

Katy Hall proposes the following substitute bill:

Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Katy Hall

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- creates a five-year pilot program known as the Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program to:
 - promote physical activity in an eligible school; and
 - promote healthy eating habits in an eligible school;
- requires the State Board of Education to:
 - administer the program;
 - select an eligible school for participation in the program; and
 - award program funds;
- creates a reporting requirement;
- creates a cap for administrative costs associated with the program;
- creates a sunset date for the program; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 9

63I-1-253 (Effective 07/01/26), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special

29 Session, Chapter 9

30 ENACTS:

31 **53F-5-224 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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33 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

34 Section 1. Section **53E-1-201** is amended to read:

35 **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27). Reports to and**
36 **action required of the Education Interim Committee.**

37 (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring
38 reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:

- 39 (a) the report described in Section 9-22-109 by the STEM Action Center Board,
40 including the information described in Section 9-22-113 on the status of the computer
41 science initiative and Section 9-22-114 on the Computing Partnerships Grants
42 Program;
- 43 (b) the prioritized list of data research described in Section 53H-15-303 and the report
44 on research and activities described in Section 53H-15-305 by the Utah Data
45 Research Center;
- 46 (c) the report described in Section 53H-1-203 by the Utah Board of Higher Education on
47 career and technical education issues and addressing workforce needs;
- 48 (d) the annual report of the Utah Board of Higher Education described in Section
49 53H-1-203;
- 50 (e) the reports described in Section 53H-7-603 by the Utah Board of Higher Education
51 regarding activities related to campus safety;
- 52 (f) the State Superintendent's Annual Report by the state board described in Section
53 53E-1-203;
- 54 (g) the annual report described in Section 53E-2-202 by the state board on the strategic
55 plan to improve student outcomes;
- 56 (h) the report described in Section 53E-3-501 by the state board on students in an LEA
57 who receive academic credit through the packet method;
- 58 (i) the report described in Section 53E-8-204 by the state board on the Utah Schools for
59 the Deaf and the Blind;
- 60 (j) the report described in Section 53E-10-703 by the Utah Leading through Effective,
61 Actionable, and Dynamic Education director on research and other activities;
- 62 (k) the report described in Section 53F-2-522 regarding mental health screening

- 63 programs;
- 64 (l) the report described in Section 53F-4-203 by the state board and the independent
65 evaluator on an evaluation of early interactive reading software;
- 66 (m) the report described in Section 53F-6-412 by the program manager of the Utah Fits
67 All Scholarship Program;
- 68 (n) the report described in Section 63N-20-107 by the Governor's Office of Economic
69 Opportunity on UPSTART;
- 70 (o) the report described in Section 53F-5-215 by the state board related to a grant for an
71 elementary teacher preparation assessment;
- 72 (p) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-5-219 by the state board on the
73 Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program;
- 74 (q) the report described in Section 53F-5-405 by the state board regarding an evaluation
75 of a partnership that receives a grant to improve educational outcomes for students
76 who are low-income;
- 77 (r) the report described in Section 53H-1-604 regarding the Higher Education and
78 Corrections Council;
- 79 (s) the report described in Section 53G-7-221 by the state board regarding innovation
80 plans; and
- 81 (t) the reports described in Section 53F-6-412 regarding the Utah Fits All Scholarship
82 Program.
- 83 (2) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following occasional
84 reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:
- 85 (a) in 2027, 2030, 2033, and 2035, the reports described in Sections 53H-1-502,
86 53H-1-503, and 53H-1-504;
- 87 (b) in 2025, the report described in Section 53H-6-203 by a degree-granting institution
88 regarding policies on abusive coaching practices;
- 89 (c) if required, the report described in Section 53E-4-309 by the state board explaining
90 the reasons for changing the grade level specification for the administration of
91 specific assessments;
- 92 (d) if required, the report described in Section 53E-5-210 by the state board of an
93 adjustment to the minimum level that demonstrates proficiency for each statewide
94 assessment;
- 95 (e) the report described in Section 53E-10-702 by Utah Leading through Effective,
96 Actionable, and Dynamic Education;

