

Andover Board of Education Notes
May 8, 2023

Good News: The Board recognized several students and educators for accomplishments, including:

- Addison Smith, sophomore at Andover Central High School, for receiving two Gold Key awards for paintings at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.
- The ACHS ProStart team of Maddie Stowell, Jordan Fleske, Hayley Boatright and Nevaeh Field for winning the state culinary management competition. The team also finished fourth nationally. The ProStart team is coached by Lacey Woods. In the competition, they presented a detailed restaurant concept and defended it before industry professionals. This is the second straight year the team won state and qualified for nationals.
- Cassandra Conley, theatre teacher at ACHS, who was inducted into the Kansas Thespians Hall of Fame. She has taught at ACHS for eight years.
- Robin Anderson, math teacher at Andover Middle School, for being a finalist in the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
- Rylie Nance, eight-grade yearbook staff member at AMS, for being named the Mary Patrick Aspiring Young Journalist by the Kansas Student Press Association.
- Seniors Sidney Gehring (AHS) and Michael Olivarez (ACHS) for being recipients of the 2022-23 Andover Board of Education Scholarships.

Redesign updates: Principals and teacher leaders from [Wheatland and Sunflower elementary schools](#), and [Andover High School, AMS and ACHS](#) presented about their redesign processes.

Budget update: Sherame Kneisel, chief financial officer, presented an [update on the 2023-24 school year](#).

Website: Terry Rombeck, director of communication, presented an update on the process to launch a new district website on June 1.

Staffing update: Jeremy Boldra, assistant superintendent for human resources, presented an [update on staffing](#) for the 2023-24 school year. Currently, 34.5 of 42 vacant certified staffing positions have been filled. Foreign language has been the most difficult area to fill for open teaching positions.

Computer instructional materials: The Board approved new instructional materials for the following courses: Computer Applications, Advanced Computer Applications, Web Design, Web Graphics and Animation, and Graphic Design and Publishing. The total cost is approximately \$75,000.

Building controls: The Board voted to spend a total of \$683,897 with Building Controls and Services Inc. to upgrade building controls at Wheatland Elementary and Robert Martin Elementary.

Food service: The Board voted to approve a [one-year contract](#) with Opaa! Food Management Inc., with the option of four additional annual renewals.

Student fees: The Board approved student fees for the 2023-24 school year. Changes include increasing the following course fees by \$5 to cover increases expenses Auto Technology 1 and 2, Metals Technology 1 and 2, Intro to Welding, Intro to Woodworking, and Furniture and Cabinetry Fabrication. New were approved for the following classes: Geometry in Construction (\$25), Debate (\$20), Competitive Speech and Acting (\$20) and Culinary Applications (\$40). Finally, the Board approved a new

structure for transportation fees. Per-student fees for students living more than 2.5 miles from their school will decrease from \$275 to \$250 per student, with a maximum assessment of 3 students per family.

ESSER II plan: The Board approved a change in the district's ESSER III Funding Plan. The changes remove contracting with social workers for mental health counseling, as support is not available from local agencies. The funds would be re-allocated to pay for permanent substitutes for the 2023-24 year and one-year funding of a facilitator for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.

Republication of budget: The Board approved republishing the district's budget to reflect a change in the number of families who are directly certified as receiving free meals through the Child Nutrition Program.

Superintendent's report: Superintendent Brett White told the Board that treats would be delivered to schools and departments for Staff Appreciation Week. He reminded Board members about upcoming graduation dates.