Board of Education Agenda
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
March 4, 2024 · 6 p.m.
Wichita High School North Lecture Hall
1437 Rochester · Wichita KS

Wichita Public Schools will be the premier district of choice, and inspire each student and staff member to thrive and become future ready within the greater community.

I. Roll Call

A. Moment of Silence

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Jardine Middle School JROTC Cadets

II. Student Success

A. Good News

1. Battle of the Books 2024 and the Wichita Big Read

   Contact(s): Gail Becker

   The 29th annual Battle of the Books competition was held January 17th-25th at AMAC, with 50 elementary schools participating. This event was organized and directed by Library Media and Textbook Services and produced by Media Productions.

   Information and books will be shared for the upcoming Wichita Big Read. This is the 16th year WPS has partnered with the Wichita Public Library for this event.

2. Magnet Schools of America Recognition

   Contact(s): Jesse Milne

   Every year, Magnet Schools of America (MSA) selects a handful of schools from hundreds of applicants to receive their Merit Award of Distinction. The Merit Awards are based on adherence to MSA's five pillars of magnet schools which are Diversity, Innovative Curriculum and Professional Development, Academic Excellence, High-Quality Instructional Systems, and Family and Community Partnerships.

   This year, WPS had three buildings receive an award for Merit School of Distinction! Brooks Center for STEM and Arts won the award for the second time while Earhart Environmental Magnet and McLean Science and Technology Magnet both won for the third time.

   In addition to the Merit Award of Distinction, which is the second highest honor from MSA, the organization also bestows a Merit Award of Excellence to a very exclusive and elite class of magnet schools. Through 10 years of applying for these MSA distinctions, no WPS school had ever won the coveted Excellence category until last year when Mayberry Cultural and Fine Arts Magnet received it.

   This year not only did Mayberry achieve Excellence again but was joined by Hyde Leadership and International Studies and Allison Traditional Magnets as the best of the best magnet schools in the nation.

III. Public Communications

A member of the public (speaker) may address the Board during the Public Communications section of the BOE Agenda. Comments by public speakers made during the Public Communications will be limited to items on the BOE Agenda or items within the jurisdiction of the Board. The number of speakers who speak during Public Communications will not exceed ten. A speaker, in lieu of speaking during Public Communications, may speak during an agenda item. Comments during an agenda item will be limited to the topic of the agenda item. Speakers may register to speak by calling the Clerk of the Board at 973-4553 by noon on the day of the BOE meeting, or they may register at the location of the BOE meeting until 10 minutes before the meeting begins. When registering to speak, a speaker will identify the topic the speaker wishes to address. A speaker's comments at a meeting will not exceed 3 minutes, will be limited to the registered topic, and will not include personnel matters concerning district employees and/or matters that would violate the privacy of students. Speakers will provide twelve (12) copies of any handouts to the Clerk of the Board's table for distribution at the Board table. For more information and restrictions, please see BOE Policy 0200 - BOE Agendas and Meetings.

1. Audrey Garvey, 1835 N. Richmond, Wichita, KS 67203. Topic: School calendar.
2. Samuel Brucks, 500 S. Topeka, Wichita, KS 67202. Topic: Employee benefits.
3. Ruth Lehman, 1520 E. Fortuna, Wichita, KS 67216. Topic: School closures.
4. Kasheema Ford, 1610 S. Dodge, Wichita, KS 67203. Topic: School closures.
5. Candida Jeronimo, 1222 N. Cleveland Ave., Wichita, KS 67214. Topic: School closures.
6. Thomas Montiel, 2016 S. Elizabeth St. #802, Wichita, KS 67213. Topic: School closures.
7. Esau Freeman, 601 N. Terrace, Wichita, KS 67208. Topic: School closures.
8. Araceli Amador, 3324 S. Euclid, Wichita, KS 67217. Topic: School closures.
9. Maria Andraba, 3302 W. 33rd St. S., Wichita, KS 67217. Topic: School closures.
10. Josephine Gomez, 1134 N. Waco, Wichita, KS 67203. Topic: School closures.

