



## CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The following minutes are a summary of the January 7, 2025, 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 board meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, beginning at 5:00 pm at the Canyons Administration Building, 9361 S. 300 East, Sandy, Utah 84070.

**Those in attendance were:**

Amber Shill, Board President  
Amanda Oaks, Vice President  
Andrew Edtl, Vice President  
Katie Dahle, Board Member  
Jackson Lewis, Board Member  
Holly Neibaur, Board Member  
Karen Pedersen, Board Member  
Rick Robins, Superintendent  
Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator  
Dan Harper, General Legal Counsel  
Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations

**1. Swearing-In Ceremony – 5:00 pm Holly Neibaur, Katie Dahle and Jackson Lewis**

- A. Oath of Office Administered by Draper City Mayor Troy Walker

Pledge of Allegiance — Brighton High School, Accadians Drill Team  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP5T62BFAC>

The Oaths of Office, Administered by Troy Walker, Mayor of Draper City

Jackson Lewis, District 1

Katie Dahle, District 3

Holly Neibaur, District 7

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP5T62BFAC>

- B. After each newly elected Board Member is sworn in, they will have an opportunity to make a few remarks then an open house will follow

Following the oath of office, the newly elected Board of Education members provided remarks. <https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP6D62CE03>

**2. Closed Session – 6:00 pm**

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

**MOTION:** Amanda Oaks moved 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. \*A vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

\*Person in Attendance: All Board Members. Rick Robins – Superintendent, Leon Wilcox – Business Administrator, Dan Harper – General Counsel, Charlie Evans – Director External Relations. <https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPA77D8D4>

**3. Study Session – 6:15 pm**

- A. 2025 Legislative Update - Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations and Susan Edwards, Public Engagement Coordinator

The 2025 General Session of the Utah State Legislature opens on January 21, 2025. Updates for the Utah Senate and Utah House leadership were reviewed. Mr. Evans and Ms. Edwards updated the Board of Education on potential bills that are related to education for the upcoming session. 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. Presentation available on BoardDocs.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPC77D8D7>

**4. Business Meeting – 7:00 pm**

**5. Opening Items**

- A. Welcome – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator  
B. Approve Agenda for January 7, 2025

**MOTION:** Holly Neibaur moved to approve the agenda for January 7, 2025. Amanda Oaks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPJ77D8DD>

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Alta High School, Principal Ken Rowley  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the Oath of Office Ceremony.
- D. School Highlights – Alta High School, Principal Ken Rowley  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPQ77D8E3>

**6. Reorganization of Board Leadership – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator**

- A. Reorganization of Board Leadership

Mr. Wilcox conducted the meeting for the purpose of reorganizing the Board leadership. He reviewed the Board Policy, 100.01 Board Governance, regarding board elections and the procedures to be followed for the election process. The policy states the first Board Business meeting in January following a general election, a President and Vice President are elected to serve a two-year term. The Board may appoint other officers from time to time following established procedure according to Utah Code.

**MOTION:** Andrew Edtl moved to approve two Vice Presidents for Board Leadership. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. \*

There was a discussion to the motion about the advantages and disadvantages of one vice president versus two vice presidents.

**\*A vote was taken: All those in favor of a President and two Vice Presidents. The motion passed unanimously.**

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP78631C97>

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the role and responsibilities of the President and Vice President(s).

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the procedures for electing board officers contained in Policy 100.1. Any board member may nominate a board member for any office, including nomination of one-self. To be elected an officer, a nominee must receive a majority of the votes. Candidates for an office shall be voted on according to the order of nominations. The first nominee to receive the majority of the votes is elected to the office and the voting ceases for that office.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP78631C97>

B. Elections for President of The Board of Education

*Nominations for the Office of Board President: Jackson Lewis nominated Amber Shill*

**MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to close the nominations for the Office of President. Holly Neibaur seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

There was discussion to the motion.

**A roll call vote was taken. All those in favor of Amber Shill serving the next two years as President of the Board of Education of Canyons School District the vote was taken by roll call. The vote results were unanimous with 7 Yea.**

Amber Shill will serve as the President of the Canyons Board of Education.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP7D63294D>

C. Elections for a Vice President of the Board of Education

*Nominations for a Vice President, Karen Pedersen nominated Amanda Oaks*

**MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to close the nominations for the Office of Vice President. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

There was a discussion to the motion.

