

Board of Education Notes
Aug. 14, 2023

Spotlight on Learning: Jill Lachenmayr, assistant superintendent for academic affairs, and mental health professionals presented an [update on the district's efforts](#) to help students needing mental health services. For the first time, the district will be offering on-site therapy and small group therapy through South Central Mental Health and Friends University. Any student referred for therapy services must have parental permission and involvement in the process. South Central Mental Health will begin offering services through therapists and student therapists this fall. Friends University will begin offering services through students in its Master of Science in Family Therapy program beginning in May. These services are being offered to address an increase in mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression, that our schools have seen in recent years.

District goals: The Board voted to approve the [district's 2023-24 goals](#), which cover the areas of Student Achievement and Educator Effectiveness; Culture and Safety; Communications; and Fiscal Responsibility.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Brett White reported an excellent start to the school year. He announced that Gov. Laura Kelly would be visiting the district later in the month. Also, the Foundation for Andover Schools held its first meeting of the new school year, with other meetings scheduled to discuss the Viva Andover fundraiser and teacher grants.