



# BOARD MEETING RECAP

## Board Items:

The Board of Education approved an updated COVID-19 mitigation plan and Guidance for Winter Events.

The updated COVID-19 mitigation plan, approved with a 5-2 vote, outlines measures that would go into effect on January 3, 2022. [These outlined measures can be read here](#). These measures were approved with one amendment to the redlined text in the document. The amendment changed 4% to 3% in the following section: "...that if a school building reaches 3% or > exclusion and quarantine, the building will return to full mask requirements. The building will remain masked for at least 14 days and until the percentage of recommended exclusions and quarantines is < 3%."

The Board also approved [Guidance for Winter Events for the 2021-2022](#) school year.

The vote followed a Winter Mitigation Presentation delivered by David Stubblefield, associate superintendent of leadership and learning, and Dr. Christy Ziegler, director of student services, diversity, equity, and inclusion. The presentation reviewed case data, vaccination progress by zip code, and outlined measures that will begin on Jan. 3. [The presentation can be viewed here](#).

**Financial Report** Russell Knapp, chief financial officer, presented the monthly financial report and an update on ESSER II expenditures. He also provided an update on operating funds, based on the September 20, 2021 enrollment count. Based on those numbers, it is estimated the district will see a loss of about \$4.2 million in general state aid and at-risk weighted

funds. The budget office expects that projected vacancies will offset the revenue loss.

**Sustainability Summit Presentation** Dr. Leigh Anne Neal, chief of early childhood and sustainability, along with several Shawnee Mission high school students, presented information and recommendations from the 2021 Shawnee Mission Sustainability Youth Summit. Students outlined five priority areas of focus for the district. The presentations included:

Priority 1: “Renewable Energy,” presented by Shawnee Mission West students Soli Guinto, junior, and Arlasia Jones, senior.

Priority 2: “Education, Awareness, and Student Involvement,” presented by Shawnee Mission South students Carolyn Armstrong and Rosemary Derr, junior, with the support of teacher P.J. Born.

Priority 3: “Compost and Recycling,” presented by Shawnee Mission North senior Molly Laughton.

Priority 4: “Rain gardens, school gardens, and nature preserves,” presented by Shawnee Mission East senior Erin Hansen, with the support of teacher Rusty Debey.

Priority 5: “Transportation,” presented by Shawnee Mission Northwest senior Logen Grey.

The group also shared an Essential Consideration focused on mental and physical health and well-being.

[Click here to view the presentation slides.](#)

**ICT Program Evaluation** Drew Lane, executive director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Bill Shaffer, director of network infrastructure, technical services, and security services, James Morgan, director of data and programming services, and Doug von Mosch, director of customer services shared an ICT program evaluation. Lindsay Stephenson, coordinator of instructional technology, provided information about lessons learned related to the use of educational technology during the pandemic. [Click here to view the presentation.](#)

**From the Superintendent Report:**

SHAWNEE MISSION  
CELEBRATES AMERICAN  
EDUCATION WEEK

November 15-19, 2021



SHAWNEE MISSION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



NEA  
Shawnee Mission

**American Education Week** Superintendent Dr. Michelle Hubbard began by wishing everyone a very happy American Education Week. As a district, Shawnee Mission is taking some extra time this week to show our appreciation for everyone who serves in support of Keeping SMSD Strong.

The National Education Association was one of the originators of this celebration week. The NEA called for a week to be observed annually for the purpose of raising awareness of the accomplishments of public schools and for securing support of the public in meeting public education needs. The SMSD invites all in our community to honor all educators and support professionals who are working relentlessly to support student learning - especially this year.

[Click here to see a video](#) about American Education Week in the Shawnee Mission School District.

[Click here for ways to join the celebration throughout the week.](#)

“Thank you to the Shawnee Mission team for overcoming challenges and dedicating yourselves to ensure a quality education for our students,” Dr. Hubbard expressed.



**District-wide Digital Art Show** The SMSD introduces the first districtwide digital art show of this school year! This presentation features artwork from students in Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade from across the district. “We are so grateful to all of the students and educators for sharing the work of so many talented artists with us,” Dr. Hubbard

added.

[Click here to view the art show.](#)



**Math Day Success** A group of Shawnee Mission high school students earned top honors at a math day held at Emporia State University this fall. Teams from Shawnee Mission North, Shawnee Mission Northwest, and Shawnee Mission West earn top scores in geometry, algebra, and a “math scramble” category. Maya Routh from Shawnee

Mission North took first place in Geometry and Christopher Ramsey from Shawnee Mission Northwest earned second place. This was in a competition that drew more than 400 students from across Kansas. [Click here to see a complete list of SMSD results.](#)



**Unified Bowling** Two SMSD teams headed to the first-ever Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) State Championship. Shawnee Mission East Unified Bowlers were named regional champions and Shawnee Mission South’s team earned fifth place and a spot in the state competition. This is the first year for Unified

Bowling to be a part of KSHSAA. This sport combines students who have disabilities with those who do not have disabilities on the same team to compete. All five of our high schools competed this year.

Shawnee Mission South also was named to ESPN’s Special Olympics Honor Roll for 2021. They are among only 25 named across the country. This honor recognizes schools that promote meaningful social inclusion by bringing students with and without disabilities to compete, and for how they create accepting school environments. In addition to bowling, SM South also has Unified Bocce and basketball competitors and Unified athletes are involved in numerous activities and events in the school community.

Dr. Hubbard congratulated all of the athletes and coaches on an outstanding fall and wished good luck to everyone who is kicking off winter sports.



**Sporting Samaritan** Michelle Langton, who teaches in a Structured Learning classroom at Broken Arrow Elementary, was honored for how she makes the community a better place as a Blue KC Sporting Samaritan. She was nominated by a parent who said she always goes above and beyond for students.

Langton was honored on the field at Children's Mercy Park and was treated to a VIP experience at a Sporting Kansas City game.

**All Star** Diane Johnson, Shawnee Mission South receptionist, was honored as a Shawnee Mission All Star.

[Click here to see a video about Johnson.](#)

Anyone wanting to nominate a Shawnee Mission School District team member as an All Star can do so [by filling out this form.](#)

**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.](#)