



BOARD MEETING RECAP

The Shawnee Mission Board of Education met for a Board Workshop on September 14, 2020. The workshop included a Reopening School Update and a Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) Review.

Reopening School Update

Superintendent Mike Fulton began the presentation by speaking about the district's commitment this school year to its mission and objective that every student will have a personalized learning plan that prepares them for college and career with the interpersonal skills they need for life success.

He cited the reopening resolution adopted by the Board of Education on July 27, 2020 that reopening plans be "informed by actionable criteria articulated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment."

Dr. Fulton shared that additional guidance for future consideration for the board to add in the resolution in order to codify practices in key areas would include guidance from the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) and Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA).

He also summarized the district's process thus far in moving toward in-person learning at the elementary level.

[Multiple administrators also provided a presentation on the reopening process. You can view their presentation here.](#)

JCDHE Guidelines Update

Shelby Rebeck, director of health services, spoke about safe reopening principles, implemented with the goal of keeping infection rates down. She shared details from [Appendix A of the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment Public Health Recommendations for Safe School Reopening](#). Rebeck emphasized that families should expect and make plans for isolation and quarantine to take place during the school year. “This is not because anyone is doing anything wrong,” Rebeck noted. “We’re in the midst of a pandemic. As much of an inconvenience as it is for all of us, it is our new reality.”

Learning

Dr. Michelle Hubbard, associate superintendent of leadership and learning, introduced Dr. Darren Dennis, director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, who spoke about the student learning experience this year. Dr. Dennis identified what Shawnee Mission educators will want students to be able to know and do, how learning will be evaluated, how to engage and intervene if students need extra help with their learning, and how to provide learning extensions.

Krista Carson, coordinator of curriculum and instruction, and Lindsay Stephenson, instructional coach and secondary digital learning coach, led an update on the rollout of the Canvas learning management system. They shared information about the extensive rollout and training process and invited Molly Fast, math teacher from Shawnee Mission South High School, and Shari Easley, kindergarten teacher from Brookridge Elementary School, as well as two students from Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, and Dustin Jamison, associate principal from Shawnee Mission North High School, who shared their reflections on using Canvas in the first days of school.

Operations

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Rick Atha introduced two presenters who provided updates about operations in the district.

Technology Update

Drew Lane, executive director of information and communication technologies, shared that so far around 130 hotspots have been requested and/or distributed within the district. He shared that, with the implementation of the new Lightspeed content filtering system, connectivity issues associated with the previous Virtual Private Network (VPN) are gone. He also provided detail on methods that have been implemented in the district to continue to provide timely technology support to students and staff.

Facilities Update

Tyler Clubb, director of facilities, provided an update on HVAC and filtration throughout the district. As part of his report, he said all MERV 11 filters have been received and are being installed. HEPA air scrubbers for isolation and nurses rooms and choir and band rooms have been installed.

Human Resources

Dr. Michael Schumacher, interim associate superintendent of human resources, provided a timeline update for staffing and what staffing adjustments may need to be made as a result of families making a recent

change their selection of learning model. (See below)

Elementary Update

Timeline for Transitioning Students and Staff

- Sept. 14, 2020 Parents select learning model for the remainder of the year that is their preferred mode, with a defined process for requesting a change at semester (see FAQ)
- Sept. 15 - 25, 2020 Place students into sections with teachers both in-person and remote only
- Sept. 28, 2020 Work with staff who are transitioning
- Oct. 5, 2020 Start new student schedules and begin Hybrid preK-2
- Oct. 12, 2020 Hybrid preK-6
- Oct. 19, 2020 Transition begins for all in-person (elementary) starting with youngest students

Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) Review

Kim Barney, provided a review of the Shawnee Mission School District KESA process. She provided information to the board on the results of an Outside Visiting Team (OVT) visit, including the feedback provided and primary objectives for the district as it enters its next year in the KESA cycle. [That presentation can be viewed here.](#)

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](#).