chair James Moss

Member Carol Lear

Vice Chair Jennie Earl

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Randy Boothe

Member Emily Green

Member Christina Boggess

Vice Chair Molly Hart

Member LeAnn Wood

Member Matt Hymas

Member Brent Strate

Member Cindy Davis

Member Sarah Reale

Member Kristan Norton

## Members Online

Member Natalie Cline

## Executive Staff Present

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent

Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent

Patty Norman, Deputy Superintendent

## Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

**Others Present**

Carl Empey, Joel Coleman, Michelle Tanner, Vicki Summers, Lisa Larsen, Cindy Anderson, Debbie Davis, Elisse Newey, Kelsey James, Sam Urie, Deborah Jacobson, Cole Shakespear, Scott Capro, Michelle Beus, Ashley Biehl, Jerry Record, Alex Farrah, Adam Prows, and Carson Miller.

**Opening Business**

Chair Moss called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

**Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Board Meeting**

USDB requested the board review and approve the FY26 USDB Fee Schedule. Carl Empey, Finance Director, spoke to the Board about the fee schedule.

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board approve the FY26 Fee Schedule.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Reale, Wood, Green, Cline, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Boggess, Boothe, Davis, Strate, and Norton.

**ABSENT:** Members Hymas and Lear.

The Chair passed the gavel to the Vice Chair.

## Unfinished Board Business from the December 5, 2024, Meeting

### Use of Discretionary Funds

**MOTION** was made by Member Hymas that the Board commit \$1,500,000.00 of Federal Mineral Lease (FML) funds for use for compliance with 53G-6-806 (Effective 05/01/2024)-Parent Portal and direct staff to begin using the funds as soon as possible with the intent to comply with the applicable code.

**MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board direct staff to work with the legislature to advise of fiscal needs and secure ongoing funds.

### **The motion carried.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Green, Lear, Reale, Wood, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Boothe, Davis, Strate, and Norton.

**OPPOSED:** Members Hymas and Cline.

**MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Cline that the Board add “with safety data” as follows:

That the Board commit \$1,500,000.00 of Federal Mineral Lease (FML) funds for use for compliance with 53G-6-806 (Effective 05/01/2024)-Parent Portal with safety data and direct staff to begin using the funds as soon as possible with the intent to comply with the applicable code.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Green, Lear, Reale, Hymas, Wood, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Hymas, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, and Norton.

**ABSENT:** Member Davis.

#### **MOTION, AS AMENDED**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Green, Lear, Reale, Wood, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Hymas, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, and Norton.

**OPPOSED:** Member Cline.

**ABSENT:** Member Davis.

#### **Audit Committee Report**

##### Update Internal Audit Plan

**MOTION** was made by Member Hart that the Board add an audit of USBE Advisory Committees to the audit plan.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Green, Lear, Reale, Wood, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Hymas, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, Cline and Norton.

**ABSENT:** Member Davis.

## 2025 General Session Legislative Preparation

### Requests for Statutory Changes

**MOTION** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board directs staff to work with legislators on potential amendments to the Utah Code as proposed.

- 1) Amend Section 36-12-15.3 to clarify roles, responsibilities, processes, and timelines for responding to legislative audits.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Green, Lear, Reale, Wood, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Hymas, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, Cline and Norton.

**ABSENT:** Member Davis.

Member Reale left the meeting.

**MOTION** was made by Member Lear and seconded by Member Boothe that the direct staff to work with legislators to:

1. Clarify “core,” “co-curricular,” and “extracurricular;”
2. Continue to allow fees and help the legislature understand the budget deficit and possible loss of programs created by removing the fees; and
3. Consider extending the timeline for implementing school fee changes to consider feasibility.

**MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Hart that the Board amend the motion to strike, “continue to allow fees and” as follows:

1. Clarify “core,” “co-curricular,” and “extracurricular;”
2. ~~Continue to allow fees and~~ help the legislature understand the budget deficit and possible loss of programs created by removing the fees; and
3. Consider extending the timeline for implementing school fee changes to consider feasibility.

**The motion carried.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Lear, Wood, Cline, Kerry, Earl, Moss, Hart, Hymas, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, and Norton.

**OPPOSED:** Member Green.

**ABSENT:** Member Reale and Davis.

## **MOTION, AS AMENDED**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **Reports and Requirements Task Force Legislative Asks**

**MOTION** was made by Member Moss and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board request that OLAG and USBE staff work together to formulate standardized questions to ask the legislature regarding reporting requirements when they are creating a fiscal note for a bill.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Hymas, Norton, Wood, Hart, Green, Lear, Earl, Moss, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, and Norton

**ABSENT:** Member Cline, Reale, and Davis.

**MOTION** was made by Member Moss and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board request that OLAG compile a report on the following questions: What is the cost for collecting the information, who is looking at the reports/data, if anyone, and what is being done with the information if anything and can any reporting or data collection be reduced or gathered in any other way.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**IN FAVOR:** Members Hymas, Norton, Wood, Hart, Green, Lear, Earl, Moss, Boggess, Boothe, Strate, and Norton

**ABSENT:** Member Cline, Reale, and Davis.

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION** was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Moss that the Board adjourn.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.

The minutes were approved on January 9, 2025.