IV. Operations

A. Proposals for Closing Schools, Boundaries, and Reassignment Appendix 1

Contact(s): Kelly Bielefeld
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: At their July 31, 2023, regular meeting, the Board of Education received information regarding the district's facility conditions, needs, and enrollment forecasting. On October 2, 2023, the Board approved retaining Cooperative Strategies, LLC, for the purposes of facility master planning services. Cooperative Strategies subsequently reported back to the Board on December 11, 2023, regarding the state of the district's various facilities. This report considered the age of each building, deferred maintenance, and historical and projected enrollment trends.

At that same meeting, the Board approved a five-year strategic plan for the district. This strategic plan was developed in collaboration with district students, staff members, and community partners through online surveys, public meetings, and expert contributions. The strategic plan is intended to chart a path forward for the district through the 2028-29 school year.

Throughout surveys and various feedback tools were employed with staff, students, and community to set priorities around initiatives to retain after pandemic relief funding ends in September 2024. Input revealed a desire to what is best for district students. Staff voiced specific concerns about job cuts, salary freezes and possible loss of student social emotional and behavior supports in the classroom. The feedback emphasized a priority for appropriate staffing, and an acknowledgement that cuts in services and programs are necessary to keep teachers and other staff members.

At the January 22, 2024, regular meeting, district staff projected the need to reduce expenditures by $42 million in order to balance the 2024-25 budget. This is due to declining enrollment since 2016, specifically the 5% drop in enrollment following the COVID-19 school shutdown of 2020, and the expiration of COVID-19 pandemic relief funding. Through non-school budget cuts, attrition, and administrative reassignment, expenditures were reduced by $9 million, but $33 million in spending reductions are still needed.

After receiving this information, the Board charged administration with identifying potential building closures. On February 12, 2024, administration identified the following buildings: Hadley Middle School, Jardine STEM and Career Explorations Academy Magnet Middle School, Clark Elementary School, Cleaveland Traditional College and Career Readiness Magnet Elementary, Park Elementary School, and Payne Elementary School.

The Board subsequently voted to schedule a public hearing for February 29, 2024 and directed staff to publish a notice to comply with Kansas law. The Wichita Eagle published the notice in Appendix 1a of this agenda on February 14 and February 18. This hearing provided for extensive public comment on proposed school closings, and an opportunity for the Board of Education to discuss and respond.

The Board also held public listening sessions on February 21, February 22, and February 26. These listening sessions provided additional opportunities for public dialogue beyond the minimum requirements of Kansas law. During these meetings, boundary adjustment proposals for all recommended closing and welcoming schools were shared. It was also during these sessions that the public was given the opportunity to provide feedback on all the boundary proposals included in the recommendation. This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Board of Education to discuss further and/or take appropriate action on:

1) The proposed closing of school buildings;
2) The Superintendent's final boundary proposals; and
3) Transition issues.

This agenda item includes public comment from the individuals listed below:

Speaker: Samantha Stillman, 1023 N. Coolidge, Wichita, KS 67203.
Speaker: Amanda Miller, 1222 N. Cleveland, Wichita, KS 67214.

Recommendation 1: It is recommended the Board approve Resolution 2024-01 found in Appendix 1b affecting the following schools: Hadley Middle School, Jardine STEM and Career Explorations Academy Magnet Middle School, Clark Elementary, Cleaveland Traditional College and Career Readiness Magnet Elementary, Park Elementary School, and Payne Elementary School.

If Recommendation 1 is approved by resolution, then:

Recommendation 2: It is recommended the Board approve Administration's final boundary proposal effective August 1, 2024. The recommended proposal includes boundary adjustments for five middle schools (Hamilton, Marshall, Mead, Pleasant Valley, Wilbur) and ten elementary schools (Allen, Beech, Caldwell, Harry Street, Irving, Lawrence, Linwood, Stanley, Washington, Woodman).

