



BOARD MEETING RECAP

The Board of Education met on Sept. 23, 2019. During the meeting, Superintendent Dr. Mike Fulton shared information with the Board and the public about the following district programs and recognitions:

Superintendent Mike Fulton provided an update on the Strategic Plan, including information about the task forces and efforts that are underway, and work coming up in the near future. A link to Dr. Fulton's update [can be found here](#). Here is a look at some of the work related to the Strategic Plan taking place:



Strategic Plan in Action Last week, district and school site councils met to review the district Strategic Plan and make plans for the future. Site councils are playing a critical role in shaping the implementation of the plan across the district, particularly when it comes to customizing the plan for each school community.



Last week also marked the first meeting of the Real-World Learning Task Force. As we've previously mentioned, Shawnee Mission has joined 15 other local school districts to reimagine college and career readiness for high school students. The task force includes staff, parents, administrators, community members, business leaders and college and university representatives, and is supported by a grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Part of their work will be to develop plans to equip students with market-value assets for work and learning beyond high school, including, internships, college credit, industry-recognized credentials, and entrepreneurial experiences.



Equity is woven throughout the strategic plan, and two weeks ago, the district had more than 220 educators gather to take part in Corwin Equity Professional Development. This training focused on personal culture and journey, growth toward cultural competence, and connecting adult cultural competence with student outcomes. This is a part of working toward our goal in strategy two of the Strategic Plan, stating that we will relentlessly create a fully unified, equitable, and inclusive culture.



Facilities Forums: Next week, the Shawnee Mission School District will hold the first in a series of five community forums focused on facilities. Community members will be invited to learn about district facilities planning and needs and provide input for the District Facilities Task Force to

review. The first meeting is at 5 p.m. on October 1 at Shawnee Mission East. It will be held in an open house style, where attendees are free to come and go at any time between 5 and 6:30 pm. There will be four more meetings open to anyone in the community to attend. [Here is a link for meeting dates and times.](#)



Outstanding Middle Level Art Educator The Kansas Art Education Association will honor Alyssa Passmore, Hocker Grove Middle School art teacher. She will be recognized for her excellent work in the classroom. The Outstanding Middle Level Art Educator of the Year award will be

presented to Passmore in October. She is honored for her dedication to the growth of her profession and the advancement of high-quality art education. She recently worked to create a community-based mural with the help of students and more than 100 community members.



National Merit Recognition: The National Merit Program named 14 Shawnee Mission seniors as semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. The 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) served as the initial screen for

program entrants. These students will advance in competition for National

Merit Scholarship awards, worth about \$31 million, which will be offered next spring. [Here is a link to the names of these students.](#) We congratulate them, their family members, and teachers on this outstanding accomplishment.



#ZeroReasonsWhy: The Shawnee Mission School District Board of Education proclaimed September as Suicide Prevention Month, joining in efforts across the country to share resources and raise awareness about suicide prevention. Dr. Fulton shared an update about

#ZeroReasonsWhy. All school districts in Johnson County joined together to engage in deeper dialogue and identify ways to collaborate in order to prevent suicide. One of the outcomes of that collaboration is the #ZeroReasonsWhy community mobilization campaign to prevent teen suicide. School communities and teens have joined in the effort in a variety of ways, including opening conversation on social media, and holding mental awareness and suicide prevention conferences and events throughout our community. Some of the most important conversations have given adults in the community an opportunity to hear from students about how to best support them when it comes to supporting mental health and preventing suicide. In recent weeks, the campaign has held a banner tour at high schools and middle schools, engaging students in discussion and connecting them with information about how they can find support. Click here to view the [#ZeroReasonsWhy website](#).

Panorama Certainly, the district's work to support the social emotional learning of students is also important throughout the year for students of all ages. One of our Strategic Plan objectives is to help each student develop interpersonal skills to be engaged, empathetic members of society. Several months ago, Board of Education members approved The Panorama Social-Emotional Learning platform to help us garner information regarding social and emotional experiences and needs to support our students and this objective. This work launches this month, and family members have been seeing information about this platform and how it will be used recently. The district appreciates the work of Dr. John McKinney, director of student and family services, along with a team of administrators, counselors, and social workers, who are working to provide this valuable resource in our schools.

50th Anniversary At this year's Shawnee Mission Education Foundation breakfast, many stories were shared from Shawnee Mission graduates and alumni. These stories and other interviews are being shared on our SMSD Story Corps Page. This page will grow and expand throughout the year as we interview and share these stories. [Click here to view the page.](#)

Shawnee Mission All-Stars At the September 23 meeting, the Board of Education recognized the newest Shawnee Mission All-Stars. Natalie Johnson-Berry, English Language Arts Teacher at Shawnee Mission North High School and Melissa Molteni, second-grade teacher at Corinth Elementary School, were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Shawnee Mission School District. Both were honored recently at the [Kansas Teacher of the Year Banquet](#). Molteni is now a state finalist for Kansas Teacher of the Year.

Program Evaluation about Wellness Doug Sumner, associate superintendent of human resources, introduced Tammie McCoy, wellbeing coordinator, and Shalaunda Gray, a doctor from PriorityOne Health Center, who provided an overview of the district's work to support employee wellbeing. They shared information about how the district's [fitness center](#) and [health center](#) support staff members and have led individuals to reach wellbeing goals. To view the presentation, visit this page: <http://go.boarddocs.com/ks/smsd/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BG4HTZ4A0842>.

Board Policy Readings The board held a second reading and approved the following policies during the meeting:

[Board Policy GAOC: Use of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Devices](#)

[Board Policy JCDA: Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Devices](#)

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](#).