

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

Utah State Capitol Complex
January 23, 2025

A Utah State Board of Education legislative meeting was held on January 23, 2025. Vice Chair Earl presided. As authorized by Utah Code 52-4, this meeting was held at the Utah State Capitol Complex Senate Committee Room 210 Salt Lake City, UT 84114. The public can hear the audio of the meeting through live YouTube streaming.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas	Member Jennie Earl
First Vice-Chair Molly Hart	Member Emily Green
Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood	Member Rod Hall
Member Christina Boggess	Member Cole Kelley
Member Amanda Bollinger	Member Joseph Kerry
Member Randy Boothe	Member Carol Lear
Member Joann Brinton	Member Sarah Reale
Member Cindy Davis	

Executive Staff Present

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent
Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent
Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
Leah Voorhies, Interim Deputy Superintendent

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Deborah Jacobsen, Darin Nielson, Adam Prows, Ashley, Biehl, Vanessa Barnes, Sam Urie, David Lowell, Jason Strate, Debbie Davis, Greg Connell, Todd Hauber, Lisa Cluff, Mark Clement, Teri Rhodes, Susan Edwards, John Hughe, Lexi Cunningham, and Royce Van Tassell.

Opening Business

Vice Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM. She welcomed the public and board members to the forum. She shared an overview of the legislative session and board members' participation protocol.

Budget Priorities

INFORMATION: Utah Public Treasurers' Investment Fund (UPTIF)

Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent of Policy, and Dale Frost, MSP Administrator, discussed the funding priorities. In accordance with the Budgetary Procedures and Money Management Acts, the Utah State Board of Education provides the legislature with funding requests/prioritizations for the current and next fiscal year.

Review of Legislation

Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent of Policy, and Greg Connell, Policy Analyst, lead the review of legislation discussion.

Senator Fillmore spoke to the Board about [Senate Bill 102 Public Education Funding](#). The bill establishes sunset dates and allocation of remaining funds for certain programs.

The bill:

- ▶ establishes sunset dates for each of the following:
 - Enhancement for Accelerated Students Program;
 - concurrent enrollment funding;
 - student health and counseling support;
 - Teacher Student and Success Program;
 - dual language immersion;
 - Beverly Taylor Sorenson Elementary Arts Learning Program;
 - Digital Teaching and Learning Grant Program;
 - grant for professional learning; and
 - professional staff weighted pupil unit;

- ▶ requires funds for each program be appropriated to the flexible allocation if the program is repealed; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Action on Legislation/Budget

The following individuals spoke about the education bills:

- Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent of Policy
- Greg Connell, Policy Analyst
- Trish Franks, Legislative Fellow
- Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent of Operations

1. [SB 102](#) Public Education Funding Amendments, Sen. Fillmore
2. [SB 99](#) Excellence in Education and Leadership Supplement Amendments, Sen. Fillmore
3. [SB 111](#) Public Education Governance Amendments, Sen. Millner
4. [HB 260](#) First Credential Program, Rep. Val Peterson
5. [HB 204](#) Stipends for Future Educators Grant Program Amendments, Rep. Karen Peterson
6. [HB 191](#) High School Credit Amendments, Rep. Teuscher
7. [HB 76](#) Public Education Revisions, Rep. Miller
8. [HB 42](#) English Language Learner Amendments, Rep. Pierucci
9. [HB 40](#) School Safety Amendments, Rep. Wilcox

MOTION was made by Member Reale and seconded by Member Lear that the Board encourages the Board Leadership and USBE Staff to work with the Utah Legislature to reconsider or seek guidance from USBE on the following bill as they place undo burdens on our LEAs, teachers, parents, and students. The following our student's academic excellence:

[HB0077](#) Flag Display Amendments

[HB0104](#) Firearm Safety in Schools Amendments

[HB0191](#) High School Credit Amendments

[HB0233](#) School Curriculum Amendments

[HB0250](#) Public Employee Gender-specific Language Requirement

[HB0267](#) Public Sector Labor Union Amendments

[HB0303](#) Public School Directory Sharing Amendments

[SB0098](#) Parental Education on Student Use of Technology Amendments

[SB0102](#) Public Education Funding Modifications

MOTION TO POSTPONE was made by Member Davis and seconded by Member Bollinger.

The motion failed.

In Favor: Members Bollinger, Boothe, Davis, Hart, and Wood.

Opposed: Members Boggess, Brinton, Earl, Green, Hall, Hymas, Kelley, Kerry, Lear, and Reale.

The final motion carried.

In Favor: Members Reale, Lear, and Boothe.

Opposed: Members Boggess, Bollinger, Brinton, Davis, Earl, Green, Hall, Hart, Hymas, Kelley, Kerry, and Wood.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board directs staff to work with the Legislature to amend the applicable Utah code to state that:

An LEA or its agents shall not:

- Coerce or incentivize the medical treatment of a student or an employee.
- Solicit or accept power of attorney for any reason.
- Use implied consent for psychological evaluations, screenings, assessments, medical or preventative treatments, or otherwise.

The motion failed.

In favor: Members Boggess, Brinton, Green, Hall, and Kelley.

Opposed: Members Bollinger, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hart, Hymas, Lear, Reale, and Wood.

Abstained: Member Kerry.

MOTION was made by Member Davis and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board postpone the above motion until the next Legislative Board Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

State Superintendent Position

DISCUSSION: Superintendent Job Search Process

Vice Chair Molly Hart gave a brief overview of the processes the Board will implement to hire the next State Superintendent of Education.

ARTICLE IX—DIRECT EMPLOYEES OF THE BOARD

1) The Board shall appoint the State Superintendent, who is the executive officer of the Board (53E-3-301).

53E-3-301. Appointment -- Qualifications -- Duties.

- (1) (a) The state board shall appoint a state superintendent of public instruction, who is the executive officer of the state board and serves at the pleasure of the state board.
- (b) The state board shall appoint the state superintendent on the basis of outstanding professional qualifications.
- (c) The state superintendent shall administer all programs assigned to the state board in accordance with the policies and the standards established by the state board.

Adjournment

Member Hart made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Cybil Prideaux, Board Executive Assistant
The minutes were approved February 6, 2025.