

Elementary School Counselor Grant

In the 2018 legislative session, Representative Steve Eliason sponsored [HB264](#), which allowed for approximately \$2,100,000 in state funding to be used for elementary school counselors, psychologist and social workers. Districts and charters from across the state had the option to submit competitive grant applications to the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) to provide \$50,000 for a full time elementary counselor. The Kane School District submitted the grant for a school social worker to assist in providing behavior health services to students at Kanab and Valley elementary schools. Kane and South Summit were the only rural school districts to receive the grant with the other allocations awarded to urban schools. The elementary school counseling grant will be funded for three years, at which point the Utah legislature will determine the future of the program. School counselors will work with parents, teachers and administrators to provide positive behavioral supports for students who are struggling with behavior, anxiety, reading, absenteeism, trauma, and intergenerational poverty. We are currently using the grant to advertise for a full time social worker to provide student support services to students in Kanab and Valley elementary schools.

Ben Dalton
Superintendent
Kane School District