



BOARD MEETING RECAP

Board Items

COVID 19 Mitigation Measures Update The Shawnee Mission Board of Education approved updated 2nd Semester COVID Mitigation Measures. [Click here to view the approved measures](#), including universal masking for all staff and students. These measures go into effect on Monday January 24, 2022.

The change was made in light of the state and county health departments announcing they would suspend contact tracing for 30 days. The three percent threshold for secondary schools built into the district's plan was dependent on contact tracing by the county health department (the school district does not have legal authority to contact trace or quarantine.) As a result of the change by the state and county, the district implemented universal masking through February 15, 2022. In making this decision, the Board also discussed the extremely high number of infections in the county and the uptick of cases in SMSD schools. District staff will continue to monitor data, and either return to the three percent threshold on February 15, 2022, assuming the county has resumed, or recommend another extension.

As a reminder it continues to be a priority in the Shawnee Mission School District to keep students and staff safe and in school.

The Board approved the plan 6-0.

Priority One Annual Review Dr. Michael Schumacher, associate superintendent of human resources, and Erin Eason, national director of clinical consulting practice from CBIZ presented a [Priority One Health Center](#) annual review. They outlined a variety of details about how the health center serves district employees. [Click here to view their report.](#)

ESSER Update Superintendent Dr. Michelle Hubbard, Russell Knapp, chief financial officer, and David Stubblefield, associate superintendent of leadership and learning, provided a report on the district's COVID-19 Response plan, with a focus on the use of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER).

They outlined that ESSER I and II funding have been allocated for specific needs through September 2023. Information about the allocation of these funds [can be found here](#).

ESSER III will provide funding through September 2024. [Click here for the presentation](#), including details about the allocation of funds and the ThoughtExchange Feedback from stakeholders that informed the development of the allocation plan.

Boundary Study The Board approved the consent agenda, including an item related to an enrollment study and boundary study. This information helps district staff make decisions about



budgeting, ensuring that buildings are being used efficiently, and distributing students equitably across the district.

The Board approved an enrollment study that will project enrollment for the next five school years. The district's last study was completed approximately three years ago. However, due to enrollment changes related to COVID-19, district leaders are requesting a new study. After the enrollment study, RSP, the firm conducting the study, will give a full report to the Board regarding projected enrollment and share any school that should be included in an elementary boundary study.

Dr. Hubbard stated the community will learn a lot from the enrollment study, but at this time, there are at least two factors that are clear: Briarwood Elementary is far over capacity, and Tomahawk Elementary, which is projected to open in August, 2025, is being rebuilt to accommodate additional students. The enrollment study will provide additional information on whether the district should include other elementary schools in the boundary discussion. A full timeline of boundary committee work [can be located in the report](#). SMSD staff anticipate the enrollment study to be complete and back to the Board in early Spring.

Board Policy Approval Board of Education members held second readings and adopted the following policies:

[JBC: Student Admissions to/Withdrawals from School](#)

[JDD: Suspension and Expulsion Procedures](#)

[JCD: Student Discipline](#)

[JCDA: Student Conduct](#)

[IDACA: Special Education Actions and Due Process for Students](#)

From the Superintendent Report:



**ONLINE ENROLLMENT
STARTS FEB. 4, 2022**
Pre-K and Kindergarten 2022-2023



Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Enrollment [Pre-K](#) and [Kindergarten](#) enrollment begins soon. Online enrollment opens at 8 a.m. on Friday, February 4. [Here is the link for online enrollment](#), where families can complete applications and

reserve a spot. Please note that the application must be completed on a desktop or laptop computer or a tablet. It will not work on a mobile phone. Those without technology access to enroll online are encouraged to contact [their area school](#) for Kindergarten. Pre-K families are encouraged to call the Early Childhood office at 913-983-6441. Opportunities will be held in the coming weeks for students and families to connect with school staff and learn more about their future school experience. Everyone in the district is encouraged to share this information with any families who have children who will be 4 or 5 on or before August 31 of this year. “We are so excited to welcome new students to the Shawnee Mission School District,” shared superintendent Dr. Michelle Hubbard.



Signature Program Open House Last Thursday, middle and high school students and their families attended a Signature Program Open House at the Center for Academic Achievement. They were able to tour state-of-the-art classrooms,

hear from teachers and students, and learn about specialized programs for high school students including animation and game design, biotechnology, culinary arts and commercial baking, engineering, health science, and Project Blue Eagle (the district's fire science, EMS and law enforcement program.)

[Click here for more information.](#) Interested families and students are encouraged to connect with high school counselors as students develop their individual high school experience.



Battle of the Books Dr. Hubbard congratulated middle school students who put their reading-related knowledge to the test in the Battle of the Books competition. Participants were asked trivia questions based on 10 books from

this year's list of William Allen White Children's Book Award nominees. This year, Hocker Grove Middle School was declared the champion, defending a three-year winning streak. "Well done

to all of the students for their reading dedication and teamwork,” Dr. Hubbard expressed.



KMEA State Performers

Shawnee Mission musicians from across the district will be representing the Shawnee Mission School District in All-State ensembles. These students took part in rigorous auditions to ultimately be invited to be a part of

the Kansas Music Educators Association In-Service Workshop. [Click here](#) to see who will perform in All-State orchestra, band, jazz band, and choir.



Kindness Week Today officially marks the beginning of Kindness Week in the Shawnee Mission School District. This is a time where all students and staff members dedicate time to focus on creating a culture of kindness.

This week is held with the goal of inspiring acts not only during this week, but every day of the year. Every school will be participating. Some will participate by writing kind notes or creating artwork about the topic. Some will integrate the topic into classroom lessons or school service projects. This week supports the district’s [Strategic Plan](#) objective of developing student interpersonal skills and our belief that every individual has

inherent worth and deserves to be valued and celebrated. Dr. Hubbard wished everyone a happy and meaningful Kindness Week.



R&D Forum Promo One of the district's biggest celebrations of the year is the Research and Development (R&D) Forum. This year will be the 60th annual R&D Forum in the SMSD! The event this spring will include a student

showcase and The Next Great Idea Pitch competition. This contest invites student entrepreneurs to share their ideas for solving a problem. Students all have a chance to win prizes to advance their ideas. Interested students are encouraged and invited to attend an info session on Webex on Thursday, Jan. 27. [Here is a link for learning more about the R&D Forum and how to participate.](#)

[Click here to join the info session at 6 p.m. on Jan. 27 on WebEx.](#)

Sincere appreciation goes to the Regnier Family for 60 years of generous support for the Shawnee Mission School District R&D Forum.