



BOARD MEETING RECAP

Board Items

Revenue Neutral Hearing The first in a series of meetings held by the Shawnee Mission Board of Education on August 26, 2024 was a Revenue Neutral Hearing. This hearing is required by state law if a school district expects to exceed its revenue neutral rate (RNR). Johnson County calculated the Shawnee Mission School District's RNR at 49.035. The district intends to exceed this RNR with an estimated mill rate of 51.316.

Later, the Board of Education adopted a resolution to exceed the revenue neutral rate. [Read more about that adoption here.](#)

Budget Hearing and Adoption The Board of Education also held a budget hearing regarding the proposed district budget for the 2024-2025 school year. The Board later took action on the proposed budget. The Board of Education approved the budget in the amount of \$611,930,693. [Click here to read more about the budget.](#)

Prior to the adoption of the budget, the Board conducted a Profiles and Needs assessment [which can be reviewed here.](#)

Find more information about the district budget on the [Budget and Finance page.](#)

Health Benefits Renewal Discussion Dr. Jeremy Higgins, associate superintendent of human resources, and Dave Johnson, CBIZ Senior Benefits Consultant, shared a presentation on the health benefits renewal for the 2024-2025 school year. [Click here to view the presentation.](#) Later in the meeting, the Board of Education renewed the medical insurance

program with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas City. [Click here for more information about the approved program.](#)

Donations Task Force Report Board of Education members Jessica Hembree, Jamie Borgman, and David Westbrook delivered a report on the Donations Task Force Committee. The task force was formed to analyze the current policies and guidelines for receipt and distribution of gifts and bequests.

[Click here for more information and to read the presentation.](#) The presentation was followed by a discussion among Board members. The presentation and discussion can be [viewed here, starting at 55:48.](#)

From the Superintendent Report



Thank You SMSD Superintendent Dr. Michael Schumacher extended thanks to everyone in the Shawnee Mission community for a great start to the school year. “We are so glad to have our students ALL IN the classroom as we begin the new year,” he expressed. “I’ve known for a long time how incredible the Shawnee Mission community is, and I continue to still be so impressed by all of the ways our community supports our students and staff.” Dr. Schumacher reflected on his strong belief that this is a community that faces challenges head on and works tirelessly to ensure students and staff feel a sense of belonging. “We’ve already faced some very tough challenges,” he added. “I am so grateful for how this community has shown its support. We truly are One Shawnee Mission. As I visit classrooms, I am so happy to see new connections being made and learning opportunities underway. Thank you to our students, our educators, our families, and our extended community for all of the ways you have been ALL IN - getting us off to a strong start to the new school year.”



Nominate an SMSD Educator Everyone in the Shawnee Mission School District has the chance to recognize the district's outstanding educators. Nominations are currently open for individuals to be named Shawnee Mission Teacher of the Year. From these nominees, the Shawnee Mission

School District has the chance every year to nominate one elementary and one secondary educator for the Kansas Teacher of the Year program. The deadline to nominate is Friday, August 30, 2024.

[Click here for the nomination form in English.](#)

[Click here for the nomination form in Spanish.](#)



Faculty Art Show All Shawnee Mission staff members are invited to submit an original work of art to be included in this year's staff art show. Those who submit artwork to the show have the chance to earn a monetary prize through the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation.

One artist will receive a \$250 personal recognition and a \$250 grant in support of their building's art department. Their selected work of art will join the district's staff art collection, which will be featured in the CAA gallery space annually from May-June. [Those who are interested can click here for more information.](#)

Multilingual Community Event The Student Family Team, in collaboration with various internal teams, student culture clubs, and community organizations, is excited to host this year's Multilingual Community Event. Expanding on the district's annual Bilingual Back to School Night, this event aims to celebrate the district's rich diversity while providing families from all backgrounds with resources, support, and a

sense of community. The event is FREE and open to ALL SMSD families. [Click here for more information and to RSVP.](#)



Podcast update – The newest episode of Shawnee Mission Mic'd Up is available now. In episode 2, Dr. Brittany Gonser, director of professional development, and Dr. Michael Schumacher, superintendent, were excited to highlight the new Rushton Elementary School! They were joined by principal Kristy Fornal and Debbie Coleman, secretary, and highlighted the new home of the Red-Tailed Hawks! [Click here to listen, watch, or follow the podcast!](#)

This publication, provided after each Shawnee Mission Board of Education meeting, provides a recap of some actions taken by the Shawnee Mission Board of Education and information about activities happening in the school district.

An archive video of the [meeting can be found here](#). Links to board policies, agendas, and meeting minutes [can be found here](#).