Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
October 4, 2021

Roll Call	The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 259, Sedgwick County, Kansas, met in regular session in the Wichita High School North Lecture Hall, 1437 Rochester, Wichita, Kansas, at approximately 6 p.m., on October 4, 2021, with President Stan Reeser presiding. Present: Ben Blankley, Julie Hedrick, Ernestine Krehbiel, Sheril Logan, Stan Reeser, Ron Rosales, and Mia Turner.
Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance	The business portion of the meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the Jardine Middle School ROTC Cadets.
Reports	Report – Good News 2021 Excellence in Public Service Awards Contact(s): Wendy Johnson Each year, the Excellence in Public Service Awards Program honors public service employees whose work performance and community activities transcend the ordinary. The DeVore Foundation sponsors the awards program. This year's awardees are Fredrick "Jay" Crayton II, the athletic director for East High School, and Cheryl Witt, Law and History Department chairperson and teacher at Northeast Magnet High School. Report – Service Employees International: SEUI Representative Esau Freeman. Topic: Masking and public attitudes. Report – United Teachers of Wichita: UTW President Brent Lewis. Topic: COVID and its impact on education.
Public Communications	None submitted.
Education	Every Student Future Ready Strategic Plan: Goal #1: Increase Graduation Rates Contact(s): Gil Alvarez, Amanda Kingrey Our district strategic plan focuses on four long-term goals. Goal #1 is designed to increase high school graduation rate from 74% to 80% by 2023. Tonight's presentation will highlight and go deeper into Goal #1 in our Volume 4 – Ignite Learning strategic plan, which will describe the indicators of success. We will describe a successful high school graduate and how we prepare our students to be college and/or career ready in four keys areas: 1. Academic Preparation/Content Knowledge, 2. Cognitive Preparation/Strategies, 3. Technical Skills/Transition Knowledge, 4. Employability and Learning Skills. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information and discussion.

Consent: Disposal of Routine Business	Ms. Hedrick (Mr. Blankley) moved the Board of Education approve the following items of routine business. The motion passed 7-0.
Human Resources Report Appendix 1	Board approval
Monthly Finance Report: August 2021 Appendix 2	Board approval.
Purchasing Consent Appendix 3	Board approval.
Fence Replacement: Cloud and Woodman Elementary Schools, Horace Mann K-8 Dual Language Magnet, and South High School	Board Member Ernestine Krehbiel pulled this item for discussion. Please see “Action on Pulled Items” on page three of these minutes.
Playground Resurface: Gordon Parks Academy Appendix 4	Approve an amount not to exceed $97,300, which includes the above base bid, and a contingency amount of $7,000 with Hellas Construction, Inc. for playground resurface at Gordon Parks Academy.
Tennis Court Resurface: East and North High Schools Appendix 5	Approve an amount not to exceed $140,183, which includes the above combined base bid, and a contingency amount of $10,000 with Multicon, Inc. for tennis court resurface at East and North High Schools.
Adobe Annual Contract for CTE	Authorize the renewal of Adobe Creative Cloud software licenses for the 2021-22 school year in an amount not to exceed $26,705.
Limited Remote Learning Approvals for October	Authorize exceeding of the 40-hour remote learning limit of the students identified to the Board.
BOE Meeting Minutes for September 13, 2021 Appendix 6	Board approval.
Legal Services: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and McDonald Tinker PA	Authorize payment for legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation and Worker’s Compensation under the school district’s self-insured programs for August 2021 in the amount of $34,626.20 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of $13,353.21 to McDonald Tinker PA.
Groundwater Interim Remedial Measure Performance Monitoring and Reporting	Retain Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. to implement work plans for the School Service Center groundwater interim remedial measure performance monitoring and reporting as required by KDHE in an amount not to exceed $108,600.

Action on Pulled Consent Items	Pulled items are presented in the order of the BOE Agenda.
Fence Replacement: Cloud and Woodman Elementary Schools, Horace Mann K-8 Dual Language Magnet, and South High School	Board Member Ernestine Krehbiel asked for more details regarding fence work at these locations. Luke Newman, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, confirmed that no new fencing is being constructed. Rather, existing fencing is being replaced. This agenda item calls for the Board to approve an amount not to exceed $168,257, which includes the above combined base bid, and a contingency amount of $12,000 with American Fence and Security Company, Inc. for fence replacement at Cloud and Woodman Elementary Schools, Horace Mann K-8 Dual Language Magnet and South High School. Ms. Krehbiel (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board approve the agenda item Fence Replacement: Cloud and Woodman Elementary Schools, Horace Mann K-8 Dual Language Magnet, and South High School. The motion passed 7-0.
Operations	
Human Resources: Staffing Update	Sean Hudspeth and Jenna Shaban of Human Resources provided the Board with an update on open positions within the district and staffing challenges. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information and discussion.
Miscellaneous	
Superintendent's Report	- Reminded public that magnet school applications for the 2022-23 school year are available soon, and high school applications are due by January 28, 2022. The due date for elementary schools is February 18, 2022. - Celebrated distributing about 1,000 books during the 2021 Riverfest week in partnership with United Way. - Noted that her "Read Along with the Superintendent" series on YouTube is one of her favorite things as superintendent, and a new episode is available online. - Read to Succeed program from the United Way begins with third graders this week. - Thanked all students and staff for wearing masks and contributing to a decline in COVID-related absences.

Board of Education Reports/Requests	Ron Rosales - Thanked all involved in responding to a recent security incident at East High School. - Requested Dr. Thompson provide data about the number of minority-owned businesses receiving district contracts, as well as those applying for district bids. Ernestine Krehbiel - Visited Curtis Middle School during lunch hour recently, and complimented students and staff for masking up after mealtime, during passing period, and in their classrooms. - Encouraged members of the public to participate in United Way's Read to succeed program for district third graders. Ben Blankley - Noted the safest place for American children is in school due to actions by staff and administration. - Marched in recent Wichita Pride parade with his employer Spirit AeroSystems. - Thanked Gammon Elementary staff for inviting him to address classrooms alongside local elected officials in recognition of Freedom Week. - Participated in book giveaway with Dr. Thompson and Amanda Kingrey at Riverfest. - Reminded people to get their flu shots, and to get a COVID vaccine if they haven't already. Stan Reeser - Attended West High Hall of Fame induction with Dr. Thompson last Thursday and was impressed with inductee and the impact he had on students as an educator. - Noted the positive impact and change teachers leave on the world and called on people to consider teaching as a profession if they are interested. Sheril Logan - Echoed Ernestine Krehbiel on mask compliance in the district and how it is a positive thing with few if any problems. - Attended a football game at Northwest High School and was impressed at stadium safety features. Julie Hedrick - Thanked everyone who has been vaccinated against COVID since the last BOE meeting. Mia Turner - Asked Dr. Thompson and the Board whether there are small individual tasks people like herself can do to alleviate teacher workloads. Dr. Thompson said small acts like running a copier or coming to class once a week to sit with students was helpful, and referred to Brent Lewis, UTW President, for further discussion. Also noted that opportunities are available at the School Service Center and other non-attendance sites.
New Business	None submitted.
Executive Session	None submitted.

Adjournment	Prior to adjournment, Board President Stan Reeser announced that barring objections from the Board the special BOE meeting tentatively scheduled for October 25 is cancelled. Ms. Krehbiel (Ms. Turner) moved the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. At approximately 8:40 p.m., the meeting adjourned.