



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

A regular meeting of the Utah State Board of Education was held on May 21, 2025. Chair Hymas presided. As authorized by Utah Code Section 52-4, this meeting was held at the state board offices, located at 250 E. 500 S, Salt Lake City, Utah. The public can view the discussion through live [YouTube](#) streaming.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas

Member Emily Green

Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood

Member Christina Boggess

Member Amanda Bollinger

Member Randy Boothe

Member Joann Brinton

Member Jennie Earl

Member Sarah Reale

Member Rod Hall

Member Cole Kelley

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Carol Lear

Member Cindy Davis

Members Excused

Member Molly Hart

Minutes were taken by:

Cybil Prideaux, Executive Assistant

Opening Business

Chair Hymas called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Interviews

The Board of Education interviewed two candidates for the position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The candidates are the following individuals:

Dr. Molly L. Hart is the Executive Director of Summit Academy and has over 20 years of experience in education, serving in roles from teacher to principal across multiple states and grade levels. She earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Valdosta State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Family-Community Services from Michigan State University. She has received the Utah PTA Outstanding School Administrator Award. Dr. Hart is a passionate advocate for student achievement and community engagement. Currently, she represents District 7 on the Utah State Board of Education.

Dr. L. Ben Dalton has been the Superintendent of the Kane County School District since 2016 and previously led the Garfield School District. A first-generation college graduate from Minersville, Utah, Dr. Dalton has more than 20 years of experience in public education and was named Utah's Superintendent of the Year in 2022. He holds a Doctorate in Leadership and Technology and has been recognized for his dedication to academic excellence and rural education.

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

The motion was made by Member Wood and seconded by Member Boggess that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of

- for the purpose of discussion regarding the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems;
- a person's character, competence, or health;
- pending or imminent litigation;

- certain matters regarding the acquisition or sale of real property, including water rights or shares;
- the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems;
- an investigation of alleged criminal conduct;
- the receipt or review of an ethics complaint if the public body is the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission;
- certain matters under the jurisdiction of a legislative ethics committee; and
- certain deliberations and decision-making involved in the procurement process.

Upon the voice vote of Members Reale, Lear, Boggess, Kerry, Boothe, Green, Wood, Brinton, Hall, Earl, Hymas, Davis, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board entered a closed session at 6:01 PM.

The following individuals were also present: Cybil Prideaux, Kelsey James, and Michelle Beus.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Brinton that the Board come out of the executive session.

Upon voice vote of Members Reale, Boggess, Boothe, Davis, Green, Wood, Lear, Brinton, Hall, Earl, Hymas, Kerry, Kelley, and Bollinger, the Board came out of the executive session at 9:29 PM.

Executive Session Action Items

Appointment

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board appoint Molly Hart to be the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Utah State Board of Education.

The motion carried.

12 IN FAVOR: Members Boothe, Reale, Lear, Davis, Bollinger, Hymas, Earl, Hall, Kerry, Kelley, Wood, and Brinton.

2 OPPOSED: Members Green and Boggess.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Member Bollinger and seconded by Member Reale.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 PM.

The executive assistant took the meeting minutes.
The minutes were approved on June 5, 2025.