The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Members Present: Chair Jennie Earl, Vice Chair Joann Brinton, Member Sarah Reale, Member LeAnn Wood, and Member Emily Green.

Committee Staff: Leah Voorhies, Deputy Superintendent; Jennifer Wadsworth, Policy Advisor; Angela Doan, Assistant Attorney General; Andrea Curtin and Amy Magruder, Secretaries; and Amy Hunt, Assistant Superintendent.

Others Present: Jerry Record; Alex Farah; Meghan Everett; Davina Sauthoff; Cydnee McCarty; Teri Davis; Shanda Stenger; Jodi Parker; and close captioner.

Chair Jennie Earl called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

INFORMATION: Public Comment

There was no public comment for this meeting

8.2 ACTION: Standards Review Process

Committee Discussion: Committee members discussed the standards revision process and proposed possible changes to the process.

Committee Action: Member Reale moved that in Step 6, after the words, “the writing committee meets,” add the words “designates writing committee leads, reviews" before the words, “the Utah State Board’s approved recommendations, and uses those approved provisions in revisions of the standards.”

Motion was never voted on.

Committee Action: Board Member Earl moved that the Committee postpone this agenda item to the end of this meeting or to the next meeting depending on the amount of time left.

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Board Member Reale moved to direct staff to take the Standards Review update ideas from today's meeting and draft a clean "what it could look like" document showing start to finish, adding in the ideas of the 7-10 year review, the "subcommittee" instead of the review committee, where the leads

could interact, etc., to help show the process laid out for transparency and understanding.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board currently. This item will be moved to the June 5, 2026, Committee meeting.

8.3 ACTION: R277-917, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program (New)

Committee Discussion: This rule is proposed to implement H.B. 36 (2026 General Session), which created the Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, and to establish procedures and requirements for the administration of the program, including eligibility, application, selection, funding, and reporting. The rule also reflects a statutory amendment to Section 53F-5-224 that conditions implementation of the program on the Department of Health and Human Services receiving sufficient federal funding. This new rule establishes definitions consistent with statute, creates an application and selection process for eligible schools, establishes criteria for participation and for earning a gold medal recognition award, defines allowable uses and distribution of program funds including administrative cost limitations, establishes reporting, monitoring, and accountability requirements for participating schools, and specifies that program implementation is contingent upon the receipt of sufficient federal funding by the Department of Health and Human Services. Staff presented R277-917, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, Draft 1, for consideration and approval. Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401; 53F-5-224; 63G-3.

Committee Action: Member Earl moved to change line 52 to read, "implement a local school wellness policy focusing on the areas of physical fitness and nutrition;"

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Wood moved to change line 57 to read, "a plan for family engagement within the program goals;"

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Earl moved to change line 71 to read, "school policies or practices that support student nutritional health and physical activity."

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Earl moved to change line 91 to read, "the presence of partnerships, family engagement, or community support."

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Brinton moved that the Committee approve R277-917, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, Draft 1 as amended, on first reading and forward to the Board for approval on second and final reading.

Motion passed 4 to 1 with Member Green opposed.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-917, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, Draft 2 on second and final reading.

8.4 ACTION: R277-404, Requirements for Assessments of Student Achievement (Amendment & Continuation)

Committee Discussion: The proposed amendments are necessary to align the rule with H.B. 502 (School Attendance Modifications), which establishes statewide test-out options for core classes. The amendments clarify the administration of assessments associated with test-out options, align procedures, timelines, and security requirements with existing statewide assessment practices, and ensure consistency between test-out assessments and current assessment administration policies. R277-404 is soon approaching its five-year review. Staff recommended continuation of the rule. Staff presented R277-404, Requirements for Assessments of Student Achievement, Draft 1, for consideration and approval. Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-4-302; 53E-3-401(4); 53G-6-803(9)(b).

Committee Action: Member Brinton moved that the committee strike section 10 and replace it with the following:

(1) Beginning with the 2027–2028 school year, and in accordance with Section 53E-4-209, the Superintendent shall:

(a) develop and provide all assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery used in statewide test-out options for core classes;

(b) establish uniform procedures, timelines, scoring criteria, and security requirements for administration of test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery;

(c) establish academic proficiency standards aligned with the state core standards for each statewide test-out option; and

(d) ensure that test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery are applied consistently across all local education agencies.

(2) Test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery developed by the Superintendent under Subsection (1) shall be the exclusive methods used for a student to demonstrate proficiency for purposes of earning credit without course enrollment in a core class.

