



## CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The following minutes are a summary of the January 9, 2024, Canyons Board of Education meeting. To listen to the entire board meeting, including all comments made during the meeting, please go to BoardDocs at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf>

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a business meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2024, beginning at 4:30 pm at the Canyons District Office, 9361 S. 300 East, Sandy, Utah 84070.

**Those in attendance were:**

Amber Shill, Board President  
Mont Millerberg, Vice President  
Amanda Oaks, Vice President, joined electronically  
Andrew Edtl, Board Member  
Holly Neibaur, Board Member  
Karen Pedersen, Board Member  
Nancy Tingey, Board Member  
Rick Robins, Superintendent  
Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator  
Dan Harper, General Legal Counsel, joined electronically  
Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations

**1. Closed Session – 4:30 pm**

- A. For the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

**MOTION: Nancy Tingey moved to approve to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. 5 Yea (Ms. Shill, Ms. Tingey, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Pedersen, and Mr. Edtl) 1 Not Present (Ms. Neibaur joined the meeting after the vote). The motion carries.**

\*Person in Attendance: All Board Members, Dan Harper – General Counsel.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNF6C4853>

**2. Study Session – 5:00 pm**

- A. 2024 Legislative Update– Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations and Susan Edwards, Public Engagement Coordinator

The 2024 General Session of the Utah State Legislature opens on January 16, 2024. Mr. Evans and Ms. Edwards updated the Board of Education on potential bills that are related to education for the upcoming session. Utah's public education spending remains among the lowest in the nation and the State is in no rush to change that this legislative session, according to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. The CSD bill tracker will be emailed to Board members and new bills will be highlighted each day. The External Relations office coordinates tours for students during the session.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNH6C4855>

B. School Accountability Report – Dr. Hal Sanderson, Director of Research and Assessment

Dr. Sanderson reported on progress and successes for the districts tenets which are student achievement, innovation, community engagement, customer service and fiscal accountability. A report on the four strategic plan focus areas which are high quality learning, access & opportunity, human centered supports and operating systems was also given.

Innovative programs include JHS School Navy National Defense Cadet Corps adopted on October 2023. The graduation rate remains steady at 89%. A focus on 11<sup>th</sup> grade ACT readiness benchmark continues to be a priority as well as a reduction of students with F grades, and reducing the number of chronically absent students.

The 2023 School Accountability results were reviewed for school report cards, school achievement, student growth, EL/Multi-lingual progress, postsecondary readiness and growth of the bottom 25%.

Crescent Elementary, Midvalley Elementary and Sprucewood Elementary exited out of the targeted school improvement status. Presentation available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SQD6C5D2A>

C. Mount Jordan Elevate Grant – Cindy Hanson, Director of Middle School Principals

The Elevate Grant is part of USBE's Center for Continuous School Improvement and works with non-Title 1 schools who were in TSI status during the 2018, 2019, and 2022 school years. The objective of the Elevate School Program is to provide participating schools focused supports to assist with improving student performance and growth in identified areas over 4 years. Mount Jordan was invited to participate and begin the process in the fall of 2023.

The Local Education Agency (LEA) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) requirements were reviewed. The school established a School Improvement Committee (SIC) comprised of parents, teachers, administrators, School Performance Director and a Board member. The committee is recommending Innovations Education Consulting, Inc. as the Continuous Improvement Expert (CIE) for Mount Jordan Middle School. The final plan will be presented to the Board in the spring. Presentation available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SQT6C6845>

D. Elementary Planning Time Task Force Proposal (Second Reading) – Alice Meridith, Director of Elementary Principals and Sally Sansom, Director of Elementary Principals

In response to elementary teacher feedback negotiation teams authorized the creation of a task force to explore options for increasing elementary planning time. The task for priorities includes increasing teacher planning time, maximizing instructional time, maintaining professional development, and maintaining PLC time. The Instructional Support Department agreed to demonstrate that classroom education will be improved by increasing teacher prep time. They will also indicate what areas to expect to see improvement by using Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound goals. Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SQV6C6FCC>

(Study Session agenda item 2B presentation was continued New Business as agenda item 8A)

**3. Business Meeting – 7:00 pm**

**4. Opening Items**

- A. Welcome
- B. Approve Agenda for January 9, 2024

**MOTION: Holly Neibaur moved to approve the agenda for January 9, 2024, with the addition of continuing Study Session agenda item 2D Elementary Planning Time Task Force Proposal (Second Reading) as New Business meeting agenda item 8A and move each agenda item respectively. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. <http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNP6C485B>**

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Draper Park Middle, Principal Chip Watts  
<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNS6C485E>

- D. School Highlights - Draper Park Middle, Principal Chip Watts  
<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNV6C4861>

**5. Canyons Strong Student Recognitions – Jeff Haney, Director, and Kirsten Stewart, Associate Director of Communications**

The following students and employees were recognized:

- Mr. Croshaw, Albion teacher – Most Valuable Educator Award
- Isaac Wilson, Corner Canyon – Mr. Football
- Tate Kjar, Corner Canyon – Deseret News 6A Player of the Year
- Coach Eric Kjar, Corner Canyon – All-American Bowl coaching staff
- Alta's Unified Basketball Game attended by First Lady Abby Cox
- Visit from Dr. Syd Dickson to the classroom of CSD teacher of the year, Mr. Max Eddington
- Students named to the Utah All-State Junio High Orchestra and the Utah All-State Junior High Band  
<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SNZ6C4865>