- 97 (f) if required, the report described in Section 53F-2-513 by the state board evaluating
 98 the effects of salary bonuses on the recruitment and retention of effective teachers in
 99 high-poverty schools;
- 100 (g) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-5-224 by the state board regarding
 101 implementation, progress, and health outcomes of the Gold Medal Schools Pilot
 102 Program;
- 103 [~~(g)~~] (h) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-10-303 by the state board
 104 regarding the Rural School Sports Facilities Grant Program;
- 105 [~~(h)~~] (i) upon request, a report described in Section 53G-7-222 by an LEA regarding
 106 expenditure of a percentage of state restricted funds to support an innovative
 107 education program;
- 108 [~~(i)~~] (j) the reports described in Section 53G-11-304 by the state board regarding
 109 proposed rules and results related to educator exit surveys; and
- 110 [~~(j)~~] (k) the report described in Section 26B-5-113 by the Office of Substance Use and
 111 Mental Health, the state board, and the Department of Health and Human Services
 112 regarding recommendations related to Medicaid reimbursement for school-based
 113 health services.
- 114 (3) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, every five years the
 115 Education Interim Committee shall review the programs described in the following
 116 sections of code:
- 117 (a) beginning July 1, 2027, Title 53E, Chapter 10, Part 3, Concurrent Enrollment;
- 118 (b) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-408, Enhancement for Accelerated Students
 119 Program;
- 120 (c) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-409, Concurrent enrollment funding;
- 121 (d) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-415, Student health and counseling support --
 122 Qualifying personnel -- Distribution formula -- Rulemaking;
- 123 (e) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-416, Appropriation and distribution for the
 124 Teacher and Student Success Program;
- 125 (f) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-510, Digital Teaching and Learning Grant
 126 Program;
- 127 (g) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-9-306, Teacher and Student Success Account;
- 128 (h) beginning July 1, 2028, Title 53G, Chapter 7, Part 13, Teacher and Student Success
 129 Program; and
- 130 (i) beginning July 1, 2029, Section 53F-2-502, Dual language immersion.

131 Section 2. Section **53F-5-224** is enacted to read:

132 **53F-5-224** (Effective 07/01/26). **Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program.**

133 (1) As used in this section:

134 (a) "Eligible school" means a district or charter elementary school that:

135 (i) provides instruction to students in kindergarten or grade, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6; and

136 (ii) is located in a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class as described in

137 Section 17-60-104.

138 (b) "Gold medal recognition award" means recognition through a certificate the state

139 board awards to an eligible school that meets the physical education criteria the state

140 board establishes under this section.

141 (c) "Program" means the Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program created in Subsection (2).

142 (2) There is created a five-year pilot program, known as the Gold Medal Schools Pilot

143 Program, to provide funding to an eligible school to promote healthy physical lifestyle

144 choices by a student in an eligible school and improve the physical education, physical

145 activity, and nutrition of a student by:

146 (a) encouraging a student to engage in regular physical activity;

147 (b) promoting healthy eating habits and food choices in an eligible school; and

148 (c) creating school policies that support lifelong health and wellness for students.

149 (3) The state board shall, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative

150 Rulemaking Act, make rules to:

151 (a) establish physical education criteria for a participating, eligible school, including
152 criteria for earning a gold medal recognition award, that:

153 (i) achieve the purpose of the program as described in Subsection (2); and

154 (ii) apply alternate criteria to a student with a physical limitation;

155 (b) select eligible schools to participate in the program, prioritizing schools that:

156 (i) demonstrate the greatest need for health improvement;

157 (ii) submit an application in accordance with Subsection (4) that outlines measurable
158 health goals and evidence-based strategies; and

159 (iii) establish partnerships with local entities to support student health and wellness;