(3) An LEA shall:

(a) offer students the statewide test-out options established by the Superintendent;

(b) administer the statewide test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery provided by the Superintendent;

(c) comply with all procedures, timelines, scoring criteria, and security requirements established by the Superintendent; and

(d) ensure that administration of test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery does not create barriers to student participation.

(4) An LEA may not:

(a) develop, modify, substitute, or independently score any assessment or portfolio-based demonstration of mastery for a statewide test-out option for a core class; or

(b) impose additional requirements that restrict or limit a student's ability to participate in a statewide test-out option.

(5) An LEA shall administer test-out assessments and portfolio-based demonstrations of mastery in a manner that maintains the validity, reliability, fairness, and security of the assessment process, consistent with:

(a) this rule; and

(b) the Standard Test Administration and Testing Ethics Policy incorporated by reference in Section R277-404-3.

(6) An LEA shall notify students and parents annually of:

(a) available statewide test-out options;

(b) applicable timelines and deadlines; and

(c) procedures for participation.

Motion passed 3 to 2 with Member Earl opposed and Member Green abstaining.

Committee Action: Member Reale moved That the Committee continue and approve R277-404, Requirements for Assessments of Student Achievement, Draft 1 as amended, on first reading and forward to the Board for continuation and approval on second and final reading.

Motion passed 3 to 2 with Member Earl opposed and Member Green abstaining.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board continue and approve R277-404, Requirements for Assessments of Student Achievement, Draft 2 on second and final reading.

8.5 ACTION: Targeted Standards Review Secondary Social Studies

Committee Discussion: Social Studies Standards need modifications to meet expectations set forth in H.B. 312. After a review of the requirements, current standards, and current draft standards, staff determined select areas for secondary coursework. The required changes meet the parameters of a targeted review, set forth in Board Policy 3002. Staff recommended a targeted review to meet the implementation deadline of fall 2028.

Committee Action: Member Earl moved that the Board engage in a targeted review for the elementary (K-6) social studies standards and a full review for the secondary (7-12) social studies standards.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board begin a targeted review for the elementary (K-6) social studies standards and a full review for the secondary (7-12) social studies standards.

8.6 ACTION: Sensitive Materials Model Policy Update

Committee Discussion: In 2022, the current guidance for LEAs on developing a Model Policy for Sensitive Materials was passed by a vote of the full Board. In June 2024, the Guidance Document and Rule R277-628 were updated. Passing the new administrative guidance did not repeal the Model Policy. The Model Policy did not undergo any revisions by the Board. In order to bring the 2022 Model Policy up to date with all other guidance, the 2022 version must be repealed, and a new version adopted by the full Board.

Committee Action: Member Brinton moved to amend Section IV regarding the confidentiality of the challenger by striking the phrase *"shall be kept confidential to the extent possible"* and inserting *"shall be handled in accordance with the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA), noting that formal challenge documentation may be subject to public records requests."*

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Brinton moved to amend the section limiting annual challenges by inserting "*challenges that result in a final determination to retain the material without restriction."*

Motion was withdrawn.

Committee Action: Member Brinton moved to direct staff to combine the "Subjective Sensitive Materials Committee" and the "Age-Appropriateness Review Committee" into a single **"Materials Reconsideration Committee."** This committee shall be tasked with concurrently evaluating whether a challenged text violates Utah Code § 76-10-1230 (harmful to minors) and evaluating its broader educational suitability and age-appropriateness.

Motion was withdrawn.

Committee Action: Board Member Brinton moved to restructure the policy into two distinct, standalone sections: "Section A: Library Acquisition and Curation Protocols and Section B: Reconsideration of Challenged Materials."

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Earl moved to add the words, "obscene animal abuse material as referenced in Section 76-5c-101", wherever animal abuse is referenced in the model policy.

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Reale moved to amend Section II.F. to remove the word, "provide", add the word "request", and add, "access to the book inventory."

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Action: Member Green moved that the Standards and Assessment Committee direct staff to bring back a timeline for conducting a comprehensive review and audit of public school library material selection and acquisition practices in Utah, including funding sources, procurement procedures, vendor and publisher relationships, librarian qualifications and training, collection development standards, distributor influence, and the role of professional organizations in shaping library policies and purchasing decisions.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board currently. This item will be moved to the June 5, 2026, Committee meeting.

8.7 INFORMATION: P-12 Physical Education Standards Revision Update

Committee Discussion: The Teaching and Learning Physical Education team will provide an update on the progress of the P-12 Physical Education Standards Revision Process as required in the Board Approved Standards Revision Process.

Because of time restraints this agenda item was moved to the June 5, 2026, Committee meeting.

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: No motion for the Board. This is an information item.

Adjournment:

Committee Action: Member Reale moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.