



BOARD MEETING RECAP

Prior to the Board meeting, the Shawnee Mission School District formally recognized student award-winners in the Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA Citizenship Writing Contest. Students submitted essays and poems inspired by the theme “The Leader in Me.” A complete list of honorees will be posted on the district website soon.

Rising Star Elementary School students opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.



Horizons Announcement Eleven students at Horizons were recently surprised with the news they have received scholarship offers through Scholarship Shawnee Mission. The Shawnee Mission Education Foundation announced the students had received a total of \$572,000 in

scholarship offers from Newman University. As you may remember, The Foundation launched this program in the fall. So far, more than 1,200 seniors have been presented with scholarship offers valued at more than \$735,000,000, not including this most recent announcement. Through the program, students are identified and recruited by colleges and universities around the country, making it easier for them to navigate the admission and application process.



Mars Rover Name Gabriel Matthew, a fourth-grader at Broken Arrow Elementary, was selected as a semifinalist in the Mars 2020 “Name the Rover” contest. His entry was selected as the Kansas winner in the elementary school category. He wrote an essay in support of the name

“Jeevan,” which is a word that means “life.” More than 28,000 essays were submitted by K-12 students in this competition. In 2009 it was a Shawnee Mission elementary student, Clara Ma, who won the Mars Science Laboratory naming contest. She named the rover “Curiosity.”



Spelling Bee.

Spelling Bee Champ Ishya Bhavsar, a seventh-grader at Indian Hills Middle School, won the Johnson County Spelling Bee. She now advances to the state spelling bee, which will be held in March. She is a veteran speller who competed last year in both the state and Scripps National



Technology Awards The National Center for Women and Information Technology will recognize three Shawnee Mission students for their accomplishments in computing and technology. Hannah Poe, a sophomore at Shawnee Mission South, will receive an Award for Aspirations in Computing. Elise Lovell, a Shawnee Mission South senior, will receive an Honorable Mention. Lindsey Chiu, a Shawnee Mission South High School junior, will receive a Rising Star award. They are being acknowledged for their outstanding aptitude and interest in technology and computing, leadership ability, academic history, and plans for post-secondary education.



Live Basketball Shawnee Mission broadcasting students will soon present live broadcasts of Shawnee Mission high school basketball games. This Friday, February 14, they will present games between Shawnee Mission Northwest and Shawnee Mission West. The girls game begins at approximately 5:30 p.m. and the boys game begins at approximately 7 p.m. Links to the broadcasts will be shared on the [district website](#) and on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Legislative Update Stuart Little, SMSD legislative liaison, provided the legislative update, which will be added to the Legislative Information page on the district's website [here](#).

Public Comments Several community members spoke to the Board of Education about the issues related to the 2019-2022 Unilateral Agreement and negotiations process.

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](#).