160 (c) subject to legislative appropriations, award the program funds equally between each

161 eligible school the state board selects under Subsection (3)(b):

162 (i) that meets the physical education criteria the state board establishes; and

163 (ii) in accordance with the requirements of this section;

164 (d) create an application process for an eligible school to participate in the program;

- 165 (e) establish limitations on eligible school use of funds an eligible school receives
 166 through the program that emphasize physical activity and healthy eating habits;
 167 (f) begin program implementation for the 2027-28 school year;
 168 (g) grant a participating eligible school autonomy to implement the program in
 169 accordance with local needs and resources; and
 170 (h) establish a system to distribute program funds to the participating eligible school,
 171 including a percentage cap for an eligible school's administration of the program.
 172 (4)(a) An eligible school may submit an application to participate in the program.
 173 (b) In the eligible school's application, the eligible school shall:
 174 (i) describe how the eligible school will implement the program's objectives; and
 175 (ii) outline measurable goals aligned with the program's purpose.
 176 (c) An eligible school that the state board selects to participate in the program shall, at
 177 the conclusion of each school year, submit a report to the state board demonstrating
 178 whether the school has met the physical education criteria the state board establishes
 179 for the program.
 180 (5) An eligible school that participates in the program may only use program funds to
 181 achieve the purposes described in Subsection (2).
 182 (6) The state board may use up to 6.25% of the money appropriated for the purposes
 183 described in this section for administrative costs of the state board.
 184 (7) Upon request of the Education Interim Committee or the Health and Human Services
 185 Interim Committee, the state board shall report to the Education Interim Committee or
 186 the Health and Human Services Interim Committee on:
 187 (a) the implementation of the program; and
 188 (b) the program's progress and health outcomes.
 189 Section 3. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:
 190 **63I-1-253 (Effective 07/01/26). Repeal dates: Titles 53 through 53G.**
 191 (1) Section 53-1-122, Road Rage Awareness and Prevention Restricted Account, is
 192 repealed July 1, 2028.
 193 (2) Section 53-2a-105, Emergency Management Administration Council created --
 194 Function -- Composition -- Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
 195 (3) Section 53-2a-1103, Search and Rescue Advisory Board -- Members -- Compensation,
 196 is repealed July 1, 2030.
 197 (4) Section 53-2a-1104, General duties of the Search and Rescue Advisory Board, is
 198 repealed July 1, 2027.

- 199 (5) Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 15, Grid Resilience Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 200 (6) Section 53-2d-104, State Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership --
201 Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 202 (7) Section 53-2d-503, Establishment of maximum rates, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 203 (8) Section 53-5a-302, Concealed Firearm Review Board -- Membership -- Compensation
204 -- Terms -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 205 (9) Section 53-11-104, Board, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 206 (10) Title 53, Chapter 31, Department Interaction With Local Law Enforcement, is repealed
207 July 1, 2027.
- 208 (11) Subsection 53C-3-203(4)(b)(vii), regarding the distribution of money from the Land
209 Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells and other
210 hydrologic studies in the West Desert, is repealed July 1, 2030.
- 211 (12) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(q), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections Council,
212 is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 213 (13) Subsection 53E-2-304(6), regarding foreclosing a private right of action or waiver of
214 governmental immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 215 (14) Subsection 53E-3-503(5), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is
216 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 217 (15) Subsection 53E-3-503(6), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is
218 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 219 (16) Subsection 53E-4-202(8)(b), regarding a standards review committee, is repealed
220 January 1, 2028.
- 221 (17) Section 53E-4-203, Standards review committee, is repealed January 1, 2028.
- 222 (18) Title 53E, Chapter 6, Part 5, Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission, is
223 repealed July 1, 2033.
- 224 (19) Subsection 53E-7-207(7), regarding a private right of action or waiver of governmental
225 immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 226 (20) Section 53F-5-215, Elementary teacher preparation assessment grant, is repealed July
227 1, 2028.
- 228 (21) Section 53F-5-219, Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program, is repealed July
229 1, 2026.
- 230 (22) Section 53F-5-224, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2031.
- 231 [~~22~~] (23) Title 53F, Chapter 10, Part 2, Capital Projects Evaluation Panel, is repealed July
232 1, 2027.

