

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

Governing Board for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB),  
USBE Continued Business,  
and USBE Study Session

February 2, 2024  
1:00 PM to 4:36 PM.

The Utah State Board of Education held an electronic state board meeting on February 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 James Moss	Member Randy Boothe
First Vice Chair Molly Hart	Member Carol Barlow Lear
Second Vice-Chair Jennie Earl	Member Kristin Norton
Member Christina Boggess	Member Emily Green
Member Natalie Cline	Member Brent Strate
Member LeAnn Wood	Member Matt Hymas
Member Sarah Reale	Member Joseph Kerry
Member Cindy Davis	

**Executive Staff Present**

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent  
Patty Norman, Deputy Superintendent  
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent  
Leah Voorhies, Assistant Superintendent  
Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent  
Kelsey James, Board's Communications Coordinator

**Minutes were taken by:**

Cybil Prideaux, Board Secretary



**Others Present**

USDB Carl Empey, Joel Coleman, Dr. Michelle Tanner, ASL Interpreter Cindy, ASL Interpreter Emily Longshore, Deborah Jacobson, Ellise Newey, Michelle Beus, Darin Nielsen, Michael Iwasaki, Stephanie Patten, Alex Farah, Vicki Summers, Jerry Record, Greg Firn, Sam Urie, Dwight Overgaard, Dale Frost, and Leah Voorhies.

**Opening Business**

Vice-chair Earl called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

**1. Opening Business – Call the meeting to order.**

**Roll Call**

SARAH REALE	JOSEPH KERRY
RANDY BOOTHE	LEANN WOOD
CHRISTINA BOGGESS	MATT HYMAS
NATALIE CLINE	CAROL LEAR
CINDY DAVIS	JAMES MOSS
JENNIE EARL	KRISTAN NORTON
EMILY GREEN	BRENT STRATE
MOLLY HART	

**5. USDB Board Meeting – 1:00 to 2:00 PM**

**5.1. ACTION: Brackenwood Consulting LLC Contract**

**MOTION** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Hymas that the Board approve the Brackenwood Consulting LLC contract.

The motion carried with Members Boothe, Boggess, Cline, Davis, Earl, Wood, Hymas, Lear, Moss, Norton, and Strate in favor and Members Green, Hart, and Kerry were absent.



- 5.2. INFORMATION: Monthly Budget Update as of December 31, 2023
- 5.3. INFORMATION: Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) Presentation
- 5.4. INFORMATION: Superintendent Report

### **USDB Adjournment**

The USDB meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Following the USDB meeting, the Board proceeded with the USBE Study Session.

### **6. Study Session**

- 6.1. ACTION: CONTINUATION OF THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING FROM FEBRUARY 2, 2024 - POSSIBLE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### **7. 2024 General Session Legislation Preparation**

- 7.1. INFORMATION: Process for Board Requested Legislative Funding
- 7.2. ACTION: Requests for Statutory Changes
- 7.3. DISCUSSION: 2024 General Session Legislation and Funding
- 7.4. POTENTIAL ACTION: Board Positions on Legislation and Funding

**MOTION** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board adjust the amount of the Board’s WPU priority legislative request to 6% and direct staff to fervently advocate for the traditional BTS funding model.

**MOTION TO DIVIDE** was made by Member Davis and seconded.

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, Green, Kerry, and Moss opposed and Members Reale, Davis, Earl, Hart, Wood, Hymas, Lear, Norton, Strate, and Boothe in favor.

### **DIVIDED MOTION 1.**

That the Board adjusts the amount of the Board’s WPU priority legislative request to 6%.

The motion carried with Members Strate, Norton, Wood, Lear, Reale, Boothe, and Davis opposed and Members Moss, Hymas, Kerry, Boggess, Cline, Earl, Green, and Hart.



**DIVIDED MOTION 2.**

That the Board direct staff to fervently advocate for the traditional BTS funding model.

The motion carried with Member Hart opposed. Member Moss was absent.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION** was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Hymas that the Board postpone the matter of the WPU priority until the next legislative board meeting.

Member Kerry withdrew the motion without objection.

**MOTION** was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Lear that the Board supports S.B. 138 -- High-need School Amendments (Sen. Riebe, K.) and H.B. 221 Substitute -- Stipends for Future Educators (Rep. Peterson, K.).

**MOTION TO DIVIDE** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board divide the previous motion.

The motion carried with Members Davis, Hart, Lear, Norton, Reale, and Strate opposed.

**DIVIDED MOTION 1.**

S.B. 138 -- High-need School Amendments (Sen. Riebe, K.)

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, Earl, and Moss opposed.

**DIVIDED MOTION 2.**

H.B. 221 Substitute -- Stipends for Future Educators (Rep. Peterson, K.)

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, Green and Kerry opposed.



**MOTION** was made by Member Davis and seconded by Member Strate that the Board:

1. direct staff to:
  - a. work with legislators to include professionally licensed speech technicians in SB 52, *Educator Salary Amendments*, or any other legislation including speech-language pathologists salary increases (e.g. HB 103); or
  - b. if not feasible for Fiscal Year 25 (FY25), then for FY 26; and support SB 52, *Educator Salary Amendments*

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, Earl, Green, Hart, and Kerry opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Lear that the Board supports H.B. 296 -- Reading Disability Amendments (Rep. Pulsipher, S.).

The motion carried with Member Cline opposed. Member Moss abstained.

