



CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

The following minutes are a summary of the August 1, 2023, 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, August 1, 2023, 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  
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

Excused: 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: Holly Neibaur 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. Andrew Edtl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

\*Person in Attendance: All Board Members, Rick Robins – Superintendent, Leon Wilcox – Business Administrator, Dan Harper – General Counsel, McKay Robinson – Assistant Superintendent.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MDZ5ACE98>

**2. Study Session – 5:15 pm**

- A. USBE Early Learning Plan – Dr. Amber Roderick-Landward, Director of ISD

The purpose of the Early Literacy Learning Program is to improve classroom instruction and student outcomes in kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. The program components consist of a State Literacy goal, State Math goal, Local goals, evidence-based curriculum, assessment, and funding. Dr. Amber Roderick-Landward reviewed results for literacy and math and the strategies to achieve the goals in each area. Presentation and document available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4ME55ACE9C>

- B. Policy Update – New Policy-500.21-Extra-curricular Activities and Student Participation; New Policy-700.06-Language Access Services; Policy-400.021 – Sexual Harassment (Title IX) – Jeff Christensen, Assistant Legal Counsel

New Policy-500.21-Extra-curricular Activities and Student Participation

The Policy Committee recommended a new policy to include language to protect student religious beliefs regarding athletic uniforms in extra-curricular activities as set forth in H.B. 163 “Protecting Student Religious and Moral Belief Regarding Athletic Uniform Requirements (2023).” The policy also includes language addressing eligibility requirements for private, home, online and charter school students for participation in public school extra-curricular activities, as required in H.B. 209 “Participation in Extra-Curricular Amendments (2023).” The policy specifies expectations and responsibilities for coaches and extra-curricular advisors, including language for supervision of students, acting as an exemplary role model and prohibitions of inappropriate conduct as outline in Utah Code. The new policy is proposing a District team of independent evaluators, the Extra-Curricular Case Management Team (ECMT), that may be assembled to review school-level investigations of extra-curricular activities or conflict of interest issues. The ECMT may be formed at the request of the school principal, the Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent. The board provided feedback regarding the ECMT proposal. The policy will be brought back for further discussion at a future board meeting.

New Policy-700.06-Language Access Services

The Policy Committee recommended a new policy to comply with Utah Code Section 53G-7-223, an LEA shall adopt a policy to provide guidance on the appropriate uses of interpreters, to improve instruction and assistance by teachers, counselors, and administrators to a student learning English and the student parents and family. The policy includes a district language access plan, recommended qualifications for a translator or interpreter, district translation services and interpretation services, centrally produced communication and a complaint resolution process.

Policy-400.021 – Sexual Harassment (Title IX)

This policy requires a minor revision to adjust the decision-maker listed in the policy to the Supervisor’s Assistance Team (SAT), for review of Title IX investigations, rather than the District Case Management Team (DCMT). The DCMT is the decision-maker to review Title IX student investigations.

Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MFQ5AE1CD>

**3. Business Meeting – 7:00 pm**

**4. Opening Items**

- A. Welcome  
B. Approve Agenda for August 1, 2023

**MOTION:** Amanda Oaks moved to approve the agenda for August 1, 2023. Holly Neibaur seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MEB5ACEA2>

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Susan Edwards, Public Engagement Coordinator

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MEE5ACEA5>

## 5. Patron Comments

No Patrons signed up for comments.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MEP5ACEAE>

## 6. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes for July 11, 2023
- B. Approval of Purchasing Bids
- C. Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- D. Approval of Administrative Appointments

**MOTION:** Holly Neibaur moved to approve Consent Item 6A Approval of Minutes for July 11, 2023, Item 6B Approval of Purchasing Bids; Item 6C Approval of Hire and Termination Reports, and Item 6D Approval of Administrative Appointments. Andrew Edtl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MER5ACEB0>

## 7. New Business

- A. Strategic Plan Focus Group Report: Operating Systems
  - 1. Committee Report and Update on Union Middle School – Leon Wilcox Business Administrator – Leon Wilcox Business Administrator

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the positions currently open at the district for teachers at elementary and secondary schools as well as the ESP positions available throughout the district. The out of District students was reviewed for the last five school years. The district has improved from losing 469 students five years ago to a positive of plus two students for the 2022-23 school year. Upcoming initiatives for the Operating Systems committee include communications, parent square, analyze fall enrollments, teacher/ESP recruitment, employee compensation, review survey data and implement strategies, plans for Skyward Qmlative and resume Superintendent listening tours.

Union Middle school has experienced issues with the new construction with labor supply shortage including electricians, fire sprinkler installers and HVAC plumber technicians. School should be able to start on time with construction on the outside being completed during the day and any finish work being done inside after school hours. The contingency plan if needed, for back to school, will be to transition to online until approval is given to occupy the building.

- 2. School Start/Stop time surveys – Jeff Haney, Director of Communications

A survey was conducted of Canyons parents and employees to seek interest levels in changing the daily start and dismissal schedule of all Canyons high schools. The change would allow high schools to start later but create the need to move elementary school to start approximately between 7:30 am and 8:00 am and release before secondary schools. There was 64% of the 4,244 parents who responded to the survey, who indicated they would like the start and dismissal times to remain as the currently published schedules. Employees had the same response rate of 64% to the question. There was 57% of parents and 57% of employees that said they did not want Canyons to look further into the proposal of changing the start and dismissal times.

- 3. Teacher Satisfaction Survey results – Dr. Lora Tuesday-Heathfield, Program Evaluation Specialist

The survey response rate was good but a little lower than last years. The overall satisfaction increased slightly from last year, which was the lowest level since the survey's inception in 2016. Educator satisfaction level increased from last year on many of the survey items. The primary concern among educators was physical safety and managing student behavior. The open-ended questions will be provided to Board members to review.

The Administrator survey indicated that a large majority are satisfied with their employment. More than half of the Likert items were positively endorsed by over 80% of the administrators who responded.

4. ESP Satisfaction Survey results - Dr. Lora Tuesday-Heathfield, Program Evaluation Specialist

A large majority of contracted and hourly Education Support Professionals (ESP) who responded to the survey are satisfied with their employment. Survey results should be interpreted with caution since there was a relatively low response rate (40%) for contracted ESP's and extremely low response rate (26%) for hourly ESP's. This is the first year that the survey was administered to ESP's.

General recommendations and specific recommendations for Educators, Administrators, and ESP's were given.

5. Senior Exit Survey results - Dr. Lora Tuesday-Heathfield, Program Evaluation Specialist

The overall satisfaction, for Seniors rating their education received at Canyons, has remained consistent since 2017 to the present with a slight increase from last year. The survey content included questions about academic support, school climate, college and career readiness, digital teaching and learning, belongingness, post-high school plans, career aspirations and motivating factor for graduation. A list of recommendations was presented.

Presentations on BoardDocs.

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MF65ACEBD>

**8. Staff Comments**

A. Superintendent Report

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MFA5ACEC1>

B. Business Administrator Report

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MFD5ACEC4>

**9. Board Comments**

A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports

<http://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CU4MFH5ACEC8>

**10. Closing Items**

A. Adjourn

/cc

ATTEST

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Amber Shill

Board President

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Rick Robins

Superintendent