**A roll call vote was taken. All those in favor of Amanda Oaks serving the next two years as Vice President of the Board of Education of Canyons School District the vote was taken by roll call. The vote results were unanimous with 7 Yea.**

Amanda Oaks will serve as a Vice President of the Canyons Board of Education.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP7G633427>

D. If needed, elections for the Second Vice President of the Board of Education

*Nominations for a Vice President, Holly Neibaur nominated Andrew Edtl*

**MOTION:** Jackson Lewis moved to close the nominations for the Office of Vice President. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion to the motion.

**A roll call vote was taken. All those in favor of Andrew Edtl as Vice President of the Board of Education of Canyons School District the vote was taken by roll call. The vote results were unanimous with 7 Yea.**

Andrew Edtl will serve as a Vice President of the Canyons Board of Education.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP7H633843>

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

The following students and staff were recognized:

- Reading Literacy – Canyons was number one in Salt Lake County
- 2024 Miss America Pageant – Miss Utah Paris Matthews (Brighton High) and Miss Washington D.C. Katie Ann Powell (Hillcrest High)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Utah All-Star Duals – Athletes from Hillcrest, Corner Canyon and Jordan competing January 8, 2025
- KUTV's Teacher of the Month – Physical Education Teacher Daren Wagner, Eastmont Middle
- Draper Park Middle School's "Shark Tank" was featured on CNBC

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPU77D8E7>

**8. Patron Comments**

No patrons signed up for comment.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPW77D8E9>

**9. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Minutes for December 3, 2024
- B. Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- C. Approval of Student Overnight Travel
- D. Approval of November Financial Reports

**MOTION:** Jackson Lewis moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 9A Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2024; Item 9B Approval of Hire and Termination Reports; Item 9C Approval of Student Overnight Travel; Item 9D Approval of November Financial Reports. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TPY77D8EB>

**10. New Business**

- A. Industry Focus Group Report – Susan Edwards, Public Engagement Coordinator and Pat Jones, Consultant

The Board of Education has spent a great deal of time researching current educational models and student opportunities in several places in and out of the state. The planning for the Canyons Innovation Center is providing a unique window of opportunity for industry leaders to partner with the District. The focus and research groups provided clear direction that the traditional model of education will not serve students attending the innovation center. The educational model needs to be based on experimentation, curiosity, cooperation, teamwork and learning to grow through failure. Feedback from industry leaders revealed that students are lacking in communication skills, critical thinking skills, collaboration skills, creativity, entrepreneurship, and a basic

understanding of the expectations of a work environment, such as showing up to do the work. Next steps include a continuation of meetings with industry leaders, design decisions, hiring a director, selecting an educational model, determining offerings, and deciding how to partnership with industry and higher education. Presentation available on BoardDocs.  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TQD77D8F8>

**B. Board of Education Committee Assignments**

The Board of Education discussed committee assignments and each Board member will report to President Shill their preferences for assignments. Document available on BoardDocs.  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP8N6368B4>

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

The High-Quality Learning committee has been spending their time discussing how to narrow and prioritize critical projects and key deliverables. AVID provides an evidence-based, student-centered framework for college and career readiness that aligns with the district strategic plan. In addition, it creates coherence with other district frameworks, prioritized rigor and inquiry as well as increase the durability of District tenets. The implementation will take time, requires commitment, and focus on all levels, realignment of current systems will need to be made and additional resources will be needed, such as annual membership fees and start up resource package. The committee recommends administration consult with AVID to develop a comprehensive implementation plan and formally propose or present an update to the Board by fall of 2025. Next steps will include developing a more detailed timeline for the prioritized project and continue to explore a districtwide model of AVID implementation. Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DCKP8T636EF5>

**11. Staff Comments**

- A. Superintendent Report  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TQH77D8FC>
- B. Business Administrator Report  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TQL77D8FF>

**12. Board Comments**

- A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TQQ77D903>

**13. Closing Items**

- A. Adjourn  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DC2TQQ77D903>

/cc

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

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

