

**Utah Military Academy Riverdale
School LAND Trust Council
Meeting- Thursday February 26, 2026**

Minutes

1. Attendees:

- a. Brandi Mcfarland- Parent Rep/Chair
- b. Nathan Dockter- UMA Principal
- c. Doreen Mabuhay Larsen- Parent Rep
- d. Matt Webb- Parent Rep
- e. Lt. Col. Erik Tisher- School Rep
- f. Amber Storm- School Rep
- g. Fernando Morales- Parent Rep
- h. Lanetta Lewis- School Rep

Absent: Paul Kapp, Mariah Hicks, Nick Lopez, Doreen Mabuhay

2. Reviewed minutes from 1/26/2026.

3. LEA Council Signature Form passed around to sign.

4. Amendment on current school year discussion.

- a. We weren't sure if we'd be able to use the remainder of the Parent University budget. Around \$12,000 may be left on the path we have now.
- b. Some ideas brought forward were using Mathnasium in the summer, professional development, other summer school, or a school-wide field trip.
- c. We talked through how to use this money within Parent University. We are seeing a problem with cadets not bringing charged laptops to class or not bringing a laptop at all. It was decided we would purchase laptops/charges so we could hold one larger Parent University event this school year where we will train parents on how to access and use Parent Canvas, IXL and Delta Math so they can better help their cadets with their math assignments at home. They could then be used in math department.
 - i. We believe this can fit into the current plan without an amendment because we'll be utilizing the devices during Parent Universities and then within the math department to better give Parents the tools and education to help their cadets at home, therefore increasing math scores.

5. Discussion about 2026/2027 plan creation.

- a. We have about \$144,000 to work with this year.
- b. We talked about whether Math Para's were successful and whether it seemed like they were helping in the math department.
 - i. Most comments were that they do help, and especially in the transitions when we've lost teachers mid-year, but that they could be utilized in better ways, like small groups in the hallway rather than having them wander the class. We could easily train the teachers and Para's in ways to utilize them better.

- c. It was decided to keep 2 full time Math Para's. That cost would be about \$72,000.
 - i. The measurement will be testing scores.
- d. Moved onto more discussion for the remainder of the funds. A second interventionist was brought up to help with Jr. High cadets; just as Rylan does with High School cadets. That role will be to identify the cadets that are struggling with absenteeism and low grades and then bring their parents into the conversation more.
- e. Discussion about a mental health counselor.
- f. Discussion about having a dedicated counselor that focuses on academics.
- g. It was decided to hire a second interventionist to help with Jr. High cadets that are struggling with grades and attendance. That cost is estimated at about \$60,000.
 - i. The measurement will be attendance and overall grade data.
- h. We still have about \$10,000 left to use. More discussions about incentivizing parents to attend more Parent Universities by having drawings at each event.
- i. Discussion about creating a backup plan in case the funds aren't fully used. ELL Support is needed. The state has determined we need improvement in this area. This could be targeted towards parents and students.
 - i. We could also create a Parent University specific to ELL parents and use funds in that capacity within the Parent University Funds.
- 6. Brandi and Mr. Dockter will start putting the final plan together. Then the council will approve it during the March meeting. Then the UMA board will approve it during their April meeting. After that, the plan will be final submitted to USBE by May 1.
- 7. At the end, a discussion about grandparent tutoring was brought up. That fed into utilizing HAFB members that need community service to come support/tutor cadets.
 - a. This was done a few years back, but we haven't seen it lately.
 - b. Discussions happened with the base earlier this school year but with the government shut down in the fall, members were ordered to only do what was necessary.
 - i. Lt. Col. Tisher will look into it again.
 - c. AmeriCorp might also be a good option to look into to utilize.

Submitted by Brandi Mcfarland- Chair