

DUCHESNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

May 1, 2025

District Office 1010 East 200 North, Roosevelt, Utah

OFFICERS: President Brandon Bench presided with Board Members Emilee Wells, and Mark Thacker present, as well as Superintendent Jason Young and Business Administrator Dee E. Miles. Board Members Don Busenbark and Tony Smith were excused.

VISITORS:

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|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Gwen Prescott | Jenn Tuckett | Julie Seeley | Kimberley Murray | Ann Marie Powell |
| Phillip Bertoch | Todd Arnold | Debby Arnold | Clayton Johnson | Saryn Wall |
| Mike Ross | David Green | Cliff Murray | Belen Embleton | |
| Janalee Goodrich | Christy Green | Scott Forsyth | Kyana Trane | |
| Kendra Embleton | Sharon Smith | Shelby Thayne | Tyler Powell | |

WORK SESSION: The Board discussed funding and compensation, cell phones, and ABC's.

REGULAR SESSION: President Bench called the regular session to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Thacker offered prayer. Ms. Wells led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

MINUTES: Ms. Wells moved and Mr. Thacker seconded to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held April 8, 2025; voting was unanimous in the affirmative. Audio recording is available at: <https://secure.utah.gov/pmn-admin/files/1256171.mp3>.

RECOGNITION: The Community Partner award was presented to Todd Arnold and the Extra Degree award to David Green and Jane Berntson for their exceptional contributions to student success.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Scott Forsyth, Kings Peak Principal, reported on the educational goals and large gains that surpass many goals this year. They also use badges to promote character growth and good behavior.

OPEN TIME: At 7:23 p.m. President Bench opened the meeting for those who signed up for public comment. Cliff Murray philosophized on the lack of value in grading systems. President Bench closed open time at 7:26 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Travel Requests – None.
2. Buildings – Altamont Elementary construction is moving very well with outside footers completed this week.
3. Employee Compensation Package 2025-2026 – Mr. Miles summarized the package to include steps and lanes, health insurance would maintain the same employee rates (costs increased 9%), 4% base salary schedule increase, TSSA increase from \$1620 to \$1800, and ESA increase from 8,904 to 10,350. The Legislature also provided a \$1,000 bonus for classified employees. Ms. Wells moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.
4. Board Meeting Schedule 2025-2026 – Mr. Thacker moved to approve, Ms. Wells seconded; passed unanimously.
5. 5.0710 Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices In Schools – Superintendent Young reviewed the policy of turning off phones and keeping them out of sight, and the steps to confiscation. The Jr. High has had a very positive experience the past year with this policy. Ms. Wells moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.
6. 3.0440 Salary Supplement For Highly Needed Educators – Superintendent Young noted no change from last month. Ms. Wells moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.

DUCHESNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
01 MAY 2025

7. 5.0221.03 Participation of Private and Home School Students in Statewide Assessments – Kendra Embleton noted the new policy allows the District to charge a fee to facilitate testing home school students when they request it. Ms. Wells moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.
8. 5.0221.02 Home School Policy – Kendra Embleton noted the legislative requirements were relaxed and the new policy and procedures are consequently simplified. Ms. Wells moved to approve. Mr. Thacker seconded; passed unanimously.
9. 4.0510.04 Grades 9-12 Graduation Requirements – Superintendent Young noted an additional legislative requirement for one more social study course. Schools have been working to update their schedules for next year. All schools will have the same number of credits required to graduate going forward even with different weekly schedules. Mr. Thacker moved to approve. Ms. Wells seconded; passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 3.0411.02 Postpartum & Parental Leave – Superintendent Young reported on the legislative required changes to match the state employee leave policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Thacker moved and Ms. Wells seconded that the Board go into executive session to discuss personnel and possible litigation at 7:53 p.m., and that since there is no further business, the Board would stand adjourned afterward; aye votes: Mr. Bench, Ms. Wells, Mr. Thacker. Nay votes: none. Motion passed. Mr. Thacker moved and Ms. Wells seconded that the Board go out of executive session at 9:33 p.m.; passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT / FUTURE PLANNING: The meeting stood adjourned. The next Regular Meeting will be held Thursday, June 5, 2025, at the District Office, 1010 East 200 North, Roosevelt, Utah.