

WEBER SCHOOL DISTRICT
5320 Adams Avenue Parkway
Ogden, UT

Study Session
September 2, 2026

The Board of Education of Weber School District held a Study Session in the Board Room at 5320 Adams Avenue, Ogden, Utah. The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. The following Board Members and Superintendency were present:

Paul Widdison	Board President
Janis Christensen	Board Member
Kelly Larson	Board Member
Wyle Williams	Board Member
Dave Hales	Assistant Superintendent
Brock Mitchell	Business Administrator

President Widdison welcomed everyone to the meeting and excused Board Vice President Doug Hurst, Board Member Bruce Jardine and Superintendent Butters. Board Member Jan Burrell attended virtually.

It was announced that the USBA Fall Regional Meeting will be held on September 29th.

Board Member Kelly Larson explained to the Board that September is “Invite a Legislator to School Month”. It was noted she has reached out to invite legislators and encouraged other Board Members to do the same.

USBA is now holding monthly ZOOM meetings with updated policy information. The next meeting will be held on October 7th at 11:00 a.m.

President Widdison asked the Board for their input about the possibility of restructuring Board meetings. There is concern about not enough time for discussion during study session. Could we possibly flip and hold Board Meeting first and then study session after or possibly hold Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.? It was also suggested to have presentations one month and follow up with a vote the following month.

President Widdison explained that Board Committee assignments will not be updated until January due to elections and the upcoming changes in Board Members. Board Members were asked to review their current assignments and consider the options.

Accounting Director Ben Hokanson presented an update to the Board on the district finances. It was explained this month’s Board packet is a little different to better align with audited year end financials and budget. Expenditures will exceed our revenues by about \$20 million this year. It was explained a plan is in place to switch rates from capital to general, approved by the Board earlier this year and we have also been reducing our expenditures for FY27. FY27 General Fund was highlighted and discussed the property tax revenue on General and Capital Funds. 25% was going into Capital last year and about 11% this year. Salary expenses were explained and noted

it accounts for about 89-92% of our expenditures. This year payroll is down around 10%. We may consider presenting these financials to the Board every other month.

Assistant Superintendent Hales shared with the Board that the Superintendency and Directors have been able to spend some time in all of the schools. Today, the Weber School Foundation partnered with the Ogden Raptors to have players visit schools and focus on reading and literacy. It was a great event.

The Superintendent Summer Reading program is underway! The book selected this year that will be read in the schools is “What the Road Said”. The first reading assembly that took place at Lakeview Elementary today was then highlighted and a sample of the reading was shared. It was noted we also have the statewide Read-A-Thon coming up on October 2nd and all schools are being asked to embrace it as a district.

Assistant Superintendent Dave Hales updated the Board with information on the UHSAA Board of Trustees and the alignment according to our 2-year cycle with region classification and the change formula taking place from 2027-2029. The CRI (competitive realignment index) was explained and how it places each school in their region classification. There will be more information to come in the future.

Assistant Technology Director Casey Dalpiaz updated the Board on panic alert requirements, and HB40 *Safety Regulations*. Currently, we are required to provide every lead classroom teacher with a panic alert device to directly contact dispatch. We also need to train staff members how to use the devices. The State vendor selection is completed; Carasoft and Centegix. Audio Enhancement was not selected. We have 16 schools needing panic alert buttons, and all high schools have been completed. Fremont High made a successful integration with dispatch during a test recently. We recently met with the State Security Chief and was noted we should meet all of our requirements for HB40. It has been asked why continue with Audio Enhancement, and noted we are already 78% complete with our schools. There is an estimated cost of \$660,000 for just panic alert buttons. Funding sources would come from school safety budget (capital budget). It was noted this year about \$2 million has been used from the capital budget and prior to that grant funding was used.

Facilities Director Larry Hadley updated the Board on the Catalyst Center. Currently the actual equipment specs and details are being worked on by Directors Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood, Nicki Slaugh and Rod Belnap. Assistant Facilities Director Brian Anderson is working with the city for cut ins on 12th street. Larry is working with VCBO on engineering and mechanicals. We must submit to Marriot Slaterville by the end of September to be placed on their city council meeting in November. We will present to the Board in November and then begin digging.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.