

1 **Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program**  
 2026 GENERAL SESSION  
 STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Katy Hall**  
 Senate Sponsor: Keven J. Stratton

Cosponsor: Logan J. Monson  
 Jon Hawkins

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 3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill creates the Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

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

20 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

21 None

22 **Other Special Clauses:**

23 This bill provides a special effective date.

24 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

25 AMENDS:

26 **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws  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

28 **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35 **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27).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:
- 150 (a) if the Department of Health and Human Services receives federal funding related to  
151 the program in an amount to cover the program, administer and oversee the program;  
152 and
- 153 (b) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,  
154 make rules to:
- 155 (i) establish physical education criteria for a participating, eligible school, including  
156 criteria for earning a gold medal recognition award, that:  
157 (A) achieve the purpose of the program as described in Subsection (2); and  
158 (B) apply alternate criteria to a student with a physical limitation;
- 159 (ii) select eligible schools to participate in the program, prioritizing schools that:  
160 (A) demonstrate the greatest need for health improvement;  
161 (B) submit an application in accordance with Subsection (4) that outlines

- 162 measurable health goals and evidence-based strategies; and
- 163 (C) establish partnerships with local entities to support student health and wellness;
- 164 (iii) subject to legislative appropriations, award the program funds equally between
- 165 each eligible school the state board selects under Subsection (3)(b):
- 166 (A) that meets the physical education criteria the state board establishes; and
- 167 (B) in accordance with the requirements of this section;
- 168 (iv) create an application process for an eligible school to participate in the program;
- 169 (v) establish limitations on eligible school use of funds an eligible school receives
- 170 through the program that emphasize physical activity and healthy eating habits;
- 171 (vi) begin program implementation for the 2027-28 school year;
- 172 (vii) grant a participating eligible school autonomy to implement the program in
- 173 accordance with local needs and resources; and
- 174 (viii) establish a system to distribute program funds to the participating eligible
- 175 school, including a percentage cap for an eligible school's administration of the
- 176 program.
- 177 (4)(a) An eligible school may submit an application to participate in the program.
- 178 (b) In the eligible school's application, the eligible school shall:
- 179 (i) describe how the eligible school will implement the program's objectives; and
- 180 (ii) outline measurable goals aligned with the program's purpose.
- 181 (c) An eligible school that the state board selects to participate in the program shall, at
- 182 the conclusion of each school year, submit a report to the state board demonstrating
- 183 whether the school has met the physical education criteria the state board establishes
- 184 for the program.
- 185 (5) An eligible school that participates in the program may only use program funds to
- 186 achieve the purposes described in Subsection (2).
- 187 (6) The state board may use up to 6.25% of the money appropriated for the purposes
- 188 described in this section for administrative costs of the state board.
- 189 (7) Upon request of the Education Interim Committee or the Health and Human Services
- 190 Interim Committee, the state board shall report to the Education Interim Committee or
- 191 the Health and Human Services Interim Committee on:
- 192 (a) the implementation of the program; and
- 193 (b) the program's progress and health outcomes.
- 194 Section 3. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:
- 195 **63I-1-253 (Effective 07/01/26). Repeal dates: Titles 53 through 53G.**

- 196 (1) Section 53-1-122, Road Rage Awareness and Prevention Restricted Account, is  
197 repealed July 1, 2028.
- 198 (2) Section 53-2a-105, Emergency Management Administration Council created --  
199 Function -- Composition -- Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 200 (3) Section 53-2a-1103, Search and Rescue Advisory Board -- Members -- Compensation,  
201 is repealed July 1, 2030.
- 202 (4) Section 53-2a-1104, General duties of the Search and Rescue Advisory Board, is  
203 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 204 (5) Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 15, Grid Resilience Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 205 (6) Section 53-2d-104, State Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership --  
206 Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 207 (7) Section 53-2d-503, Establishment of maximum rates, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 208 (8) Section 53-5a-302, Concealed Firearm Review Board -- Membership -- Compensation  
209 -- Terms -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 210 (9) Section 53-11-104, Board, is repealed July 1, 2029.
- 211 (10) Title 53, Chapter 31, Department Interaction With Local Law Enforcement, is repealed  
212 July 1, 2027.
- 213 (11) Subsection 53C-3-203(4)(b)(vii), regarding the distribution of money from the Land  
214 Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells and other  
215 hydrologic studies in the West Desert, is repealed July 1, 2030.
- 216 (12) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(q), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections Council,  
217 is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 218 (13) Subsection 53E-2-304(6), regarding foreclosing a private right of action or waiver of  
219 governmental immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 220 (14) Subsection 53E-3-503(5), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is  
221 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 222 (15) Subsection 53E-3-503(6), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is  
223 repealed July 1, 2027.
- 224 (16) Subsection 53E-4-202(8)(b), regarding a standards review committee, is repealed  
225 January 1, 2028.
- 226 (17) Section 53E-4-203, Standards review committee, is repealed January 1, 2028.
- 227 (18) Title 53E, Chapter 6, Part 5, Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission, is  
228 repealed July 1, 2033.
- 229 (19) Subsection 53E-7-207(7), regarding a private right of action or waiver of governmental

