

March 2026 Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Schedule

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 9:00 AM — 9:15 AM CST

Organizer

Colton Cockrum

Agenda

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| 1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks | 1 |
| For Approval - Presented by Doug Edwards | |
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| 2. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum | 2 |
| For Approval - Presented by Doug Edwards | |
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| 3. Approval of Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2025 | 3 |
| Presented by Doug Edwards | |
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| 4. TN State Board of Education - Student Member Nomination | 6 |
| For Approval - Presented by Sally Parish | |
|  GAPP agenda item 1.docx | 7 |
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| 5. Additional Business | 11 |
| Presented by Doug Edwards | |
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| 6. Adjournment | 12 |
| Presented by Doug Edwards | |
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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

2. Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

3. Approval of Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2025

Presented by Doug Edwards

University of Memphis Board of Trustees
Governmental Affairs & Public Policy
December 3, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Trustee Edwards called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the Governmental Affairs & Public Policy meeting minute

Agenda Item 2: Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Trustee Edwards requested a roll call. Secretary Cockrum called the roll. Trustee Edwards, Chairman Johnson, Trustee McKinney, Trustee Keeney and Trustee Orgel were in attendance in-person. Additional trustees in attendance, who are not on the committee, included: Trustees Carter, Marchetta, Springfield, Gregory, and Bailey. Secretary Cockrum declared a quorum.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from June 4, 2025.

Trustee Edwards called for a motion and a second to approve the meeting minutes from June 4th. Trustee Johnson provided the motion and a second was provided Trustee McKinney. There was no discussion on the meeting minutes. Secretary Cockrum took a voice vote, and the meeting minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 4: Board Self-Assessment Results

Trustee Edwards recognized Secretary Cockrum to address the first agenda item in the committee meeting, the Board Self-Assessment Results. Secretary Cockrum explained that the Board conducts an annual self-assessment each July in compliance with SACSCOC and the Board's own self-assessment policy. Secretary Cockrum provided a brief recap of the results of the survey. He reminded the Board that the next administration of the survey would be July 2026. This item was for information only and did not require approval from the board.

Agenda Item 5: Legislative Update – State Agenda

Trustee Edwards recognized Ken Moody to address the second agenda item. The second agenda item was a legislative update regarding the institution's FY 26 state priorities. This update was provided by Ken Moody, Executive Director of Governmental & Community Affairs. Mr. Moody provided the institution's three primary priorities which included: Decreasing Deferred Maintenance; Phase II of the Fogelman College of Business and Economics expansion, and an Academic Building Replacement. The Academic Building Replacement would potentially replace two aging academic buildings with a modern facility with flexible classroom space. The state priorities update was for information purposes and did not require a full vote of the board.

Agenda Item 6: University Schools Update and Slated Items

The third agenda item was an update by Dr. Sally Parish (Vice Provost & Director of Schools) on the University Schools. Dr. Parish's update highlighted two very talented teachers who received state recognition for Educator of the Year (Mrs. Robin Webb and Mrs. Betsy Pillow). Next, two seniors from University High School addressed the Board. These two seniors, Arya Debes and Kylie McCormack, were recognized as National Merit Semi-Finalists. Additionally, Dr. Parish provided an athletics update that included that the University High School cross-country team was State Runner-up at the Cross-Country State Championships last month. Finally, Dr. Parish explained that data from the Parent Impact Survey showed that University Schools have a positive impact on parents' overall commitment to the UofM, increases the likelihood that parents will continue to work at the UofM, and has deepened their love of the UofM.

Trustee Edwards called for a motion to approve the University Schools slated items which included the district calendar, the compliance report, the TISA Accountability report, and the summer instruction plan. The motion was made by Chairman Johnson and seconded by Trustee McKinney. Secretary Cockrum called a voice vote and the motion carried.

Trustee Edwards then called for a motion to approve the three policy additions into the district policy manual. The three policy additions included 4.301 Interscholastic Athletics, 5.117 Teacher Tenure, and 5.701 Substitute Teachers. The motion was made by Chairman Johnson and seconded by Trustee McKinney. Secretary Cockrum called a voice vote and the motion carried.

Agenda Item 7: Additional Business

Trustee Edwards called for any additional business and there was none.

Agenda Item 8: Adjournment

Trustee Edwards asked for motion for adjournment. The motion was made by Chairman Johnson and seconded by Trustee McKinney. The members of the committee moved to adjourn the meeting.

4. TN State Board of Education - Student Member Nomination

For Approval

Presented by Sally Parish

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees

Recommendation

For Approval

Date: March 4, 2026

Committee: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy

Presentation: University Schools Resolution to Approve State Board Nomination

Presented by: Dr. Sally G. Parish

Background: The Tennessee State Board of Education accepts nominations each year for the student board member seat. TCA 49-1-301 (a) (6) specifies that local school boards may nominate one outstanding rising junior or senior student each year from their district. The local school board must make its nomination by resolution and send the resolution to the Governor's office.

University Schools is proud to nominate Hudson Noe via the resolution located in your board materials.

Motion to be Made:

The Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee recommends a motion to approve a resolution formally submitting Hudson Noe as the University Schools nominee to serve as a student member on the State Board of Education.

A Resolution of the Board of Education for University Schools

WHEREAS: TCA 49-1-301 (a) (6) authorizes each school district to nominate one rising Junior or rising Senior of superlative standing to the Governor to become the student member of the State Board of Education for a one-year term; and

WHEREAS: One such extraordinary student is Hudson Noe and

WHEREAS: He has distinguished himself as an outstanding student within University Schools by maintaining strong intellect and character alongside a stellar academic background with a 4.56 GPA and 31 ACT while studying in the Pre-Law career pathway; and

WHEREAS: Hudson Noe has demonstrated his outstanding leadership as a University High School Junior by serving on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, leading as co-Captain of the UHS Robotics Team, and captaining the UHS Knowledge Bowl team; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION that we nominate Hudson Noe for the office of student member of the State Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, omitting this final clause, listing the Ayes and Nays, adoption date, sponsoring member, and chairman's signature, along with the student's resume and contact information, be electronically transmitted to the office of the Governor by email to gov.boards@tn.gov on or before May 1, 2026.

University Schools Resolution

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy

Dr. Sally G. Parish
Vice Provost & Director of Schools

March 4, 2026
Maxine Smith University Center



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS

Board of Trustees

March 2026 Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

4. TN State Board of Education - Student Member Nomination

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University Schools Student Nominee to the State Board of Education



Hudson Noe, Class of 2027 at University High School, is an engaged and highly committed student who consistently demonstrates academic excellence. He maintains a strong GPA of 4.56 and achieved a high score of 31 on the ACT as a Junior.

Hudson is in the Pre-Law Career Pathway at University High. He has participated in the UCLA Mock Trial Institute and the ACLU National Advocacy Institute.

Hudson was recently selected to serve on the University Schools Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, where he represents his peers in meaningful discussions with district leaders. He also serves as co-Captain of the University High School Robotics Team and Captain of the Knowledge Bowl Team.

Hudson's passion for education, thoughtfulness, and genuine interest in student advocacy make him an outstanding candidate to represent our schools at the state level.

5. Additional Business

Presented by Doug Edwards

6. Adjournment

Presented by Doug Edwards