

Jordan School District
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 9, 2026

The Board of Education of Jordan School District met in study, general, and closed sessions and conducted a budget hearing on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 beginning at 4:03 p.m. at JATC South (Board Conference Room), 12723 S. Park Avenue (2080 West), Riverton, Utah. The sessions were also provided electronically via YouTube.

STUDY SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Kaye Rizzuto, Consultant, Teaching & Learning
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a study session to discuss the following:

A. Continued Discussion on Changes to Social Studies Graduation Credits

Dr. Godfrey gave a brief review of previous discussions, explaining changes must be made to social studies credit requirements to accommodate a course newly required by the legislature. This is the final discussion prior to a vote in the subsequent business meeting.

Ms. George reviewed the options discussed previously: increasing civics and US government classes from half to a full year by dividing one of the two full-year courses (world history or geography) or dividing world history into two parts (modern and ancient) with only one being designated as a required course.

Mr. Barnett said after further study, he would like to recommend a reduction in electives rather than social studies and emphasized the importance of students understanding both modern and ancient history.

Board members discussed the difference in the 24 credits required at King's Peak Virtual or Valley High Schools and the 27 credits at the other six traditional high schools in the District. Dr. Godfrey cautioned that graduation rates would likely decrease if schools require four social studies credits rather than allowing for more electives.

Board members discussed balancing high expectations with high flexibility, the effects on high-achieving and struggling students of increasing graduation requirements, and the possibility of making future changes to this policy if desired. They also discussed which classes would be recommended for a full year study versus those they would like to see reduced to half year should the Board vote to leave social studies at 3.5 credits.

B. Review of Administrative Policy AA417 Fundraising

Dr. Godfrey said he consulted with administrators and student body officer advisors, and after a thorough review it was decided to better align current practice with policy. Three policies will be created for fundraising, specifying requirements by level in order to provide more safety for students, clarify funding sources and uses, and reduce the impact on families.

Board members reviewed drafts of the secondary levels and recommended minor wording changes.

Dr. Godfrey mentioned that once the policies are ratified, training will be provided for administrators and coaches.

Due to the time constraint, it was decided to return to the study session, following tonight's budget hearing, for further discussion on agenda items B, C, and D.

At 5:56 p.m., the meeting adjourned. The general session started at 6:13 p.m.

BUDGET HEARING

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Cody Curtis, Administrator of Schools
Odette Desmarais, Administrator of Schools
Meredith Doleac, Administrator of Schools
Rebecca Gerber, Administrator of Schools
April Gaydosh, Administrator of Human Resources
Carolyn Gough, Administrator of Teaching & Learning
Lisa Robinson, Administrator of Schools
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Daniel Ellis, Director, Accounting, Budgets and Audits
Michael Heaps, Director, Information Systems
Steven Peart, Director, Custodial/Energy Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications
Jason Mott, Accountant/Internal Auditor
Anthony Muto, Network/Technical Services Manager, Information Systems
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Rich Graham, AV Department

President George presided and conducted. She welcomed those present. Business Administrator John Larsen led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverence was given by Superintendent Godfrey.

President George invited Superintendent Godfrey and Business Administrator John Larsen to conduct the budget hearing.

Introduction

Superintendent Godfrey said by Utah law he is ultimately responsible for the District's budget and expressed gratitude for the great work done "behind the scenes" to produce a budget that reflects Jordan's values. He said he is proud of the important work he and staff members do to wisely spend the money entrusted to the District by taxpayers.

Presentation of the 2026-27 Budget

Mr. Larsen said it is an honor to present the budget each year to the Board and he highlighted the following:

Operational Changes- (a vote on the first two will be taken at the conclusion of the meeting)

- \$25 million transfer from the General Fund to the Self-Insurance Fund
- Meal price increases for the Nutrition Services Fund
- Health insurance premium increase
- Additional FTE hired in Human Resources, Special Education, and the elementary Gifted & Talented program, offset by eliminating five full-time District positions

State Revenues- The Utah State Legislature increased the WPU to 4.2% for the 2026-27 school year which will generate \$14.3 million in revenue, less a decrease in the number of WPUs and the Local Replacement Fund for charter schools, for a total revenue increase of \$9.5 million.

Compensation- Steps, lanes, and pay increases in the amount of \$18.7 million were approved for 2026-27.

Enrollment Projections- The District's 2026-27 projected enrollment of 55,138 represents a decrease of 682 students (1.22%) from the October 1, 2025 enrollment.

Assessed Valuation- The 2026-27 assessed valuation per student, based on the State Board of Education legislative estimates, is projected to be \$908,185. This amount is the lowest in Salt Lake County, thus yielding a lower tax revenue.