V. Education

A. FutureReady Centers: Manufacturing and Healthcare Report

Contact(s): Loren Hatfield, Tim Hamblin, and Eric Shipman
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: Within our district we have two FutureReady Centers (FRCs): one designed to teach WPS students about careers in manufacturing, the other to teach and prepare WPS students for careers in the Healthcare industry. Tonight's presentation will include a description of programming offered at each FRC as well as historical, current, and projected future enrollment data.

Recommendation: This presentation is for the Board's information.

VI. Consent

A. Human Resources

1. Human Resources Report — Appendix 2

Contact(s): Sean Hudspeth

Purpose: Report.

Recommendation: Board approval.

Note: The Human Resources report is not published on the district's Web site. The report is available from the Clerk of the Board's office before noon on Board meeting dates, or in the display rack outside the North High Lecture Hall before Board meetings.

B. Finance

1. Monthly Finance Report: January 2024 — Appendix 3

Contact(s): Susan Willis
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: This is a monthly report to the Board on the budget and finances of the district.

Recommendation: The report is provided for the Board's information. No action is requested.

C. Bids

1. Purchasing Consent Appendix 4

Purpose: Report.

Recommendation: Board approval.

Summary

Description of products/services	Amount	Responsible Party
1. Leader In Me Membership and Coaching	$60,000	Michelle Ingenthron/Gil Alvarez
2. Food – January 2024	$371,650	Fabian Armendariz
3. Supply – January 2024	$411,786	Fabian Armendariz

2. Heat Exchanger Replacement – Mead Middle School

Contact(s): Luke Newman
Funding Source: Capital Outlay
2023-24 Budget

Purpose: The Capital Outlay budget includes monies for various mechanical system needs. There are two (2) cracked heat exchangers in the boilers at Mead Middle School that need replaced. The boilers are Camus Hydronics Ltd. brand and sole sourced through Midwest Machinery KC, Inc.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve the purchase and install of two (2) heat exchangers through Midwest Machinery KC, Inc., for Mead Middle School, in an amount not to exceed $54,814.

3. Node Room Assessment – Information Services and Technology

Contact(s): Luke Newman, Rob Dickson
Funding Source: Capital Outlay
2023-24 Budget

Purpose: The Capital Outlay budget includes monies for professional consulting services. The selection committee has recommended Basis Consulting Engineers, LLC, to evaluate and assess the viability and long-term needs associated with a select group of district-wide node rooms.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Basis Consulting Engineers, LLC, for Node Room Assessments, in an amount not to exceed $117,800.

4. Print Shop Boiler System Modification – School Service Center

   Contact(s): Luke Newman
   Funding Source: Capital Outlay
   2023-24 Budget

   Purpose: The Capital Outlay budget includes monies for Print Shop Boiler System Modification at the School Service Center (SSC). The scope of this project includes piping and system reconfigurations to alleviate condensate issues associated with old steam heating system. The lowest responsible bid was submitted by The Waldinger Corporation.

   Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with The Waldinger Corporation for Print Shop Boiler System Modification at the School Service Center (SSC), in an amount not to exceed $164,050.

5. Sewer Line Improvements and Repairs – South High School

   Contact(s): Luke Newman, Susan Willis
   Funding Source: Capital Outlay, 47 Fund – Self-Funded Insurance Reserve
   2023-24 Budget

   Purpose: On January 25, 2024, third party consultants identified the need to replace restroom sewer lines in the northeast section of South High School due to a discovered main line collapse in the utility tunnels.

   Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Kruse Corporation for necessary repairs to the sewer main at South High School, in an amount not to exceed $41,120.

6. Wall Carpet Removal – Beech Elementary School

   Contact(s): Luke Newman
   Funding Source: Capital Outlay
   2023-24 Budget

   Purpose: The Capital Outlay budget includes monies for Wall Carpet Removal at Beech Elementary School. The scope of this project includes: removal of carpet from walls and replacing with ½" drywall; relocating power, data and other electrical devices; paint matching affected walls; and repairing floors, cabinets and ceiling as needed. The lowest responsible bid was submitted by Van Asdale Construction, LLC.

   Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Van Asdale Construction, LLC, for Wall Carpet Removal at Beech Elementary School, in an amount not to exceed $126,170.

