



# Charter Connection

## September 2018

YOUR MONTHLY UPDATE FOR ALL THINGS CHARTER

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### Director's Message

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great summer. At the State Charter School Board, we kept busy. Just a few things to mention since our last newsletter: The SCSB adopted the Charter School Accountability Framework (CSAF) and Oversight Model that was presented to you last year in Charter Directors Meeting. The SCSB also adopted a new mission, vision, and values. You may find them on our website, <https://www.utahscsb.org/mission-vision>. We will also talk more about them in future newsletters.

We hired a new staff member, Dr. Brett Campbell. Dr. Campbell most recently came to us from teaching at Brigham Young University. He has also worked in Clark County School District. Dr. Campbell will be overseeing the comprehensive reviews and working with Michael Clark in Supportive Oversight.

We are also seeking to hire another staff member to work with finance and reporting. We anticipate this position will, among their other duties, provide resources to assist you with all the reporting required of charter schools.

Our first directors meeting of the school year will be September 10<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing you there. Let's have another great year!

*Jennifer*

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### Help Us Promote You!

The State Charter School Board, and staff, wants to support and promote you in many ways, including:

1. Attending graduations, ribbon cutting ceremonies, assemblies for awards received, performances, etc. Please contact [James.Madsen@Schools.Utah.Gov](mailto:James.Madsen@Schools.Utah.Gov) about such events.
2. Sharing your successes and triumphs via this newsletter, our social media accounts (@utahscsb on YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook), and other avenues of promotion and acknowledgement (which may include spotlights, our website, etc.). Please contact [James.Madsen@Schools.utah.Gov](mailto:James.Madsen@Schools.utah.Gov) with such accomplishments.
3. An Employee of the Month section of this newsletter and acknowledgement at Charter Directors Meetings. To implement this, we need you to nominate those outstanding peers of yours at [this Google Form](#). Once we have received at least three nominations, we will review and begin awarding in subsequent months.

## Dear Dr. Ed,

I am a new principal and this is my first day on the job. I am so excited, but also so nervous. So much rests on my shoulders. What do experienced principals say they wish they had known on their first day as principal? What supports and resources are out there to assist me?

Sincerely,

1<sup>st</sup> Day Dread



Dear 1<sup>st</sup> Day Dread,

Congratulations! The first day of any job can be stressful. This is especially true when you find yourself responsible for an entire building of students and educators. At the NASSP's conference seven principals shared what they wish they had known or done in their first year. (1) The emotional toll the job takes is enormous. (2) Read [Todd Whitaker's](#) books ... and gain an understanding of Design Thinking. (3) Principals operate in a fishbowl. Everybody sees everything you do. That's what I wish I had known and gotten used to in the very beginning. (4) It is OK to admit you're wrong. (5) Build deeper and better relationships. (6) Build relationships with teachers, relationships with parents, relationships with kids, and relationships with community stakeholders. (7) Find an experienced mentor to work with as you transition into the principal-ship.

The SCSB provides mentors through the Mentor and Training Grant (currently administered by UAPCS). Targeted mentoring can also be provided if you have a specific need or challenge. Mentors are provided free of charge to the school and are carefully selected for their skills and abilities. Mentors are paired based on similar school philosophies and experiences. Contact [Rabbecca Cisneros](#) at the SCSB or [Joylin Lincoln](#) at UAPCS for more information or to request a mentor.

Best Wishes & Much Success,  
*Dr. Ed U. Cation*

## Themes of the Month

This year, the State Charter School Board (SCSB) will begin the Comprehensive Governing Board Reviews. According to R277-481-3, the SCSB is responsible for reviewing "effective charter school operations" every five years. SCSB staff have developed the Comprehensive Governing Board Review that will meet this requirement.

The Comprehensive Governing Board Review consists of four elements: governing board governance, charter fidelity, student outcomes (engagement and achievement), and financial stability. Most data for the review will be acquired from existing reports and online sources. SCSB staff or proxies will attend several charter school governing board meetings to observe governing board meetings. Also, SCSB staff will visit school sites in assuring charter fidelity.

More information can be found about Comprehensive Governing Board Reviews as well as a calendar at [UtahSCSB.org](http://UtahSCSB.org). For charter schools with Comprehensive Governing Board Reviews in the 2018-2019 school year, SCSB staff will be reaching out to schedule the reviews in the coming days. Please contact Supportive Oversight Specialist Brett Campbell at [Brett.Campbell@schools.utah.gov](mailto:Brett.Campbell@schools.utah.gov) with any questions you may have.

## Opportunities for Schools

- [Connecting for a Cure: The Utah Youth Opioid Summit](#) on October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Vivint Smart Home Arena is an event sponsored by the [Utah Attorney General's Office](#) to combat the Utah opioid epidemic. [Register your students here.](#)
- [Elementary Level Literacy Leadership Institute w/ Pati Montgomery: September 27-28, February 12-13, April 9-10](#)
- [Secondary Level Literacy Leadership Institute w/ Pati Montgomery: October 11-12, February 20-21](#)
- [RTI and MTSS Conference October 16 & 17.](#)
- September 5, 2018 [Restorative Practices: Building a Culture of Change, the 20/20 Vision.](#) Viridian Event Center, 8030 South 1825 West, West Jordan, Utah. 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Central Utah Charter School District Science and Engineering Fair, which is a qualifying fair for CUSEF and ISEF. All charter schools located in Nebo, Provo, Alpine, Jordan, and Wasatch School Districts are invited to participate. **If interested, you MUST send a representative to a meeting on Sept. 18 from 5:30-6:30 at John Hancock Charter School** (125 North 100 East, Pleasant Grove, UT 84062). The fair this year is scheduled for Feb. 5, 2019 at the UVU Student Center Ballroom. This is a great event for students in grades 5th - 12th. I would encourage your school to participate. You can reach out to me if you have any questions.



## Outstanding in Our Field

- [Two Beehive Academy students have been awarded Congressional Medal Awards!](#)
- On Aug 9, the SCSB invited the proposals of Bridge Elementary (K-6 individualized learning plans in Weber SD), Utah Mountain School (grades 7-8 project-based outdoor education in Ogden SD), & Mountain Sunrise Academy (K-6 Waldorf in Alpine SD) to submit full applications.
- The State Charter School Board approved the Expansion requests of Excelsior Academy and Regan Academy. These are strong schools that have had consistently strong enrollment and high academic success, so the SCSB unanimously supported their expansions.
- The Bureau of Land Management named Entheos Academy (Kearns) as stewards of the Black Point archaeological site thanks to the annual service provided by its sixth grade students!
- In FY18, UT charters raised \$44,769 to fight blood cancer with the Pennies for Patients campaign. Shouts to Moticello, Esperanza, Providence Hall, Early Light, Ascent (all), Legacy Prep (all), Canyon Grove, Highmark, Entheos, Franklin, Winter Sports, Tuacahn, and SUCCESS!

## September 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
Labor Day  3	4	5	<a href="#">USBE Meeting</a>  6	<a href="#">USBE Standing Committees/USDB Board Mtg/Study Session</a>  7	8	9
<a href="#">Charter Directors</a>  10	11	12	<a href="#">SCSB Meeting</a>  13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## October 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	<a href="#">USBE Meeting</a>  4	<a href="#">USBE Standing Committees/USDB Board Mtg/Study Session</a>  5	6	7
Columbus Day  8	9	<a href="#">Collaboration Meeting</a>  10	<a href="#">SCSB Meeting</a>  11	<a href="#">Connecting for a Cure</a>  12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				