

THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

The Alpine School District [Board of Education](#) is composed of seven individuals with diverse experiences, perspectives, personalities, and strengths. Each is elected by his or her [voting district](#) to represent the values of their communities in governing the District. Board members have no individual power or authority— their authority is viable only as a body, expressed in the form of an official vote or recommendation.

The Board is responsible for forming and communicating a vision for the District. They establish [policies and priorities](#), approve an [annual budget](#), and hire a Superintendent and Business Administrator to carry out that vision in the daily operations of the District. The Alpine School District operates under a collaborative governance model in which the Superintendent and Business Administrator are closely consulted by the Board.

The Board elects one of its seven members to be its president. The president has no more power or authority than the other members of the Board, but leads and facilitates the Board processes. He or she is the official spokesperson and representative for the Board and works with the Superintendent to prepare for board meetings. The Board also elects a vice president who supports the president and who serves in his or her absence as needed.

CODE OF CONDUCT

To encourage a culture of civility, respect, and integrity, the Alpine School District Board endorses a Code of Conduct which enumerates the principles upon which it operates.

A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

- represents the Board of Education with dignity, honesty, and integrity at all times
- is approachable and accessible to the public and responds to inquiries in a timely manner
- participates in effective School Board Meetings by:
 - *arriving on time prepared for each board meeting, having reviewed all related documents*
 - *communicating questions and concerns in advance to ensure that meetings are productive*
 - *honoring the rules which keep board meetings focused, transparent, orderly, and fair*
 - *helping create a respectful environment for free expression of ideas, concerns, and questions*
 - *respecting the official majority decision of the Board, though he or she may disagree.*
- honors the professional roles of District administrators and staff
- is responsible in fulfilling committee assignments and reporting to the entire Board
- strictly adheres to open meeting requirements which ensure transparency in governance
- reflects upon the question, “What is best for all children?” when making decisions
- remembers the importance of equity in education across the District

OPEN MEETINGS

Any gathering of a majority of the seven board members constitutes a quorum and, as such, is required to adhere to “open meeting” laws. Regularly scheduled open meetings include board meetings, study sessions, and scheduled trainings. [Minutes and recordings](#) of open meetings are available to the public. Closed sessions are held whenever matters of property, personnel, or litigation are brought before the Board.

HANDLING CONCERNS

Anyone should feel free to contact their school board representative. He or she will try to answer questions, but will often refer issues of concern to the appropriate school or District administrator. Board members should then follow up to ensure that a satisfactory resolution is reached. Other avenues for offering input or learning more about district or board issues include contacting the [school administration](#), local chair of the [school community council](#), or the Alpine School District office. Brief public comments, directed to the Board, are also welcome at all [board meetings](#).

A CULTURE OF COLLABORATION & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Board goals and priorities are guided by the District [mission, vision, values and goals](#). Key to setting these foundational beliefs is collaboration between the Board, Superintendent, administration, educators, staff, and, most importantly, students, parents, and the ASD community. As it works to set and achieve goals, the Board employs a framework for receiving feedback in the decision-making process. Every voice in the education community is valuable. The Alpine School District Board of Education encourages full participation by all its stakeholders in establishing a culture and expectation of continuous improvement.

HOW YOU CAN STAY INFORMED

Staying informed begins at the local neighborhood school level.

- Local principals communicate on a regular basis with families and students. As you carefully read the messages, you’ll stay better connected with your school.
- Teachers or advisors will often send notes or electronic communications about important class events or assignments. Check with your student frequently about class expectations -- a daily backpack check is a good idea!
- “Skyward” is the district-wide student information system through which student progress can be tracked online. Each student and parent has a unique ID and password which should be saved in a special place to retrieve whenever needed.
- Follow your school’s social media accounts for current information -- Website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

Stay informed of District news and events primarily through their [website](#) or social media such as [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Feel free to call the District Office (801-610-8400) with any questions. It is located at 575 N. 100 E. in American Fork, Utah.

Both your local school and the District will provide a [Stakeholders Report](#) to you every year in the spring. This report contains interesting information, school data, and specifically reports on the use of [LAND Trust Funds](#) and progress towards annual goals.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

The Alpine School District Board of Education encourages you to find ways to participate. There are lots of possibilities you may want to consider:

- Attend school events with your child. This, along with reading and helping with homework at home, communicates to him or her the strength of your commitment to a quality education --- for them and for all children.
- Attend Parent Teacher Conferences.
- Get to know teachers, administrators, and your ASD School Board member.
- Volunteer in the PTA and in your child's classroom.
- Participate in district and school surveys to voice your needs and concerns.
- Serve on special purpose committees or focus groups.
- Attend District Board meetings.
- Run to fill an elected position --- as a PTA officer, on the School Community Council, on the school board, or in a legislative position.
- Follow education issues on a [district](#), state, and national level.
- Become involved with charitable donations for the District through the [Alpine Foundation](#).
- Partner with your local school or the district in a unique way through your business.