D. Programs/Grants

1. Verizon Innovative Learning Lab Grant Appendix 5

Contact(s): Rob Dickson
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: The Verizon Innovative Learning Lab Grant aligns perfectly with our mission to provide students with equitable access to technology and empower them with the skills needed for success in the digital age. By establishing a dynamic and inclusive learning environment, we aim to bridge the digital divide and ensure that all students have equal opportunities to thrive and excel.

With the support of this grant, we plan to equip our students with cutting-edge technology tools and resources, foster digital literacy, and ignite a passion for STEM fields. By offering state-of-the-art equipment and engaging learning experiences, we will inspire our students' curiosity, enhance their critical thinking skills, and nurture their creativity.

Curtis, Coleman, and Hamilton Middle School were offered the opportunity to apply for the grant through Arizona State University and met all the criteria needed for its success.

Recommendation: It is recommended the Board approve the memorandum of understanding for the Verizon Innovative Learning Lab at Coleman, Curtis, and Hamilton Middle School.

E. Miscellaneous

1. BOE Meeting Minutes for February 12, and February 29, 2024 Appendix 6

Contact(s): Patrick Greene

Purpose: The BOE Meeting Minutes for February 12 and February 29, 2024 are attached in the Appendix.

Recommendation: Board approval.

2. Legal Services: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and McDonald Tinker PA

Contact(s): Sean Hudspeth, Dan Lawrence
Funding Source: 47 Fund – Risk Management Reserve Fund, 42 Fund – Special Liability, 52 Fund – Workers' Compensation Reserve Fund
2023-24 Budget

Purpose: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC have submitted a statement for January 2024 legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation in the amount of $10,156.33.

McDonald Tinker PA have submitted a statement for January 2024 legal services and expenses for Workers' Compensation in the amount of $8,230.39.

This brings the 2023-24 fiscal year-to-date total to $78,345.70 for Civil Litigation services and $75,422.82 for Workers' Compensation services.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board authorize payment for legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation and Workers' Compensation under the school district's self-insured programs for January 2024 in the amount of $10,156.33 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of $8,230.39 to McDonald Tinker PA.

3. Proposed Policy Revisions by Consent Appendix 7

Purpose: As permitted by BOE Policy 0100 – Organization and Functions of the Board, (AIP 3a): Proposed minor revisions to policies may include, but not be limited to, revisions involving policy number, position titles, district office names, and system alignment items. In addition, minor revisions may include combining similar content among policies, deleting obsolete policies, and moving policy content to procedural handbooks if appropriate. This consent item may also include revisions to existing policy as a result of federal, state, or local law or regulation.

Recommendation: Board approval.

Summary

Policy	Title	Person Responsible
6333	Graduation Rule and Diplomas	Loren Hatfield

4. EverDriven – Additional Appendix 8

Contact(s): Fabián Armendáriz, Lisa Riveros
Funding Source: Supplemental General, Special Education, Title, McKinney-Vento, and other funds sources as warranted
2023-24 Budget

Purpose: Since 2021, Alternative Logistics Technologies Holdings (EverDriven) has successfully and safely been providing various hard-to-serve, low-capacity student transportation services using SUVs, vans, and sedans. The intent is to request the continued use of EverDriven for the 2023-24 school year for transportation services to any USD 259 program.

Recommendation: In July of 2023 the Board approved $1 million for the use of Alternative Logistics Technologies Holdings (EverDriven). Due to an increase in usage to supplement transportation services it is recommended the Board approve the additional amount of $700,000 for continued use through the remainder of the fiscal year, totaling $1.7 million for the 2023-24 school year.

VII. Reports

A. United Teachers of Wichita

B. Service Employees International

C. Superintendent's Report

D. Board of Education

VIII. Miscellaneous

A. New Business

B. Board of Education Requests

C. Executive Session

A motion should be adopted that the Board of Education recess forthwith into Executive Session regarding:

1. Personnel matters for non-elected personnel.

The open meeting will resume at approximately _____ in this room.

D. Reconvene

E. Adjournment