Utah School Transactions 2026

Expense Examples From Utah's District & Charter Schools

A report by the Utah Taxpayers Association



May 2026



All data in this report is drawn from FY 2026 unaudited general ledger transactions submitted by school districts and charter schools to transparent.utah.gov in accordance with state transparency requirements. Data was accessed between April 14 and April 27, 2026 and is reported as displayed during those dates. Given FY 2026 data is still unaudited, entities may make ongoing updates to amounts, classifications, and other data characteristics. The following disclaimer is additionally provided by the Office of the Utah State Auditor: *"Please note that the data contained on this website is raw, unaudited, and unconsolidated data and therefore may not match any audited or printed financial statements. Also, this website does not contain information that is considered private or protected by state or federal law."*

How are schools spending public dollars, and to what extent is that spending directly supporting student success?

Public school districts and charter schools manage billions of taxpayer dollars each year. After social services, public education represents the **second-largest area of state spending**, and K-12 school districts are the **largest recipients of property tax revenue**, receiving roughly 59% of all local property tax collection. Given that scale, how these dollars are used and accounted for matters.

Most education spending supports core functions like instruction, transportation, and student services. But a closer look at transaction-level data reveals a wide range of purchases that are less clearly tied to student outcomes. Broader trends in spending raise additional questions: student enrollment has declined in recent years, yet per-student spending continues to rise, with administrative costs among the fastest-growing categories.

Below are several examples of spending we've drawn from the Utah State Auditor's transparency tool. We are not suggesting these transactions are illegal or even unusual. Many likely reflect standard practices across districts. However, they do **raise reasonable questions about frequency, amount, purpose, and prioritization.** In many cases, spending is categorized under broad labels like "general supplies" or "other services," making it difficult to understand what the money was actually used for or how closely it aligns with educational goals.

Two areas in particular stood out to us: spending on staff meals, catering, travel and miscellaneous services at the district level, and hundreds of thousands of dollars at general retailers like Amazon, Costco and Walmart. These patterns are routine, but highlight how difficult it can be for the public to evaluate spending at a meaningful level of detail or evaluate whether these transactions are tied to student learning.

Our goal is not to single out individual districts, but to **encourage a more thoughtful conversation**. Greater transparency and scrutiny can help ensure that limited resources are focused where they matter most: **improving educational outcomes for our students**.

Utah School Expense Transaction Examples 2026

All examples on the following pages are pulled from within the FY 2026 time period and are categorized at their highest level as General Fund (Fund 10) expenditures. The General Fund is intended to cover the core costs of running schools and is primarily supported by state and local tax revenue, rather than restricted funds designated for specific purposes. It is also the area where local leaders have the greatest discretion in how dollars are allocated and prioritized.

District	Vendor	Amount	Comments
Washington District	AMAZON.COM INC.	$1,248,506	Over 11,000 individual transactions, nearly all labeled "general supplies". Lacks transparency. Over $201,000 of the amount is attributed to the district office.
Davis District	KLEO INC DBA CLASSWALLET.COM	$1,211,589	A platform to distribute and track education funds (like classroom stipends or program dollars), which shows up as a common pass-through expense across nearly all school systems. The underlying purchases are not visible in this dataset, limiting transparency into how those dollars are ultimately spent.
Spectrum Academy	Veater, Alex	$521,086	Payments to the charter's network administrator, all labeled technology related hardware. Presumably these are reimbursements for hardware purchased on the school's behalf. Questionable process for over half a million dollars.
Washington District	YANG'S 5TH TASTE	$163,564	Asian inspired food service. All categorized as district and general fund (not nutrition fund).
Canyons District	VARSITY SPIRIT FASHIONS	$139,260	Cheer, dance, band and color guard uniforms.
Park City District	SNOW COUNTRY LIMOUSINE, INC.	$122,843	Attributed to Park City High as "other purchased services" across 9 different calendar dates.
Tooele District	SALT LAKE EXPRESS	$114,338	Labeled as "Student Transportation Services (To/From School)".
Tooele District	LE BUS	$113,460	Labeled as "Student transportation services" and "student travel (overnight)".
South Summit District	ANATOMAGE	$105,390	According to the Anatomage website, it "is the most technologically advanced 3D anatomy visualization and virtual dissection tool for anatomy and physiology education."
Washington District	DOMINO'S PIZZA	$74,110	This is only the portion to this vendor classified as district level.
Park City District	ONE STOP HOUSE CLEANING	$69,855	Mostly tagged "distrcit", but a few individual schools listed too. Potentially overflow janitorial, but confusing categorization because it uses a mix of "purchased property services" and "salaries" in it's designation.