- 230 immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 231 (20) Section 53F-5-215, Elementary teacher preparation assessment grant, is repealed July  
232 1, 2028.
- 233 (21) Section 53F-5-219, Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program, is repealed July  
234 1, 2026.
- 235 (22) Section 53F-5-224, Gold Medal Schools Pilot Program, is repealed July 1, 2031.
- 236 [~~(22)~~] (23) Title 53F, Chapter 10, Part 2, Capital Projects Evaluation Panel, is repealed July  
237 1, 2027.
- 238 [~~(23)~~] (24) Subsection 53G-4-608(2)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is  
239 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 240 [~~(24)~~] (25) Subsection 53G-4-608(4)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is  
241 repealed January 1, 2025.
- 242 [~~(25)~~] (26) Section 53G-9-212, Drinking water quality in schools, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 243 [~~(26)~~] (27) Subsection 53G-9-703(4), regarding the parental video presentation concerning  
244 student use of technology, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 245 [~~(27)~~] (28) Subsection 53H-1-402(1)(j), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections  
246 Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.
- 247 [~~(28)~~] (29) Section 53H-1-604, Higher Education and Corrections Council, is repealed July  
248 1, 2027.
- 249 [~~(29)~~] (30) Subsection 53H-4-210(3), regarding the creation of the SafeUT and School  
250 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 251 [~~(30)~~] (31) Subsection 53H-4-210(4), regarding the appointment of the members of the  
252 SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 253 [~~(31)~~] (32) Subsection 53H-4-210(5), regarding the attorney general designating the chair of  
254 the SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 255 [~~(32)~~] (33) Subsection 53H-4-210(6), regarding the quorum requirements of the SafeUT and  
256 School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 257 [~~(33)~~] (34) Subsection 53H-4-210(7), regarding a formal action of the SafeUT and School  
258 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 259 [~~(34)~~] (35) Subsection 53H-4-210(8), regarding compensation for members of the SafeUT  
260 and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 261 [~~(35)~~] (36) Subsection 53H-4-210(9), regarding the support staff for the SafeUT and School  
262 Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.
- 263 [~~(36)~~] (37) Section 53H-4-306.1, Definitions -- Electrification of Transportation

264 Infrastructure Research Center, is repealed July 1, 2028.  
265 [(37)] (38) Section 53H-4-306.2, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research  
266 Center -- Designation -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2028.  
267 [(38)] (39) Section 53H-4-306.3, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research  
268 Center -- Steering committee, is repealed July 1, 2028.  
269 [(39)] (40) Section 53H-4-306.4, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research  
270 Center -- Industry advisory board, is repealed July 1, 2028.  
271 [(40)] (41) Section 53H-4-306.5, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research  
272 Center -- Duties of the project director, is repealed July 1, 2028.  
273 [(41)] (42) Section 53H-4-306.6, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research  
274 Center -- Project development and strategic objectives -- Reporting requirements, is  
275 repealed July 1, 2028.  
276 [(42)] (43) Section 53H-4-307.1, Center for Civic Excellence, is repealed July 1, 2030.  
277 [(43)] (44) Section 53H-4-307.2, Center for Civic Excellence -- Duties -- Authority, is  
278 repealed July 1, 2030.  
279 [(44)] (45) Section 53H-4-307.3, Center for Civic Excellence -- Leadership, is repealed July  
280 1, 2030.  
281 [(45)] (46) Section 53H-4-307.4, Center for Civic Excellence -- Faculty, is repealed July 1,  
282 2030.  
283 [(46)] (47) Section 53H-4-307.5, Center for Civic Excellence -- Curriculum, is repealed July  
284 1, 2030.  
285 [(47)] (48) Section 53H-4-307.6, Center for Civic Excellence -- Oversight -- Reporting, is  
286 repealed July 1, 2030.  
287 [(48)] (49) Section 53H-4-313, Food Security Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.  
288 [(49)] (50) Section 53H-8-305, Five-year performance goals, is repealed July 1, 2027.  
289 [(50)] (51) Title 53H, Chapter 10, Part 4, Education Savings Incentive Program, is repealed  
290 July 1, 2028.

291 Section 4. **Effective Date.**

292 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.