



# BOARD MEETING RECAP

## Board Items

**Program Evaluation** Dr. Christy Ziegler, chief of student services, Dr. John McKinney, director of student and family services, Dr. Tyrone Bates, Jr., coordinator of diversity, equity and inclusion, and Kent Glaser, director of athletics and activities, presented a program evaluation and update on Student and Family Services and Student Activities.

Dr. McKinney shared information about how school-based mental health services reduce important barriers to success for students and families, and the commitments of the district related to mental health support and resources.

Amanda Harlow, Comanche social worker, provided details about social and emotional learning in the district and the work of social workers in Shawnee Mission schools.

David Aramovich, McKinney-Vento liaison, shared information about students and families in the district facing homelessness, and the work in the district to prevent homelessness and support homeless students. [Click here for more information on McKinney-Vento services.](#)

To highlight the impact of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging training for all staff, two students shared details from

their school experience. Naudia Thurman, a senior from Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, and Charles Gray, an eighth-grader from Indian Hills Middle School, answered the question “What are adults doing to make you feel like you belong at your school?” Thurman spoke about opportunities to be involved at her school that helped her grow and succeed. Gray spoke about a culture of helpful staff and students at his school.

Dr. Bates shared additional information regarding climate and teacher-student relationships. He also provided an update on the Kauffman Equity in Schools cohort and staff and student affinity groups.

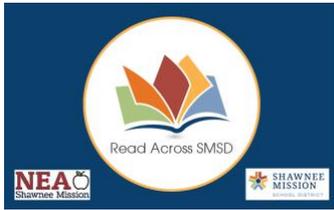
Mr. Glaser provided details about student discipline data, with a focus on consistent coding practices. He shared a discipline matrix completed through the work of a Strategic Plan committee, as one resource to assist administrators when considering appropriate disciplinary action.

Noting the benefits of athletic participation, Glaser also shared an update on participation numbers for middle and high school students.

[The presentation slides can be viewed here.](#)

[The program evaluation can be viewed here.](#)

**From the Superintendent Report**



**Read Across SMSD** Superintendent Dr. Michelle Hubbard shared her excitement that all schools are joining us in Read Across SMSD! Shawnee Mission is encouraging reading for all ages across our community.

A group of students from Overland Park Elementary, librarians, and NEA-Shawnee Mission joined in the launch of Read Across SMSD this year. [Click here to see their video.](#)



The September theme for Read Across SMSD is “Embrace New Beginnings.” Students, educators, and community members are reading and discussing books around the theme. Even though new beginnings are scary, they can be faced. Dr. Hubbard talked to new educators and students who are new to their school communities about their experience. [Click here to see their discussion.](#)

Read Across SMSD supports the district’s academic goals and the SMSD’s strategic plan beliefs. This is a chance for all in the community to celebrate stories and create a culture of belonging for every single student.

[Here is a link for reading lists and resources to join Read Across SMSD!](#)



**John Diemer Groundbreaking** The John Diemer Elementary School community officially broke ground on their new school building. Students led the Pledge of Allegiance, sang the school song, and took a shovel to the construction site for the ceremonial groundbreaking.

John Diemer is one of five elementary school buildings that will be rebuilt in the district as part of this bond. Westwood View Elementary also is under construction and Pawnee Elementary is set to be next. Dr. Hubbard thanked the community for continuing to support our schools by voting for the \$264 million bond referendum.



**Unified Bowling** Shawnee Mission will join Unified Bowling in partnership with the Kansas State High School Activities Association and Special Olympics Kansas. This is an inclusive activities program that combines Special Olympics students who have disabilities, with students who do not have disabilities, to compete together on teams. Shawnee Mission students will start practicing this month. “We are so excited for them and for the competition and environment of inclusion they all will experience,” Dr. Hubbard shared. “We are also proud that Shawnee Mission South will serve as the host of the first Unified Bowling State Championship in November.”

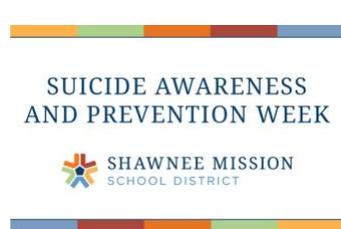
**Clinic Open at SM West** A new healthcare resource is now available to all Shawnee Mission students and their siblings.



Health Partnership Clinic at Shawnee Mission West is now open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Thursday. The clinic provides access to primary and preventative health care, chronic disease management, mental health services, and dental care. They also provide physical exams, sports physicals, health screenings and more.

[Click here for more information or to make an appointment.](#)

Dr. Hubbard thanked everyone who has made this possible, especially the team at Shawnee Mission West, our Shawnee Mission health services staff and health services director Shelby Rebeck, and everyone at Health Partnership Clinic.



**Suicide Awareness and Prevention** The district is observing suicide awareness and prevention week this month. While awareness and prevention must take place all year, Shawnee Mission students and educators

have been taking time in schools to bring it into focus. Each school developed building-specific activities to engage and empower students. Mental health professionals have provided resources to help students and families care for mental health.

[Here is a link to additional resources for our community.](#)

**Fall Breakfast Update** Kim Hinkle, executive director of the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation, shared an update on the upcoming Shawnee Mission Education Foundation Fall Breakfast. After thoughtful discussion between the Shawnee Mission

Education Foundation Board of Directors and the Shawnee Mission Board of Education, the breakfast has been moved to be a virtual, on-line experience. It will be at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday Sept. 28, 2021.

Hinkle shared that the joint decision was made in light of the pandemic and is believed to be the safest approach for the well-being of the community and students. Keeping schools open and safe continues to be a top priority in the SMSD in the 2021-2022 school year. As always, the breakfast will celebrate the start of the new school year, with inspirational stories of Shawnee Mission students and educators. This year it will also feature Superintendent Dr. Michelle Hubbard's vision for the district.

[Click here for registration information.](#)

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 workshop and regular meeting [can be found here](#). Links to board policies, agendas, and meeting minutes [can be found here](#).