Tax Rate Comparison- A state-wide comparison of 2025-26 tax rates places Jordan slightly below the state average. Jordan is the seventh from the lowest in the state on operational tax yield and fifth from the lowest on facilities tax yield.

Financial Overview- Mr. Larsen presented a five-year financial overview of revenue, expenditures, and fund balances on a Districtwide basis. He explained the state trend and impact of replacing income tax with property tax.

Districtwide- During 2027, it is estimated the District will receive 59.3 percent of funding from state or federal sources. Districtwide revenue, expenditures, and fund balance for 2027 are projected to be \$658.5 million, \$705.5 million, and \$114.6 million, respectively.

General Fund- The projected general fund balance for the 2027 school year is \$114.6 million and includes employee benefits covered by the Board. Mr. Larsen noted 88.6% of the total expenditures are spent on personnel.

Debt Service Fund- The Debt Service Fund is used for mortgage payments for bonded indebtedness. The Debt Service Fund revenue, expenditures, and fund balance for 2027 are projected to be \$14 million, \$13.7 million, and \$.8 million, respectively. Mr. Larsen highlighted the fact that the District's general obligation debt is very low in comparison to other school districts.

Capital Projects Fund- The Capital Projects Fund balance for 2026 is projected to be \$58.6 million, which includes a balloon payment to completely pay off a Lease Revenue Bond. Mr. Larsen noted two projects recently approved by the Board were not included, but will be reflected in next year's amended budget.

Nutrition Services Fund- Mr. Larsen announced an increase in meal prices for Nutrition Services in the 2026-27 school year due to a decrease in revenue. He referenced the sharply declining fund balance and noted meal prices have not increased in the past three years.

Self-Insurance Fund- The Self-Insurance Fund balance for 2026-27 is projected to be \$20 million, which includes a \$25 million transfer from the General Fund that will be voted on in tonight's meeting. Other plan changes include: a change in open enrollment dates, and increases in health and industrial insurance premiums. Mr. Larsen gave additional information on how employees can save money on health care.

Pass-Through Taxes Fund- This fund is a state fund indicating the taxes not received that are instead sent to other municipalities. Since tax revenues collected are transferred to other governmental agencies, the fund balance will always be zero.

Jordan Education Foundation- The 2026-27 revenue, expenditures, and fund balance for the Foundation are projected to be \$2.6 million, \$2.5 million, and \$2.3 million, respectively.

Student Activities Fund- The 2026-27 Student Activities fund revenue, expenditures, and fund balance are projected to be \$22.4 million, \$24.2 million, and \$.1 million, respectively.

Tax Rates- Mr. Larsen said the 2026-27 proposed tax rate will reflect a certified tax rate with Jordan District being revenue neutral, plus new growth. He indicated that the actual tax rate for 2026-27 is undetermined because the assessed valuation and certified tax rates are still being calculated by Salt Lake County and the Utah State Tax Commission. The tax rate used for the purpose of preparing the 2026-27 budget is estimated to be 0.005098. The property tax per \$100,000 of residential market value for 2026-27 is estimated to be \$280 without a tax increase.

Conclusion - Mr. Larsen announced there will be no Truth-in-Taxation Hearing this year and he recommended the Board take the following action:

1. Approve the one-time \$25,000,000 transfer from the General fund to the Self-Insurance fund for the 2025-26 fiscal year.
2. Adopt the 2025-26 final amended budget.
3. Authorize the meal price Increases for Nutrition Services fund
4. Adopt the 2026-27 proposed budget.
5. Authorize any budget adjustments necessary to reflect funds received from the certified tax rate.

Patron Comments Related to the Budget Hearing

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding the budget hearing and no audience members accepted the invitation to speak.

Questions and Comments from Board Members

Mr. Robinson highlighted the fact that the District recently remodeled, rather than rebuilt, a high school, saving taxpayers an estimated \$130 million or more.

Suzanne Wood referenced page 6 of the budget book, explaining that with property taxes decreasing, on average the property taxes leveraged by the District have cost homeowners \$130 less over the last few years. She also mentioned Jordan's tax rates and long term debt are second lowest when compared to other large local districts.

Lisa Dean recommended page 12 of the budget book, emphasizing Jordan's administration costs are a small fraction of the amount used for instruction. She said charts on page 54 and 55 indicate lower than average class size and student-to-teacher ratio.

Mr. Dunford said of the 41 school districts in the state, 8.5 percent of all students attend Jordan District. He encouraged Board members to become familiar with the budget book and the important information it contains.

Mr. Larsen thanked Senior Accountant Jason Mott and Accounting Director Dan Ellis for their hard work on the budget and budget book, and Dr. Godfrey for his support.

