



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Utah State Capitol, Senate Building Room 210

February 19, 2026

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

The Utah State Board of Education held a legislative meeting on February 19, 2026. Vice Chair Wood presided. As authorized by Utah Code Section 52-4, this meeting was held at the Utah State Capitol, Senate Building Room, 350 N State St, Salt Lake City, UT 84114. The public can access the meeting audio via the Utah State Board of Education Media's live YouTube channel. *Note: A live meeting Webcast or Audiocast is typically available while the meeting is in session.*

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas
First Vice-Chair Amanda Bollinger
Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood
Member Joann Brinton
Member Joseph Kerry
Member Erin Longacre

Member Jennie Earl
Member Sarah Reale
Member Cindy Davis
Member Randy Boothe
Member Carol Lear

Members Online

Member Emily Green
Member Cole Kelley
Member Christina Boggess
Member Rod Hall

Executive Staff Present

Molly Hart, State Superintendent

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent
 Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
 Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent

Others Present:

Kelsey James, David Lowery, Matthew Winters, Deborah Jacobsen, Ashley Biehl, Vanessa Barnes, Piper Riddle, Lexi Cunningham, John Hughes, Susan Edwards, Brooke Cara, Andy Petersen, Henry Barrara, and Nate Mitchell.

Opening Business

Vice Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM. She welcomed the public and board members to the forum.

Budget Priorities

2026 Legislative Session Budget and Requests for Appropriations Processes and Actions

Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones reviewed the latest status of USBE funding requests and revenue data/information and answered Board Member questions.

Utah DOTS partnership/School AI RFA

Staff updated the Board on an RFA from School AI, which was listed as #8 on the Public Education Appropriations (PEA) recommended increases. The RFA recommendation item states that the initiative "replaces education tools with a unified, state-governed AI infrastructure that supports students, teachers, and families through insights, shared data, and coordinated student support statewide."

Review of Legislation

MOTION was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Reale that the Board direct staff to work with Senator Cullimore on SB 267 – Software in Education

Amendments, to address the concerns discussed by the Board, including with Representative Defay's Balance Act.

The motion carried.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hall, Longacre, Lear, Boggess, Brinton, Kerry, Hymas, Green, and Bollinger.

1 OPPOSED: Members Hall.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Earl that the Board direct staff to work with Rep. Whyte on the School AI RFA to address the concerns by the Board.

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hall, Longacre, Lear, Boggess, Brinton, Kerry, Hymas, Green, and Bollinger.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Green that the Board oppose the bill by Representative Whyte on the RFA from School AI.

The motion failed.

3 IN FAVOR: Members Boggess, Green, and Reale.

11 OPPOSED: Members Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hall, Longacre, Lear, Brinton, Kerry, Hymas, and Bollinger.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Reale. The Board reconsiders the motion from the board meeting held on February 12, 2026, related to [SB 164](#) - Sen. Wilson: School Construction Amendments.

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hall, Longacre, Lear, Boggess, Brinton, Kerry, Hymas, Green, and Bollinger.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

[SB 164](#) - Sen. Wilson: School Construction Amendments

MOTION was made by Member Green and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board opposes [SB 164](#) - School Construction Amendments.

The motion failed.

2 IN FAVOR: Members Boggess and Green.

9 OPPOSED: Members Bollinger, Brinton, Earl, Hymas, Kerry, Longacre, Boothe, Reale, and Wood.

3 ABSTAINED: Members Davis, Hall, and Lear.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

[SB 164](#) - Sen. Wilson: School Construction Amendments

MOTION was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Reale that the Board supports [SB 164](#) - School Construction Amendments.

The motion carried.

9 IN FAVOR: Members Bollinger, Brinton, Earl, Hall, Hymas, Kerry, Longacre, Reale, and Wood.

3 OPPOSED: Members Boggess, Boothe, and Green.

2 ABSTAINED: Members Davis and Lear.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

Adjournment

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

The motion passed unanimously.

14 IN FAVOR: Members Reale, Wood, Kelley, Boothe, Davis, Earl, Hall, Longacre, Hymas, Boggess, Brinton, Kerry, Green, Lear, and Bollinger.

1 ABSENT: Member Kelley.

The meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.

The Executive Assistant took the minutes.
The minutes were approved on March 12, 2026.

