

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BOARD FOR THE
UTAH SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

April 13, 2018

A meeting of the Utah State Board of Education Acting as the Governing Board for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind was held April 13, 2018. Chair Mark Huntsman presided.

Members Present

Chair Mark Huntsman	Member Jennifer Graviet
First Vice Chair Brittney Cummins	Member Linda B. Hansen (by phone)
Second Vice Chair Alisa Ellis	Member Carol Barlow Lear
Member Laura Belnap	Member Kathleen Riebe
Member Michelle Boulter	Member Terryl Warner
Member Janet A. Cannon	Member Joel Wright
Member Lisa Cummins	

Members Absent

Member Scott B. Neilson
Member Spencer F. Stokes

USDB Executive Staff Present

Joel Coleman, Superintendent
Michelle Lasater, Associate Superintendent
Michelle Tanner, Associate Superintendent

Others Present

Carl Empey—USDB staff; Chris Bischke—USDB Advisory Committee; Scott Jones, Emilie Wheeler, Lorraine Austin—USBE staff; Bryan Quesenberry—Attorney General’s Office

Call to Order

Chair Mark Huntsman called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION was made by Member Boulter and seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the March 16, 2018 USDB Board meeting.

Motion carried.

Monthly Budget Report

Finance Director Carl Empey presented the monthly budget report for the month ending and reported that the school is on track financially.

A request was made for a copy of the donations report.

USDB 2018-2019 School Calendar

Superintendent Joel Coleman explained that the USDB does not have its own school calendar, but matches with the district in which USDB students attend. A master calendar is being created and will be displayed on the school's new website.

State Board of Education members are always invited to four main events—USDB Day on the Hill; USDB Opening Institute; joint meeting with the USDB Advisory Council; and USDB graduation. This year's graduation will be on May 17.

Study Abroad ECC Australia

Associate Superintendent Carolyn Lasater introduced two of the six students—Ashton Hintze and Casey Reyes—that went to Australia as part of a USDB study abroad program. It was an unbelievable learning experience and was life changing for the students. USDB teachers Robbin Clark and Becky Weeks spoke to the importance of the program, and emphasized that there was a relentless focus on education during the trip. A handout was distributed.

The students related that it was a fantastic adventure and talked about the benefits of the program along with the challenges. They highlighted that they made new friends, gained independence and new skills and learned self-efficacy, perseverance and dedication. Casey Reyes also had the unforgettable opportunity to do an impromptu singing performance at the Sydney Opera House, which he repeated for the Board. It was also noted that the USDB students taught blind students in Australia about the Expanded Core Curriculum. The students thanked their teachers and the Board for the great opportunity.

Superintendent Coleman reiterated that the students became much more self-reliant and the empowerment and growth they obtained through the experience is amazing.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Coleman reported that most of the construction documents for the Springville building have been completed and ground will be broken this summer.

He also reported that USDB staff is beginning its budgeting process next week.

Executive Session

MOTION was made by Member B. Cummins and seconded that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individuals.

Upon voice vote of Members Belnap, Boulter, Cannon, B. Cummins, L. Cummins, Graviet, Hansen, Huntsman, Lear, Riebe, Warner and Wright, the Board moved into closed Executive Session at 1:15 p.m.

Those present included the Members above and Joel Coleman, Bryan Quesenberry, Scott Jones, Dana Powers, Emilie Wheeler and Lorraine Austin.

MOTION was made by Member Boulter and seconded that the Board come out of Executive Session.

Motion carried. The Board reconvened in open meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Adjournment

MOTION was made by Member Boulter and seconded that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Lorraine Austin, Board Secretary
Minutes approved May 4, 2018