Board Action

MOTION: It was moved by Suzanne Wood and seconded by Bryce Dunford to Approve the One-time \$25,000,000 Transfer from the General Fund to the Self-Insurance Fund for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Bryce Dunford to adopt the 2025-26 final amended budget. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Suzanne Wood and seconded by Bryce Dunford to Authorize the Meal Price Increases for Nutrition Services Fund. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Bryce Dunford to adopt the 2026-27 proposed budget. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MOTION: It was moved by Suzanne Wood and seconded by Bryce Dunford to authorize any budget adjustments necessary to reflect funds received from the certified tax rate. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

At 7:51 p.m., the budget hearing ended. The general session started immediately following the budget hearing.

GENERAL SESSION

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Cody Curtis, Administrator of Schools
Odette Desmarais, Administrator of Schools
Meredith Doleac, Administrator of Schools
Rebecca Gerber, Administrator of Schools
April Gaydosh, Administrator of Human Resources
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Lisa Robinson, Administrator of Schools
Brad Sorensen, Administrator of Schools
Scott Thomas, Administrator of Auxiliary Services
Daniel Ellis, Director, Accounting, Budgets and Audits
Michael Heaps, Director, Information Systems
Steven Peart, Director, Custodial/Energy Services
Kurt Prusse, Director, Purchasing
Sandy Riesgraf, Director, Communications

Jason Mott, Accountant/Internal Auditor
Anthony Muto, Network/Technical Services Manager, Information Systems
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant
Rich Graham, AV Department

President George presided and conducted. She welcomed those present.

Recognitions by Board Members

Erin Barrow said she enjoyed speaking at Valley High School's graduation ceremony and attending many others. She thanked all who helped with high school graduations.

Suzanne Wood recognized Principal Beth Pollock and employees of South Jordan Elementary School for giving their students a meaningful experience at the end of the year with an event involving Olympic athletes.

Lisa Dean enjoyed a recent performance of the West Jordan Community Band, in which many educators participate. She congratulated graduates and thanked all those who contributed to their success. She also recognized the City of West Jordan for their cooperative efforts in completing the walking bridge to Heartland Elementary School.

President George enjoyed many high school graduations and said Superintendent Godfrey should be commended for attending most (and speaking at all but one) graduation ceremonies. She said she is proud of the students for their decorum at these events.

Superintendent's Recognitions

Dr. Godfrey expressed gratitude for the Board for changing policy to allow culture and religious regalia at graduation and extending these ceremonies to be held over two days. He thanked all who participated.

I. Public Comments

A. Patron Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding non-agenda items and no audience members accepted the invitation to speak.

II. General Business – Consent Agenda

A. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items

1. Minutes

Minutes of the Board of Education meetings held May 26, 2026 were presented to the Board of Education for approval.

MOTION: It was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Suzanne Wood to approve Consent Agenda item A1, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

B. Motion to Accept Consent Agenda Items

1. Expenditures

Expenditures for the month of May 2026 were provided to the Board of Education.

2. Financial Statement

The financial statement through May 31, 2026, was provided to the Board of Education. A copy is attached at the conclusion of these minutes. (Attachment 2)

3. **Non-Compliance Report**

MOTION: It was moved by Erin Barrow and seconded by Lisa Dean to accept Consent Agenda items B1 through B3, as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

III. **Bid Recommendations**

A. **School or Department**
Information Systems

Items for Bid
**Windows Device Management
Software: Ivanti**

Bidders
Kambrian Corporation
Latest Solutions
Network Consulting Services
Software House International
vPrime Tech

Amount of Bid
\$111,439.00

Purpose: To extend for one additional year of support and licenses for the existing Windows server and desktop management systems.

Budget: Information Systems Contracted Software Budget

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive, responsible and acceptable bidder, Network Consulting Services. The company complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents.

B. **School or Department**
Information Systems

Items for Bid
**Palo Alto Firewall 3-Year Support
and Pro Services**

Bidders
CompuNet, Inc.

Amount of Bid
\$436,212.10

Purpose: To provide an additional three (3) years of maintenance, subscriptions, and licenses for the existing network security firewall solution at the District Office data center.

Budget: Information Systems Equipment Budget

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to the only offeror, CompuNet, Inc. The company complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions outlined in the bid documents and they provide the best value to the District.

MOTION: It was moved by Suzanne Wood and seconded by Erin Barrow to approve the bids for Windows Device Management Software: Ivanti and Palo Alto Firewall 3-Year Support and Pro Services for Information Services, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

C. **School or Department**
Custodial / Energy Services

Items for Bid
WeatherTrak Controllers

Bidders
Sprinkler Supply Company

Amount of Bid
\$212,793.11

Purpose: To provide WeatherTrak controllers at thirty-one (31) locations throughout the District.

