UTAH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 20, 2026
UHSAA Offices

Board of Trustees Meeting and Public Hearing

A. Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair Luke Rasmussen welcomed the Board and acknowledged the busy start of the school year. Executive Director J. Ryan Bishop welcomed members, showed the welcome video, and noted that difficult decisions would be required as the association worked toward positive changes.
- Patrick Lambert offered reverence, sharing thoughts about welcoming the stranger and the rule of St. Benedict before offering a prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gina Buttars.
- Mr. Bishop introduced UHSAA staff and welcomed Audrey Barton. Chair Rasmussen expressed appreciation for Mr. Bishop and his efforts to engage with legislators and schools.

B. Approval of Minutes and Previous Board Business

- Josh LeRoy and Mr. Bishop provided an Executive Committee update. Mr. Bishop highlighted planned region meeting visits by UHSAA directors.
    - MOTION: Jason Young made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. It was seconded by Mitchell Glazier. The motion carried.

C. Realignment for 2027–2029

- The Board gave second consideration to the realignment format and procedures. Mr. Bishop thanked Nate for his work. Jeff Cluff reviewed handbook provisions, and Nate explained the handout describing the Composite Realignment Index (CRI). Discussion included October 1 sophomore and junior enrollment numbers, socioeconomic factors, and the CRI score.
- The Executive Committee recommended 24 teams in 6A rather than 21. This recommendation was reviewed during the Board's discussion.
    - MOTION: Burke Staheli moved to approve the 2027–2029 realignment format and procedures on second consideration. It was seconded by Steve Gordon. The motion carried.

D. Realignment Calendar and December Meetings

- The Board reviewed proposed December meeting dates of December 1, 8, 9, and 17, including the public hearing, and discussed member availability.
    - MOTION: Steven Gordon made a motion to approve the December meeting dates. It was seconded by Ron Nielson. The motion carried.

E. Independent Auditor Report

- John and Steven of Haynie & Company reviewed the independent audit with the Board by conference call.
    - MOTION: Gina Butters made a motion to accept the audit. It was seconded by David Cluff. The motion carried.

F. UHSAA Budget for 2026–2027

- The Board reviewed the proposed budget, financial overview, and key changes.
    - MOTION: Mitchell Glazier made a motion to approve the 2026–2027 UHSAA budget. It was seconded by Ron Nielson. The motion carried.

G. Utah State Board of Education Report

- Carol Lear provided a USBE update and expressed appreciation for her role on the Board. Discussion included annual state passes and the need to clarify when they may be used. The notes also record appreciation for UHSAA's work and a preference that UHSAA continue handling its responsibilities.

H. Executive Director Report

- Mr. Bishop discussed the opening of the 2026–2027 school year and planned Executive Committee and region meeting visits. Staff intended to attend as many region meetings as possible.
- He reviewed committees and assignments, emphasized the importance of the Legislative Committee, and asked Board members to notify staff if they wished to serve on a committee.

I. Directors and Staff Reports

- Jeff Cluff reviewed the regularly updated calendar and reminded members to check it for changes. Work was underway to publish the 2027–2028 calendar earlier. He reported that officiating was generally in a good position, with continued recruitment needs, including the Uintah area, softball, and girls lacrosse. He noted a previously approved annual $3 increase in officials' pay; the notes do not record a new vote on that item at this meeting.
- Mr. Cluff reported positive feedback on the appeals process, more than 20 million website viewers, and thousands of additional social media followers. He recognized Audrey's social media work. Most officials would use digital passes, and the credentials deadline was that day. A reporting form for the 20-hour rule would be released as soon as possible. UHSAA Summits were scheduled for September 9 and 10.
- Brenan Jackson reviewed Sports Medicine Advisory Committee work and noted that more emergency action plans were in place. He discussed coaches' certification requirements under State Board of Education rules, concussion protocols and required coach training, and preparticipation physicals.
- Jan Whittaker reviewed sportsmanship initiatives, including the school sportsmanship award, Gold Star Coach award, school video contest, Sportsmanship Spotlight, and sportsmanship handbook.
- Chris Shipman reviewed Academic All-State recognition for seniors who excel academically. Nominations occur during the sports seasons, with dates listed on the calendar. He also discussed Unified Sports partnerships and the start of Unified flag football that fall.
- Audrey encouraged members to follow UHSAA social media, noted a post on the YouTube page, and invited ideas for engagement. Jennifer reviewed dues and fines.

J. Compliance Training

- Jeff Cluff provided Open and Public Meetings Act training. Topics included public notice, publishing meeting information and agendas, keeping meetings open and on the agenda, statutory grounds for closed meetings, and maintaining records. The training also emphasized that the chair should restate a motion before a vote.

K. Finance Committee and Staff Considerations

- Burke Staheli made a motion to enter closed session for finance and staff considerations. David Cluff seconded the motion. The motion carried.
    - MOTION: Burke Staheli moved to approve staff compensation. Mitch Glazier seconded the motion. The motion carried.

L. Follow Up and Adjournment

- The next Board meeting is November 19, 2026. No additional follow-up assignments.
    - MOTION: Steven Gordon made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mitchell Glazier. The motion carried.