**MOTION** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Lear That the Board directs staff to advocate for early literacy line item funds to be moved into a new Early Literacy Add-on instead of rolling the early literacy line item funds into the At-Risk Add-on.

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, Hart, Hymas, and Moss opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Reale that the Board supports 1<sup>st</sup> Sub HB 84, School Safety Amendments.

The motion carried with Members Cline and Hart opposed.

**MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Member Strate and seconded by Member Lear that the Board add “to continue support of the Board’s 5-year safety plan”.

The motion failed with Members Boothe, Davis, Lear, Norton, Reale, Strate, and Wood in favor.

**MOTION** was made by Member Norton and seconded by Member Moss that the Board supports HB 251, Postretirement Reemployment Restrictions Amendments.

The motion passed unanimously. Member Cline abstained.



**MOTION** was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Lear that the Board requests the sponsor amend HB 182 to amend the bill provisions related to the administration of the school climate survey to:

- 1) remain a required survey for LEAs to administer (no opt-out or opt-in for LEAs);
- 2) maintain the school climate survey as an opt-out for students and families;
- 3) add an ability for the Board to allow an LEA to opt out of up to 10% of the survey questions and
- 4) add language to ensure LEAs provide a translation of the school climate survey into the language of preference for parents who make that request, when possible.

The motion failed with Members Boothe, Davis, Lear, Norton, Reale, Strate, and Wood in favor and Members Boggess, Cline, Earl, Green, Hymas, Kerry, and Moss opposed. Member Hart was absent.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION** was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Earl that the Board amend the previous motion to request the sponsor only amend the bill to ensure that the schools provide a translation of *any survey* into the language of preference for parents who make that request, when possible.

The motion failed with Members Boggess, Boothe, Cline, Earl, Green, Kerry, and Moss in favor. Member Hart was absent, and Members Davis, Hymas, Lear, Norton, Reale, Strate, and Wood were opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Member Moss and seconded by Member Hymas that the Board direct staff to fervently advocate for the traditional BTS funding model but remove the Educator Salary Adjustment portion from the state provided salary provided salary allocations related to the BTSA program. (Stability Model).

The motion passed unanimously. Member Hart was absent.

## 8. Monthly Budget Report

8.1. INFORMATION: Monthly Budget Report

8.2. INFORMATION: Discretionary Funds Report

8.3. INFORMATION: Introduction of New Monthly Budget Report Format



## 9. General Consent Calendar

Item 9.3 was pulled from the consent calendar by Member Cline.

The WestEd contract was pulled from Item 9.1 from the contracts for approval by Member Earl.

**MOTION** was made by Member Hymas and seconded by Member Kerry to adopt the remaining items on the consent calendar.

The motion carried with Members Boggess, Cline, and Green opposed.

### 9.1. ACTION: Contracts/Agreements for Approval

**MOTION** was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Hymas that the Board approve the WestEd contract on the consent calendar and requests the contract be amended to include a requirement to comply with the newly approved Board rule R277-328, Educational Equity in Schools.

The motion carried with Member Boggess opposed. Members Cline and Davis abstained. Members Hart and Norton were absent.

### 9.2. INFORMATION: Contracts/Agreements for Review

### 9.3. ACTION: Approval of Meeting Minutes

**MOTION** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve the meeting minutes, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously. Members Davis, Hart, Norton, and Moss were absent.

### 9.4. ACTION: Approve WIOA 2024-2028 State Plan

The Board approves the WIOA Combined State Plan for 2024-2028.



**10. Board Chair's Report - 3:45 to 4:00 PM**

**11. Board Member Comments - 4:00 to 4:15 PM**

**12. Executive Session (closed in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act)**

**12.1. ACTION: Executive Session**

The motion was made by Member Hymas and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of 1) discussing the character and professional competence or physical or mental health of individuals.

Upon voice vote of Members Boggess, Boothe, Cline, Earl, Lear, Moss, Norton, Reale, Strate, Hymas, Kerry, and Wood, the Board went into closed session at 3:56 PM. Member Davis, Hart, and Green were absent.

Upon voice vote of all Members, the Board went into closed session.

Those present included the above members: Sydnee Dickson, Cybil Prideaux, Kelsey James, Michelle Beus, and Ben Rasmussen.

**MOTION** was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board comes out of executive session at 4:24 PM.

Motion carried.

**13. Executive Session Action Items**

**13.1. ACTION: Educator Licenses**

**MOTION** was made by Member Norton and seconded by Member Wood that the Board approve the UPPAC consent calendar.

The motion passed unanimously.





**MOTION** was made by Member Norton and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board that the Board approves the recommendation of UPPAC in cases:

- Case No. 22-1886  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 22-1889  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 22-1891  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 22-1901  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 22-1931  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 23-1958  
The motion passed unanimously.
- Case No. 23-2037  
The motion passed unanimously.

Members Green, Hart, Hymas, and Moss were absent from the above votes.

### 13.2. ACTION: Committee Appointments

**MOTION** was made by Member Norton and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board appoint the following individuals to the Instructional Materials Commission, to a four-year term:

1 Elementary Teacher

- Cindy Butterfield

The motion passed unanimously.



1 Lay Citizen

- Katuska Christensen

The motion carried with Member Cline opposed and Member Kerry abstained.

- 14. MOTION** was made by Member Kerry and seconded that the Board adjourn from the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 PM.

The minutes were taken by the Board executive assistant.

The minutes were approved on March 7, 2024.