



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

Utah State Board of Education Board Meeting,
Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB),
USB E Work Session, and
Continued Business from the previous
meeting on May 2, 2025.
1:00 to 4:30 PM

A regular [Utah State Board of Education meeting](#) was held on May 2, 2025. Chair Hymas presided. As Utah Code 52-4 authorized, this meeting was held at the state board offices, 250 E. 500 S, Salt Lake City, Utah. The public can view the discussion through live YouTube streaming.

Members Present

Board Chair Matt Hymas

First Vice-Chair Molly Hart

Second Vice-Chair LeAnn Wood

Member Christina Boggess

Member Amanda Bollinger

Member Emily Green

Member Jennie Earl

Member Randy Boothe

Member Joseph Kerry

Member Carol Lear

Member Rod Hall

Members Online

Member Cole Kelley

Member Joann Brinton

Members Absent

Member Davis

Member Reale

Executive Staff Present

Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent
 Elisse Newey, Deputy Superintendent
 Scott Jones, Deputy Superintendent
 Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent
 Michelle Beus, Assistant Attorney General
 Ashley Biehl, Assistant Attorney General
 Deborah Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent (via Zoom)
 Darin Nielsen, Assistant Superintendent (via Zoom)

Minutes were taken by:

Vanessa Hatton, Executive Assistant

Chair Hymas called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Utah School for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Board MeetingStudy Abroad Japan Presentation

The Utah School for the Deaf (USD) offers several study abroad trips for its students, often funded by dedicated trust funds. Recent trips have included Japan, Thailand, Italy, Peru, Germany, and India, allowing students to immerse themselves in different cultures and learn about the Deaf community in those countries. These trips are not funded by education budgets or taxpayer dollars.

Monthly Budget Update as of March 31, 2025

Vicki Summers, Financial Manager, provided the board with an updated monthly financial report as of March 31, 2025.

Superintendent's Report

Joel Coleman, Superintendent, and Michelle Tanner, Associate Superintendent, provided the Superintendent's report.

USDB Standing Committee Update

LeAnn Wood, Board Member, provided an update on the committee's discussions.

ACTION: Board Bylaws Article VIII (Amendment)

MOTION was made by Member Hart and seconded by Member Wood that the Board strike (h)(ii) from Bylaws Article VIII, Draft 1.

The motion passed unanimously.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Boothe, Lear, Bollinger, Hart, Hymas, Wood, Earl, Green, Hall, Kerry, Kelley, Reale, and Brinton.

2 ABSENT: Members Boggess and Davis.

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve the Board Bylaws, Draft 1, as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

13 IN FAVOR: Members Boothe, Lear, Bollinger, Hart, Hymas, Wood, Earl, Green, Hall, Kerry, Kelley, Reale, and Brinton.

2 ABSENT: Members Boggess and Davis.

ACTION: Establishing Working Group

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve the makeup of the membership for the 19-person USDB working group, facilitator assigned from USBE.

- Three USBE Board Members
- Two Superintendents, one small and one large
- RESA Representative
- Business Administrator
- 2 USBE Staff
- 4 USDB Staff
- One House Member (from public ed interim or PEA)
- One Senate Member (from public ed interim or PEA)
- One member representing charter schools
- Two LEA Special Education Directors, one small and one large
- USDB Advisory Council member
- Invitees based on content needs

SUBSTITUTE MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded by Member Hall that two parents of students be included in the USDB working group.

MOTION TO AMEND was made by Member Earl and seconded that two parents of students be included in the USDB working group, one parent with a student in outreach and one parent with a student on campus.

The motion passed without opposition and was incorporated into Member Kerry's motion.

MOTION was made by Member Kerry and seconded that the Board add two parents of students be included in the USDB working group, one parent with a student in outreach and one parent with a student on campus.

The motion failed.

7 IN FAVOR: Members Boothe, Earl, Green, Hall, Kerry, Kelley, and Boggess.

6 OPPOSED: Members Bollinger, Brinton, Wood, Lear, Hart, and Hymas.

2 ABSENT: Members Reale and Davis.

MOTION was made by Member Wood that the Board approve the makeup of the membership for the 19-person USDB working group, facilitator assigned from USBE.

- Three USBE Board Members
- Two Superintendents, one small and one large
- RESA Representative
- Business Administrator
- 2 USBE Staff
- 4 USDB Staff
- One House Member (from public ed interim or PEA)
- One Senate Member (from public ed interim or PEA)
- One member representing charter schools
- Two LEA Special Education Directors, one small and one large
- USDB Advisory Council member
- Invitees based on content needs

The motion passed 9-3.

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

3 OPPOSED: Members Boggess, Hart, and Green.

1 ABSTAINED: Member Boothe.

2 ABSENT: Members Reale and Davis.

Study Session

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Formulation Process

Deputy Superintendent Scott Jones provided an overview of the Legislative Session Board Funding Priorities Development Process.

Unfinished Board Business from the May 1, 2025, Meeting

Consent Calendar

Items discussed during the May 1, 2025, board meeting.

Member Boggess pulled Contract for Approval Items 3 and 4 from the consent calendar.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve the consent calendar, minus the contract items 3 and 4.

Contracts/Agreements for Approval

The Board approved the contracts.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the minutes, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

1 ABSENT: Member Reale.

Item tabled during the May 1, 2025, board meeting.

MOTION was made by Member Hart and seconded by Member Boothe that the Board approve Contract 4, USBE250075CT - Primary Class DBA Odyssey (PE).

The motion passed 12-1.

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

1 OPPOSED: Member Boggess.

2 ABSENT: Members Kelley and Davis.

MOTION was made by Member Boggess and seconded by Member Kerry that the Board approve the remaining items in the consent calendar.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

2 ABSENT: Members Kelley and Davis.

Board Chair's Report

Chair Hymas spoke to Principalooza.

Board Member Comments

Members Boggess, Lear, and Boothe spoke.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Member Earl and seconded by Member Kerry.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

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



Meeting Minutes

Utah State Board of Education

