



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

Governing Board for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB),
Continued Business from the previous meeting on October 3, 2024,
and USBE Study Session.

October 4, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 5:06 p.m.

The Utah State Board of Education held an electronic state board meeting on October 4, 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 presided. The meeting was streamed live to the public.

Members Present

Chair James Moss
Vice Chair Molly Hart
Vice Chair Jennie Earl
Member Joseph Kerry
Member Randy Boothe
Member Emily Green
Member Kristan Norton

Member Carol Lear
Member LeAnn Wood
Member Matt Hymas
Member Brent Strate
Member Cindy Davis

Member Absent

Member Christina Boggess
Member Natalie Cline
Member Sarah Reale

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, Amy Jordan, Elisse Newey, Kelsey James, Michelle Beus, Ashley Biehl, Jerry Record, Adam Prows, and Carson Miller.

Opening Business

Vice-Chair Earl called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

USDB Board Meeting

USDB Legislative Funding Request

Joel Coleman, USDB Superintendent led the funding request discussion. During the September 5, 2024, meeting, the USBE took action to approve USDB draft legislative funding requests recommended for 'Board support' to be presented for prioritization at the October 2024 Board meeting.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Wood that the Board approve amend the previously approved USDB legislative funding request to strike the 9 “deaf mentors” item from the USDB funding request.

The motion carried.

In favor: Members Boothe, Earl, Hart, Hymas, Kerry, Lear, Norton, Wood, and Moss.

Abstained: Members Davis and Strate.

2023-24 USDB Annual Report

Michelle Tanner, Associate Superintendent of the Deaf and Ms. Farrer, Director of Deafblind Services reviewed the 2023-24 USDB Annual Report for their respective divisions.

Monthly Budget Update as of August 31, 2024

Carl Empey, Finance Director, provided the board members with a monthly budget update as of August 31, 2024.

Superintendent's Report

Joel Coleman, USDB Superintendent, presented his monthly report.

ADJOURNMENT

The USDB meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.

Continued Business from the October 3, 2024, meeting and USBE Study Session.

Members Present

Chair James Moss

Vice Chair Molly Hart

Vice Chair Jennie Earl

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Randy Boothe

Member Emily Green

Member Kristan Norton

Member Carol Lear

Member LeAnn Wood

Member Matt Hymas

Member Brent Strate

Member Cindy Davis

Member Sarah Reale

Members Online

Member Christina Boggess

Member Absent

Member Natalie Cline

Executive Staff Present

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

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE OCTOBER 3, 2024, BOARD MEETING**MOTION TO TAKE FROM TABLE**

MOTION was made by Member Hymas and seconded by Member Norton that the Board take from the table agenda item Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP) for Home and Private School Participation.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION was made by Member Norton that the Board consider taking the following actions related to the Statewide Online Education Program (SOEP) for Home and Private School Participation

- Request staff to bring back the following options for committee discussion:
- Work with ~~legislative experts~~ legislators to develop clarification on the relationship between the Board and the future contractor to administer this program, and
- Research legislative direction on services delivered in a hybrid environment requiring physical attendance vs. the statutory intent for completely online learning experience open to all students as described in code, and/or moving this hybrid approach out of the SOEP program to its own line item for clarity and specific guidance on the implementation.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Davis and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board amend the following options:

3. Seek a legislative change during interim on services delivered in a hybrid environment requiring physical attendance vs. the statutory intent for completely online learning experience open to all students as described in code, and/or moving this hybrid approach out of the SOEP program to its own line item for clarity and specific guidance on the implementation and rename the private school portion and keep the home school portion with USBE.
4. Add a 4th bullet stating: Requests staff continue work on the existing statutorily required SOEP RFP unless or until the requirement is amended by the Legislature.

The motion to amend carried.

In favor: Members Boggess, Boothe, Davis, Green, Hymas, Lear, Reale, Strate, and Wood.

Opposed: Members Earl, Hart, Kerry, and Norton.

Abstained: Member Moss.

The final motion carried.

In favor: Members Boggess, Boothe, Davis, Hymas, Lear, Norton, Reale, Strate, and Wood.

Opposed: Members Earl, Hart, and Kerry.

Abstained: Member Green and Moss.

Prioritization of Board Legislative Funding Requests

MOTION was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board directs staff to communicate the Board's legislative funding request priorities for the 2025 legislative session in accordance with the Budgetary Procedures Act.

MOTION was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Reale that the Board:

- 1) amend the **Critical USBE FTE Needs** Funding Request to add the following in addition:
 - The Internal Audit Department is requesting two additional staff to assist with its critical functions (Two FTE's - \$364,000); and
- 2) Repeal the **Internal Audit Critical Function Capacity** funding request.

The motion carried.

In favor: Members Boggess, Boothe, Earl, Green, Hart, Hymas, Kerry, Lear, Reale, Wood, and Moss.

Opposed: Members Davis, Norton, and Strate.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Strate and seconded by Member Davis That the Board amend the motion above to direct that the first 5 FTE requested by the Superintendent have higher priority over the last two internal audit FTE if less than 7 FTE are funded.

The motion failed.

In favor: Members Boothe, Davis, Lear, Norton, Reale, and Strate.

Opposed: Members Boggess, Earl, Green, Hart, Hymas, Kerry, Wood, and Moss.

MOTION was made by Member Norton that the Board take the following actions related to the School LAND Trust Program:

- Direct staff to consider and make recommendations to remove requirements through legislative code changes and rule changes to streamline the responsibilities of school community councils.

The motion carried.

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

Opposed: Member Green.

Abstained: Members Boggess and Kerry.

Study Session

Strategic Plan - Goals

The Board supports the design of academic standards and measurement tools to elevate educational excellence resulting in mastery of foundational knowledge, application of logical reasoning, and achievement of personal goals.

The Board supports the following goal language:

Improving educational excellence by:

1. providing high quality licensing, educator and school leadership to increase the presence of highly qualified educators for every student in Utah;
2. enhancing system effectiveness to minimize educational barriers and provide appropriate flexibility and monitoring;

3. maintaining robust data governance; and protection to support decisions.

MOTION was made by Member Moss that the Board supports transparent, efficient, and educationally effective use of funds.

The motion carried.

In favor: Members Boothe, Davis, Earl, Green, Hart, Hymas, Kerry, Lear, Norton, Strate, Wood, and Moss.

Opposed: Member Boggess.

School Safety and Student Services

Shauntelle Cota, Director of School Safety and Student Services, presented the school safety scope of work, funding updates, and data review.

Adjournment

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

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes were approved on November 7, 2024.