Transactions are listed in order from highest dollar amounts to lowest.
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District	Vendor	Amount	Comments
Northern Utah Academy for Math, Engineering & Science	Level Seven Marketing	$53,373	All categorized as "540 advertising". One of the charter's top-5 biggest expenses.
Alpine District	Kneaders Bakery & Cafe	$42,713	Over 250 distinct transactions, ranging in amount from $3.39 to $1,846.15, all listed as "general supplies." Alpine district stood out along with Provo district for the sheer number and amounts spent on restaurants like Zupas, Costa Vida, Chik-fil-a, etc.
Weber District	MARRIOTT HOTEL	$40,409	Lodging for staff who attended a "Safe & Civil" conference and a "High Reliability Schools" conference or training of some kind.
Juab District	Bar W Beef	$40,000	A single transaction on December 19 labeled "district". This is higher than the district's transactions related to computers or electricity, waxie sanitary supply, etc.
Weber District	DELTA AIRLINES	$35,602	These all have descriptions relating to staff flights for conferences. Includes several checked luggage fees.
Jordan District	SALT LAKE BEES	$35,135	Single transaction on August 5th - tagged "general supplies" and district level.
Provo District	MAGLEBY'S Catering	$31,935	Thirty transactions just for district level totaling more than $22,500, categorized as "general supplies"
Salt Lake District	CHESS WIZARDS INC	$27,687	Professional chess classes.
Box Elder District	UTAH SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION	$26,525	Only the portion categorized as "dues and fees." Nearly all school districts tens of thousdands to the Utah School Boards Association, some for services such as workers compensation, but a large portion is simply dues.
Box Elder District	WALKER CINEMAS	$23,468	"General supplies".
Utah Virtual Academy	Minky Couture	$23,235	"General supplies".
Alpine District	AirBnb	$22,924	580 Staff Travel/Per Diem and 610 General Supplies
Iron District	LINS MARKETPLACE	$22,759	Over 100 transactions, from $12.48 to $1,133.66
Alpine District	Minky Couture	$22,422	14 different purchases, categorized as "general supplies".
Alpine District	YBA SHIRTS INC	$15,417	District level only, labeled as "Employee Training and Development" and "General Supplies"
Syracuse Arts Academy	JET'S PIZZA	$15,368	"Supplies & materials" - only one of a half dozen sizable pizza transactions.
Emery District	GETTIN' OUR SMOKE ON	$13,775	BBQ catering company. 3 different calendar dates, all district level
Provo District	CINEMARK movie theaters	$12,390	The large majority is labeled "General Supplies", with less than $300 categorized as "Student Day Trips/Field Trips"

District	Vendor	Amount	Comments
American Prep Academy	World's Finest Chocolate	$11,294	Four separate transactions, "supplies and materials"
Provo District	PROVO MARRIOTT HOTEL	$10,063	"Other Contracted Professional Services" and "General Supplies", two of which were in the middle of July, all coded district
Provo District	MARRIOTT SALT LAKE CITY	$10,049	Coded as "Staff Travel/Per Diem" for the district. Suprising they'd spend this amount to lodge within such a driveable distance.
Wallace Stegner Academy	LAGOON CORPORATION INC	$8,000	"Student Day Trips/Field Trips"
Duchesne District	KOHLS INCORPORATED	$5,036	12 different dates, the majority is district level. Amounts ranging from $534.91 to $2.08 for "general supplies".
Spectrum Academy	Cotopaxi	$4,977	"Employee training and development"
Weber District	"Christmas"	$4,165	A variety of transactions across Amazon, Hobby Lobby, Walmart, Target and Walgreens for "admin christmas gifts", "office decor", "christmas treats for the office", "supplies for the christmas party" -- district level only.
Ascent Academies	Door Dash	$2,721	Over 30 transactions, most fairly low dollar amount, most tagged as district/admin.
Kane District	GROW CHIROPRACTIC	$720	6 transactions of $120 each, all tagged district level and miscellaneous.

To explore transactions made at your school, visit https://old.transparent.utah.gov/transaction_details.php. The Office of the State Auditor also provides a K12 Education Performance and Spending Dashboard, allowing anyone to view how education money is spent in the state of Utah.

To see per-student spending across instruction, admin, transportation, facilities, and other details, check out our annual School Spending Report.

We appreciate the Office of the State Auditor and the many school finance professionals across the state for their efforts towards greater accountability and transparency in public finance.