

# Board Summary

## January 7, 2026 Board Meeting

The Utah State Board of Education:

- Approved the FY26 Small School District Capital Projects as recommended by the review panel.
- Approved four sets of curricula from Prevent Child Abuse Utah.
- Approved new CTE course standards.

## Board Approves Small School District Capital Projects

The Utah State Board of Education approved the FY26 Small School District Capital Projects as recommended by the review panel. The program supports capital development (construction of new schools, additions, renovations) in small school districts. Capital project applications are reviewed by an advisory panel before coming to the full Board for final approval.

For additional information, please contact:

**Sam Urie**

School Finance Director

Phone: (801) 538-7545 | [E-mail](#)

## Board Approves Child Sexual Abuse and Human Trafficking Prevention Instructional Materials

The Utah State Board of Education approved four sets of curricula from Prevent Child Abuse Utah. The Board also approved an amendment to one of the materials before final approval. Instructional materials for Child Sexual Abuse and Human Trafficking Prevention are required by [53G-9-207](#) to be submitted to the Board for approval prior to their use in schools.

For additional information, please contact:

**Mindy Elliott**

Prevention Specialist

Phone: (801) 538-7913 | [E-mail](#)

## Board Approves CTE Course Standards

The Utah State Board of Education voted to approve standards for Career & Technical Education (CTE) Business Leadership 1 and Retailing 1 courses. The Board also approved Artificial Intelligence standards. CTE programs are approved annually through the process outlined in [R277-911](#). After working with subject-matter experts and business/industry partners, the standards of these courses were submitted to the Board for approval.

For additional information, please contact:

**Thalea Longhurst**

Director, Career & Technical Education

Phone: (801) 538-7889 | [E-mail](#)

## Board Requests Changes to Utah Code

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) directed staff to work with legislators to define the criteria that constitute a hazardous route and amend the transportation statute to allow districts to optionally include these, along with the current required routes, for funding. The full list of approved statutory change requests can be found on the [USBE website](#).

For additional information, please contact:

### **Elisse Newey**

Deputy Superintendent of Policy

Phone: (801) 538-7550 | [E-mail](#)

## New Administrative Rules, Amendments, and Repeals

The Utah State Board of Education approved, amended, or repealed the following administrative rules:

- [R277-726, Statewide Online Education Program](#). This rule is being amended to add a section on Limited Appropriations for Home Schools. The rule is also being amended to update a definition and to update the title of Section 9 to reflect Limited Appropriations for Small Schools to distinguish funding sources.
- [R277-304, Teacher Preparation Programs](#). This rule is being amended to condense and simplify teacher competencies. Staff will bring an updated set of content competencies for Board consideration at a later date.
- [R277-609, Standards for LEA Discipline Policy](#). This rule is being amended to update the definition for “Accountability Practices” based on changes from the November board meeting.
- [R277-709, Education Programs Serving Youth in Care](#) (YIC). This rule is being amended to better match existing processes in YIC operations and standards.

## Board Approves Consent Calendar

The Utah State Board of Education approved its consent calendar.

## Meeting Highlights for Thursday's Committee Meetings

The Utah State Board of Education's [Standards and Assessment, Finance, and Law and Licensing Committees](#) will meet on Thursday, January 8. Any items approved in committee meetings will be heard by the full Board during its February meeting.

**Standards and Assessment** will meet in a hybrid format from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meeting highlights include:

- Preliminary approval of amendment to [R277-700, The Elementary and Secondary School General Core](#).
- Preliminary approval of amendment to [R277-717, High School Course Grading Requirements](#).

**Finance Committee** will meet in a hybrid format from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Meeting highlights include:

- Preliminary approval of amendment to [R277-479, Funding for Charter School Students with Disabilities or an IEP](#).
- Review of Internal Policies and Potential Action for Grant Application and Acceptance by USBE.

**Law and Licensing** will meet in a hybrid format from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meeting highlights include:

- Preliminary approval of amendment to [R277-929, State Council on Military Children](#).

- Preliminary approval of amendment to [R277-217, Educator Standards and Local Education Agency \(LEA\) Reporting.](#)