



2024 Legislative Affairs Priorities

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Position Statement

We recognize and appreciate the support and commitment to education by the legislature. Quality education and training is a priority, it is the key to the success of economic prosperity. We encourage the Legislature to implement and fund proven programs for educating our future workforce and creating the framework for future generations to enter and excel in the job market. We support the objective of Utah school children ranking in the top ten in all fundamental subjects and in graduation rates. We encourage the Legislature to promote achievement in traditional education subjects and in career and technical education in order for Utah students and businesses to remain globally competitive.

Support Funding for Education

We support improving the quality and quantity of educational outcomes. Secure and sustained funding should support growth, higher achievement, improved instruction, and more effective programs to generate higher graduation and completion rates. We encourage the Legislature to consider our education systems, crafting a balanced approach to community growth and density.

Quality Education is a Priority

We recognize that education is the very foundation on which Utah will build its business strength and vitality. We support the Utah State Board of Education and the Utah System of Higher Education's (USHE) efforts to adopt and improve high standards for student learning. We support Local Education Agencies in meeting the needs of their students by delivering instruction in-person, online, or through hybrid programs, while maintaining high quality standards.

Jobs for Economic Prosperity

Meeting the needs of Utah businesses is a principal goal of ChamberWest. Any company wishing to begin, expand or relocate to Utah requires a dedicated, well-trained workforce in order to be successful. We support stronger ties between educational entities and the business community. We also support collaborative efforts with government agencies and nonprofit organizations whose programs lead towards enhanced employment and training. We support state legislation that promotes programs and systems that prepare students for college and/or career readiness.

Support Career and Technical Pathways and Competency Based Education

We encourage the development of an educational pathway in which every student, no matter the background or family situation, can receive a world-class education and training, leading to a degree or certification, in both K-12 and post-secondary education. Students that demonstrate competency should be able to convert experience into credit toward completion of workforce certificates or towards completion of a degree.

Higher Education Funding

We support funding for USHE institutions that reward certificates and degree completions, efficiency, and addresses high-demand workforce needs.

Subcommittee Members

Bryan Scott, The City Journals, Chair

Ben Horsley, Granite School District

Mike Anderson, Jordan School District

Anna Barbieri, Councilmember, Taylorsville City

Ron Bigelow

Tami Pyfer, Jordan School District

Kory Holdaway, KMH Consulting & Government Affairs

Jordan Larson, Varex Imaging

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Mike Pace, Cookiecree Bakeries

Scott Brown, Salt Lake Community College

Becky Guertler, Veterans BRC

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