



## BOARD MEETING RECAP

The Shawnee Mission School District Board of Education met on Monday, January 14, 2019. During the meeting, Superintendent Dr. Mike Fulton shared information with the Board and the public about the following district programs and recognitions:



**Rotary Club Honor** The Rotary Club of Shawnee Mission inducted Andre Carnegie as a Paul Harris Fellow. This is the highest award presented by the organization. The honor is given to individuals in the community committed to serving others in a manner above and beyond expectations. Carnegie provides support for principals and counselors across the district as a student success liaison. One example of this support: He worked directly, in partnership with the Rotary club, to develop a student store which provides resources - such as food, school supplies, and clothing for job interviews - at Shawnee Mission North High School.



**Apple Distinguished Schools** Briarwood, Broken Arrow, and Trailwood Elementary Schools were recognized as Apple Distinguished Schools for the years 2018 to 2021. Apple Distinguished Schools are considered to be among the most innovative in the world for the ways they inspire creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking among students. This is the second designation for these three schools. They are joined by Bluejacket-Flint and Rosehill Elementary Schools, who were honored as Apple Distinguished Schools for the 2017-19 school years.



**JCCC Recognizes Partnership** Johnson County Community College (JCCC) recently took time to recognize the Shawnee Mission School District for continued partnership and collaboration with the college at a recent Board of Trustees meeting. Dr.

Jerry Cook, Board Chair, and the board of trustees acknowledged the efforts of JCCC and the Shawnee Mission School District to assure student success through innovation and quality instruction. The Shawnee Mission School District was also recognized at the meeting as an early partner with JCCC and for continuing to be active in offering concurrent enrollment opportunities.



**Animation Students Awarded** Animation and Game Design Signature Program students earned third-place honors and \$200 worth of virtual reality equipment for their program at the VRoKCs Hackathon held at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The students used problem-solving and virtual-reality-development skills to help develop a radio tower repair simulator during the contest.



**#ZeroReasonsWhy Honored** The Overland Park Chamber recognized the six school district superintendents in Johnson County for the launch and work of the #ZeroReasonsWhy campaign. This campaign is a community mobilization and story campaign to help prevent teen suicide and drive productive conversations to affirm there are zero reasons why suicide is an option. Awards were presented to the superintendents of the six participating Johnson County School Districts at the Chamber's Annual Meeting.



**Project Home Honored** United Community Services of Johnson County presented an Excellence in Community Service Award to Project Housing Opportunities Move Everyone (HOME). Project HOME is a Shawnee Mission School District program that supports students and families who have faced challenges in economic stability. Project HOME brings representatives from various agencies together to meet with families and offer community resources related to housing, finance, utilities, food, and healthcare. The honor was presented at the UCS-hosted 51st Annual Meeting and Community Awards Ceremony.



**Read to Achieve Honor** Andrea Miller, a second-grade teacher at Santa Fe Trail Elementary, was the January recipient of the Read to Achieve award presented by KCTV5 and the Kansas National Education Association. Miller, who was awarded a \$1,000 check as part of the honor, was nominated by a parent, who wrote in the nomination that Miller helped her son learn to love to read.



**Roesland Named ESEA Distinguished School** The Board of Education and Dr. Fulton welcomed Jennifer Woolever, principal, and staff members from Roesland Elementary. The National Association of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) State Program Administrators (NAESPA) announced that Roesland Elementary School has been named a National ESEA Distinguished School. Roesland is one of only 100 schools in the country and one of two in the state to receive this prestigious honor. This recognition honors qualifying schools for outstanding academic achievements of students. Roesland is being recognized in the program's category that showcases school success in closing the achievement gap between student groups.



**School Board Recognition Month** January is School Board Recognition Month and Dr. Fulton took a moment to recognize the work of the Shawnee Mission Board of Education. David A. Smith, Chief Communications Officer, read a proclamation thanking board members for their service and dedication to the Shawnee Mission School District. [Click here to read the proclamation.](#)

**Vision Screener Grant** The Baptist Trinity Lutheran Legacy Foundation has awarded the Shawnee Mission School District a grant of \$18,750 for the purchase of Spot Vision Screeners. Spot Vision Screeners allow the district to detect vision abnormalities in its earliest learners who may be non-verbal, may have attention challenges, may be English language learners, or simply may not know their letters and numbers yet. The earlier the district can detect vision concerns, the better the outcomes for these learners. The grant to the district is being made through the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation.

**Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Presentation** Dr. John McKinney, director of student and family services, and Linda Sieck, president, National Education Association - Shawnee Mission provided a report on the diversity, inclusion and equity work which they are leading in the district. This work has involved research and learning, both from existing district efforts, including the UNITED program, and from diversity, equity, and inclusion work taking place across the country.

During their research, certain strategies and best-practices were found to be particularly effective. Those strategies include, but are not limited to:

- Promoting a culture of high expectations and providing appropriate academic supports for all students.
- Providing ongoing professional development for all staff with an emphasis on cultural competence, cross-cultural communication, culturally responsive instruction, and culturally relevant curricula.
- Emphasizing positive staff-student relationships and actively involving and supporting families. Districts that actively engaged families demonstrate evidence of higher student achievement, better attendance and behavior, and increased graduation and college enrollment rates.

Next steps include the provision of additional training opportunities for district staff, and work with the strategic planning steering and action committees to bring an updated professional development and training plan for diversity, inclusion, and equity to the Shawnee Mission Board of Education by spring, 2019, with training for all staff in fall, 2019.

**Student Success Report** Ed Streich, chief of student services, provided information about student success indicators. The [report will be available on this page](#) on January 15, 2019.

**Strategic Plan Update** Dr. Fulton shared an update about the strategic planning process. [Click here to see a video](#) he presented at the meeting to help provide an explanation of the Strategic Planning process. Some initial kickoff meetings will begin to take place in February, including the first meeting of the Steering Committee, which will lead the process. More information will be posted to the district website about the process later this week.

This publication, provided after each Shawnee Mission Board of Education meeting, provides a recap of some actions taken by the Shawnee Mission Board of Education and information about activities happening in the school district. An archive video of the meeting [can be found here](#). Links to board policies, agendas, and meeting minutes [can be found here](#).