Budget: Utilities/ Sewer & Water

Recommendation: It was recommended awarding the contract to state contract vendor, Sprinkler Supply Company. The company complied with the specifications, terms, and conditions of the bid. State Contract: MA4882

MOTION: It was moved by Erin Barrow and seconded by Darrell Robinson to approve the bid for WeatherTrak Controllers for Custodial/Energy Services, as recommended. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Ms. George said this bid was paid for with a surplus of allocated funds for snow removal and will assist the District in conserving water.

IV. **Special Business**

A. **Recommendation to Approve Social Studies Graduation Requirements**

President George explained that the topic of changing social studies graduation requirements due to recent legislation has been discussed in many prior Board meetings. She asked for a motion.

MOTION: It was moved by Brian Barnett and seconded by Darrell Robinson to increase social studies credits required for graduation from 3.5 to 4 and change elective credits from 8 to 7.5.

Public Comment

No patrons signed up to address the Board regarding this Special Business item and no patrons accepted the invitation to speak.

Board Discussion

Erin Barrow noted that Jordan is unique from many other districts as ninth grade is in middle school and the District currently meets the state requirement of 3.5 credits for social studies. She supports the motion in order to preserve the rigor of the social studies curriculum.

Ms. Dean and Mr. Robinson each expressed their support, while Ms. Wood and Mr. Dunford said they opposed the motion, noting concern about decreasing graduation rates and limiting student choice.

President George called for a vote. The motion passed with a vote of five to two. Mr. Dunford and Ms. Wood cast the dissenting votes.

V. **Information Items**

A. **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Godfrey thanked all Jordan employees who continue to work during the summer, preparing the coming school year.

VI. **Discussion Items**

A. **Committee Reports and Comments by Board Members**

Brian Barnett said minutes from the recent Facilities Committee meeting as well as a preview of summer capital projects for 2027 are posted on BoardBook.

Niki George reported on the recent USBA meeting, explaining that the association is considering discontinuing their affiliation with the NSBA. She said the Joint Legislative Committee's Delegate and Pre-Delegate Assemblies were very informative and she will email a final list of legislative priorities to Board members when it is available.

Lisa Dean gave a reminder of the Jordan Education Foundation's Links to Schools golf tournament on June 25, 2026 at Glenmoor Golf Course.

B. Topics for *Bulletin Board*

President George noted the recent edition of the *Bulletin Board* and thanked the Communications department for their work on the publication.

At 8:29 p.m., President George declared the meeting adjourned and announced that the Board would return to study session.

STUDY SESSION, Continued

Those recognized or signed in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law
Lisa LeStarge, Administrative Assistant

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education continued its study session to discuss the following:

B. Review of Administrative Policy AA417 *Fundraising*, continued

Dr. Godfrey resumed the conversation about fundraising by requesting feedback about Policy AA417 fundraising at the elementary school level. He identified key concepts of this policy:

- Two fundraisers are allowed: one that is PTA-sponsored, and one sponsored by the School Community Council
- Only one of the two can involve major sales of a product or service
- Recipients of charitable contribution funds must be organizations, not individuals
- Unsolicited donations and business partnerships do not count as fundraisers

Board members agreed with changing wording to align with some items on the secondary level policies.

Once the proposed changes have been made, it was decided a copy of the fundraising policies for elementary and secondary levels will be emailed to Board members prior to discussion and a potential vote in the August 11, 2026 business meeting.

C. Review of Board Policies GP113 through GP115

Mr. Dunford noted the late hour and made the following motion:

MOTION: It was moved by Bryce Dunford and seconded by Darrell Robinson to postpone agenda item C. *Review of Board Policies GP113 through GP115*. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Board Professional Development

President George reported on the Executive Committee's assignment to plan professional development opportunities for Board members. The Committee would like to recommend each Board member complete an activity from the America 250 project in which senior students participated this past year and report on it at a future meeting. In addition, she suggested taking time to complete a Board self-assessment module.

Ms. George said she will send a link to the America 250 projects to Board members and after completion of a project, each will report on their experience at the August 11, 2026 study session. In addition, self-assessment will be a topic of discussion at the July 2026 Board retreat.

MOTION: At 9:05 p.m., it was moved by Lisa Dean and seconded by Erin Barrow to go into closed session, after which the meeting will be adjourned. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Those recognized or signed-in as present:

Niki George, Board President
Bryce Dunford, First Vice President
Brian W. Barnett, Second Vice President
Erin Barrow, Board Member
Lisa Dean, Board Member
Darrell Robinson, Board Member
Suzanne Wood, Board Member
Anthony Godfrey, Superintendent
John Larsen, Business Administrator
Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Paul Van Komen, BVKTS Law

President George presided and conducted. The Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; property, potential litigation, negotiations, and security measures. The closed session discussion was recorded and archived.

At 9:36 p.m., Niki George declared the meeting adjourned.

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Attachments