

Andover Board of Education Notes

April 8, 2024

Good News: The Board recognized the ProStart culinary management team from Andover Central High School, which recently won its fourth consecutive state championship. The win qualifies them to compete at nationals in Baltimore in late April.

The Board recognized 12 students from Andover High School and ACHS who were recently named to the Kansas Music Educators Association's two All-State Bands. Also, three students from Andover were named to the KMEA All-State Full Orchestra.

The Board recognized Addison Smith, a junior at ACHS, and Olivia Voegeli, eighth-grader at Andover Middle School, who both received Gold Key distinctions at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Finally, the Board recognized Carey Chesire, an eighth-grader at AMS, who recently won the Sunflower Spelling Bee. He qualifies for the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May in Washington, D.C.

Spotlight on Learning: Jill Lachenmayr, assistant superintendent for academic affairs, and Christy Streeter, dean of the Early College Academy at Butler Community College, presented about the opportunities the Early College Academy provides to Andover students. The partnership between the academy and Andover schools is celebrating its 10-year anniversary. During that time, 148 Andover students have used the Early College Academy to graduate community college early. These students have saved more than \$1 million in tuition by taking these courses, and they have been offered more than \$5.5 million in scholarships post-Academy.

Elementary English Language Arts Instructional Materials: Jill Lachenmayr and Traci Holder, director of instruction and intervention, [presented an update on English Language Arts materials](#) for elementary schools. Grade-level teams have been reviewing lessons and units included in Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) to determine if some should be modified or deleted. The adoption will come back to the Board for its May 13 meeting.

Staffing Update: Jeremy Boldra, assistant superintendent for human resources, [provided a staffing update](#) for the 2024-25 school year.

Budget Update: Sherame Kneisel, chief financial officer, [provided an update](#) on the 2023-24 budget and projections for the 2024-25 budget.

Maintenance and Grounds Update: Richard Bell, executive director of operations, [provided a report](#) on the maintenance and grounds department's efforts to be more efficient and increase internal capacity.

Staff Handbooks: Jeremy Boldra presented proposed staff handbooks for the 2024-25 year. [Click here](#) to view a list of proposed changes to the handbooks.

Student Handbooks: Jeremy Boldra presented proposed student handbooks for the 2024-25 year. He provided a list of changes for [elementary](#), [ACMS](#), [AMS](#), and [high school](#) handbooks.

Student Fees Recommendation: Sherame Kneisel, chief financial officer, presented a recommended fee structure for the 2024-25 school year. Changes include raising locker fees to \$3, adding an anatomy class fee of \$10, and raising by \$5 each fees for ceramics and sculpture, intro to woodworking and woodworking principles.

CTE Materials: The Board voted to spend \$63,000 for new Career and Technical Education (CTE) instructional materials. These include materials for auto technology 1 and 2, introduction to welding, business essentials, business law, advanced programming I, visual BASIC 1 and 2, AP Computer Science A, human growth and development, and middle school robotics.

Pre-K instructional materials: The Board voted to adopt Three Cheers for Pre-K as the district's instructional materials for Early Learning. The anticipated cost will be \$40,000 for six years.

Calendar Change: The Board voted to change May 22 from a student contact day to a professional learning day for elementary educators only. That makes the last day of school for elementary students May 21.

Out-of-District Capacity: The Board approved [enrollment capacity levels and implementation protocols](#) for the 2024-25 school year.

Budget Amendment: The Board voted to amend and republish the district's 2023-24 budget to increase the Career and Postsecondary Education Fund from \$824,922 to \$1,199,922 to record all salary and related expenditures to the approved CTE pathways.

Mowing Contract: The Board voted to [approve a contract](#) for mowing services with Getting it Done Enterprises for services at Prairie Creek, Sunflower, AHS, AMS, ACMS and ACHS.

Temporary Bond Projects: The Board voted to approve several projects related to existing bond authority from the 2017 election. These include LED flat panel lights, installation of LED lights in elementary gymnasiums, concrete repairs at Sunflower and Prairie Creek elementaries, and parking lot renovations at eight schools.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Brett White announced that Sen. Larry Alley and Rep. Kristey Williams would be hosting a public legislative forum from 6-7 p.m. April 18 at the Augusta Depot. He announced that graduations would be at 6:30 p.m. May 9 for Andover eCademy; 1 p.m. May 12 for ACHS; and 4 p.m. May 12 for AHS.