- 233 [~~(23)~~] (24) Subsection 53G-4-608(2)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
234 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 235 [~~(24)~~] (25) Subsection 53G-4-608(4)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is
236 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 237 [~~(25)~~] (26) Section 53G-9-212, Drinking water quality in schools, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 238 [~~(26)~~] (27) Subsection 53G-9-703(4), regarding the parental video presentation concerning
239 student use of technology, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 240 [~~(27)~~] (28) Subsection 53H-1-402(1)(j), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections
241 Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 242 [~~(28)~~] (29) Section 53H-1-604, Higher Education and Corrections Council, is repealed July
243 1, 2027.
- 244 [~~(29)~~] (30) Subsection 53H-4-210(3), regarding the creation of the SafeUT and School
245 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 246 [~~(30)~~] (31) Subsection 53H-4-210(4), regarding the appointment of the members of the
247 SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 248 [~~(31)~~] (32) Subsection 53H-4-210(5), regarding the attorney general designating the chair of
249 the SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 250 [~~(32)~~] (33) Subsection 53H-4-210(6), regarding the quorum requirements of the SafeUT and
251 School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 252 [~~(33)~~] (34) Subsection 53H-4-210(7), regarding a formal action of the SafeUT and School
253 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 254 [~~(34)~~] (35) Subsection 53H-4-210(8), regarding compensation for members of the SafeUT
255 and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 256 [~~(35)~~] (36) Subsection 53H-4-210(9), regarding the support staff for the SafeUT and School
257 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 258 [~~(36)~~] (37) Section 53H-4-306.1, Definitions -- Electrification of Transportation
259 Infrastructure Research Center, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 260 [~~(37)~~] (38) Section 53H-4-306.2, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
261 Center -- Designation -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 262 [~~(38)~~] (39) Section 53H-4-306.3, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
263 Center -- Steering committee, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 264 [~~(39)~~] (40) Section 53H-4-306.4, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
265 Center -- Industry advisory board, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 266 [~~(40)~~] (41) Section 53H-4-306.5, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

267 Center -- Duties of the project director, is repealed July 1, 2028.
268 [~~(41)~~] (42) Section 53H-4-306.6, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research
269 Center -- Project development and strategic objectives -- Reporting requirements, is
270 repealed July 1, 2028.
271 [~~(42)~~] (43) Section 53H-4-307.1, Center for Civic Excellence, is repealed July 1, 2030.
272 [~~(43)~~] (44) Section 53H-4-307.2, Center for Civic Excellence -- Duties -- Authority, is
273 repealed July 1, 2030.
274 [~~(44)~~] (45) Section 53H-4-307.3, Center for Civic Excellence -- Leadership, is repealed July
275 1, 2030.
276 [~~(45)~~] (46) Section 53H-4-307.4, Center for Civic Excellence -- Faculty, is repealed July 1,
277 2030.
278 [~~(46)~~] (47) Section 53H-4-307.5, Center for Civic Excellence -- Curriculum, is repealed July
279 1, 2030.
280 [~~(47)~~] (48) Section 53H-4-307.6, Center for Civic Excellence -- Oversight -- Reporting, is
281 repealed July 1, 2030.
282 [~~(48)~~] (49) Section 53H-4-313, Food Security Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.
283 [~~(49)~~] (50) Section 53H-8-305, Five-year performance goals, is repealed July 1, 2027.
284 [~~(50)~~] (51) Title 53H, Chapter 10, Part 4, Education Savings Incentive Program, is repealed
285 July 1, 2028.
286 Section 4. **Effective Date.**
287 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.