

**Andover Board of Education Notes**  
**February 13, 2023**

**Good News:** The Board recognized Alyssa Gallaway, seventh-grader at Andover Middle School, who earned first place in the 2023 Kansas Youth Art Month Flag Contest. The contest aims to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for quality art programs. Alyssa's design was selected from hundreds of entries from across the state. Now, her design will represent Kansas in March at the National Art Education Association Annual Convention in San Antonio.

**Circle of Friends:** Roxana Smith, special education teacher at Andover Central High School, and students presented about Circle of Friends, a club that connects identified (special education) and non-identified (general population) students. They participate in a variety of activities, including Friday morning deliveries of coffee and pastries to staff at ACHS. Roxana Smith, resource teacher at ACHS, and students will be at the meeting to discuss the group and their experiences.

**Reading specialists:** Traci Holder, director of instruction and intervention, and reading specialists [highlighted their role](#) in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), core functions of a reading specialist and structured literacy. This is the first year Andover has reading specialists in its secondary schools.

**Instructional materials:** Committees that have been reviewing instructional materials for high school Modern World History and middle school English Language Arts have [made their recommendations](#). The recommendations are the result of an extended research period that began last school year. For Modern World History, the committee recommended a Houghton Mifflin Harcourt textbook. For ELA, the committee recommended Savvas materials.

**Bonds issuance:** Sherame Kneisel, chief operating officer, and Bret Shogren with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, discussed issuing temporary general obligation notes using a portion of the approved bond authority from the 2017 bond election. This issuance, which would not extend the district's current debt schedule or raise the bond and interest mill levy, would be dedicated to addressing deferred maintenance needs in the district. The proposal will be brought back to the Board for consideration March 6.

**Transportation:** Richard Bell, executive director of operations, [presented about a recommended vendor](#) for district Transportation. After an extensive request for proposal and interview process, administrators are recommending First Student provide bus and other transportation services beginning in the 2023-24 school year. The Board approved granting administrators the authority to negotiate a contract with First Student.

**Dishwasher replacement:** The Board voted to spend \$60,980 to replace the dishwasher at ACHS, and another \$23,598 to replace the dishwasher at Sunflower Elementary School.

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Brett White told the Board about the new Kiwanis Club chapter that has started in Andover. Andover eCademy is hosting a Kansas Department of Education virtual education conference March 2-3. And the district has secured a naming rights partnership with SJCF for a portion of the Andover Center for Advanced Professional Studies.