**6. Patron Comments**

The following patrons commented:

- Mickey Smith – Jordan High School funding
- Lydia Wright – Jordan High School funding
- Michael Wilde – ACC at Draper Park
- Jeannine Cardenaz – Eastmont/Jordan
- Wendy Buchanan – Eastmont/Jordan
- Kaitlin Barron – Jordan High School
- James Barron – Jordan High image
- Andrew Morgan – Eastmont/Jordan funding
- Principal Chip Watts – Draper Park SCC letter
- Caraline Herzog– Eastmont/Jordan funding

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SP36C4867>

**7. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2023
- B. Approval of Hire and Termination Reports

- C. Approval Student Overnight Travel
- D. Approval of Mount Jordan Elevate Grant Consultant

**MOTION:** Holly Neibaur moved to approve Consent Item 7A Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2023; Item 7B Approval of Hire and Termination Reports, Item 7C Approval of Student Overnight Travel; Item 7D Approval of Mount Jordan Elevate Grant Consultant. Andrew Edtl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SP56C4869>

## 8. New Business

- A. Elementary Planning Time Task Force Proposal (Second Reading) – Alice Meridith, Director of Elementary Principals and Sally Sansom, Director of Elementary Principals  
(Continuation from Study Session)

The decision-making considerations to consider as options were discussed for the elementary planning time. The impact on individual schools and staff cannot be assessed until decisions are made regarding the master schedule, staffing, brain booster and PLC schedule. The investment decision-making considerations reviewed include daily planning time, extended planning block, assistant principals/administrative interns and IEP block scheduling. The board asked that information be brought back about the 60 minutes daily planning time option and IEP block scheduling option. The board asked that the assistant principal and administrative intern proposal be brought back as a separate item. The board was not in favor of the Friday extended planning block. Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZCRHV69FBB3>

- B. Employee Daycare Proposal (Second Reading, Possible Action) – Steve Dimond, Director of Human Resources

Combined survey results indicated Jordan High would be the most convenient location for an employee daycare. The enrollment criteria and priority list that will be used for qualifying families was presented. A timeline option was presented for each district high school.

Additional ideas for employee daycare include creating a second Early Childcare Education (ECE) training center using the existing playground and remodeled classrooms at Jordan High school and creating a third ECE in conjunction with the CTEC/Innovation center or the District Wellness Clinic.

**MOTION:** Nancy Tingey moved to approve the proposal to expand the Canyon Technical Education (CTE), Early Childcare Education Training Center at Jordan High School to proceed with opening a CTE, Early Childcare Education Training Center at Corner Canyon High School and/or Hillcrest High School. Mont Millerberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SPJ6C4876>

- C. Strategic Plan Focus Group Report: High Quality Learning – Dr. Amber Roderick-Landward, Director of ISD

The committee has been evaluating the purpose of the Differentiated Diploma and how to reimagine the diploma in conjunction with Portrait of a Canyons Scholar and personalized

learning. A grant and additional funding have made it possible to progress STEAM in elementary schools by hiring a specialist, provide equipment to host STEAM nights and coding clubs. Makerspaces have been implemented in some elementary and middle schools. Also, an in-district STEM endorsement program was started for elementary teachers.

Arts integration lessons have been built into instructional guides, time was spent with every elementary teacher at district day in August 2023 to highlight the changes and was introduced to new teachers at their orientation.

Technology observation included student use of technology in 5 high schools and 144 classrooms and results showed it was used 60% of the time. The time using technology for observed time for teachers was 45% and for students 26%. When students were using technology, 59% of the use was active and high learning value learning. There were cell phone policy/procedure in 58% of classrooms and technology policy/procedure in 70% of classrooms. Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SRT6CABF5>

D. Long Range Planning (Fourth Reading, Possible Action) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the planned small capital summer projects. Three options were presented for discussion for the expenses for Jordan, Eastmont, Corner Canyon and Hillcrest. Each option would require the issuance of lease revenue bonds and a truth in taxation hearing in August 2024.

**MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to approve funding for Jordan High School 21M, Eastmont Middle School 13M, Corner Canyon High School 12.8M, Hillcrest High School 4.7M for a total of 51.5M. Also, approval for the purchasing bid for the architectural and engineering services at Jordan and Eastmont, architectural and engineering services at Corner Canyon, and auditorium engineering fee for Jordan. Holly Neibaur seconded the motion. \*A vote was taken. 6 Yea (Ms. Neibaur, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Shill, Ms. Pedersen, Ms. Tingey) 1 Nay (Mr. Millerberg) The motion carries**

There was discussion to the motion.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Mont Millerberg moved to adopt Option 1 as recommended in the presentation. Nancy Tingey seconded the motion. 2 Yea (Mr. Millerberg, Ms. Tingey) 5 Nay (Ms. Pedersen, Ms. Shill, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Neibaur, and Ms. Oaks) The motion failed.**

There was discussion to the Substitute Motion.

Mr. Edtl “called the question.” for the \*original motion. A vote was taken. The vote passed unanimously.

Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SSF6CBBB5>

## 9. Staff Comments

A. Superintendent Report

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SPN6C487A>

B. Business Administrator Report

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SPR6C487D>

**10. Board Comments**

A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CZ7SPV6C4881>

**11. Closing Items**

A. Adjourn 10:45pm

/cc

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_ Board President  
Amber Shill

\_\_\_\_\_ Superintendent  
Rick Robins