

**Andover Board of Education Notes**  
**October 11, 2021**

**Good News:** Board members recognized the district's four National Merit Semifinalists for the 2021-22 school year. They are Jacob Norris and Melissa Ng of Andover Central High School, and Daul Lee and John Hippiisley of Andover High School. They are among the top approximately 1 percent of high school seniors who took the PSAT exam last year.

**Health insurance/benefits renewal:** Dr. Russell Miller, assistant superintendent for human resources, updated the Board on health insurance and benefits renewal for 2022. There will be reductions in costs of about 5.1% to employees with better benefits for health insurance next year through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. There will be a slight increase in dental insurance through Delta Dental of Kansas, and costs for Surency Vision are locked in through 2024.

**KESA accreditation:** Jill Lachenmayr, assistant superintendent for academic affairs, updated the Board on the Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) accreditation cycle. The district is beginning this cycle. The process will start with conducting a comprehensive needs assessment at the school and district level to identify strengths and gaps. That information will be used to create two goals for the district. Schools will either use the two district goals as their building goals or select two school goals that align with the district goals but are more customized to their specific school.

**Bond supplemental projects:** The board approved [six supplemental projects](#) to be paid with bond funds. These projects were made possible through sound fiscal management and the fact that other projects were completed under budget.

**Elementary school masks:** The Board voted to require that masks continue to be worn by elementary staff, students and visitors inside Andover Public Schools elementary buildings from Oct. 13, 2021, through Nov. 9, 2021, with the currently approved language pertaining to exclusions remaining in place.

**Superintendent's report:** Superintendent Brett White invited Board members to Veterans Day activities on Thursday, Nov. 11. Andover Middle School will host an assembly at 8 a.m., and Andover Central Middle School will host an assembly at 8:15 a.m.