

Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools - USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
September 9, 2024

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 September 9, 2024, with President Stan Reeser presiding. Present: Diane Albert, Julie Hedrick, Ngoc Vuong, Melody McCray-Miller, Stan Reeser, Hazel Stabler, and Kathy Bond.
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 West High School JROTC Cadets.
Reports	
Good News	Kindergarten Literacy Achievement Contact(s): Amanda Sharshel As a district, we focused on readiness and evidence-based instruction in kindergarten preparing students with the foundational literacy skills necessary to become emerging and then proficient readers. We focus on aligning instructional routines, resources, and professional learning. As a result, we see increased proficiency in our FastBridge screeners as a result. District kindergarten teachers Lindsey McColley (Christa McAuliffe Academy) and Sheila Marcellus (Caldwell Elementary) shared with the Board what makes a difference for them and their students and how our families can support them in building the necessary skills that set them up for success past kindergarten.
United Teachers of Wichita (UTW)	Katie Warren, UTW president. <u>Topic:</u> Facility conditions and support for bond resolution.

Public Hearing on 2024-25 Proposed Budget	<p>State statute requires the Board to hold a public hearing on the proposed 2024-25 Budget. The purpose of the hearing is to hear and answer objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget and for purposes of considering amendments to the proposed budget. The proposed budget documents and the Budget at a Glance are available for review online and at the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center at 903 S. Edgemoor in Wichita.</p> <p><u>Budget Public Hearing speakers: None.</u></p> <p>Mr. Reeser (Mrs. Bond) moved to close the public hearing.</p> <p>The motion passed 7-0.</p>
2024-25 Budget Adoption Appendix 1	<p>On August 26, 2024, the Board of Education approved publication of a Notice of Hearing establishing the maximum amounts for the 2024-25 Budget. The Notice was published in <i>The Derby Informer</i> (Sedgwick County's official newspaper of record) on August 28, 2024, with the public hearing scheduled at the beginning of this meeting.</p> <p>Chief Financial Officer Susan Willis made a brief and final presentation of the proposed 2024-25 budget, including information relating to the annual Needs Assessment and State Assessment evaluation and use in the budget approval process. Base aid is \$5,378 per student. The district will maximize its Local Option Budget (LOB) authority at 33% of the General fund. The 2024-25 proposed maximum budget authority is \$970,658,273. The estimated mill levy will be 51.354 mills.</p> <p>The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes.</p> <p>Ms. Hedrick (Mr. Reeser) moved the Board adopt Resolution 2024-06, authorizing the Local Option Percentage in an amount of 33% for the 2024-25 school year and approve the 2024-25 budget.</p> <p>As a part of this process it is noted the Board was included in the state assessments review, documenting answers to the three state assessments requirements, and needs assessments review as follows:</p> <p>The needs assessments for each attendance center were provided to the Board the last week of February 2024,</p> <p>The needs assessments were evaluated by the Board throughout the monthly budget meetings and its workshop on May 20, 2024, and</p> <p>The Board used the needs assessments as part of the process to approve the 2024-2025 budget, which included budget action taken to improve compensation, support student social emotional needs, support facility needs and address chronic absenteeism.</p> <p>The motion passed 7-0.</p> <p>Following the Board's adoption, the 2024-25 Budget will be sent to Sedgwick County and the Kansas State Department of Education.</p>

Bond Proposal Presentation and Election Resolution Appendix 2	<p>On April 8, 2024, Luke Newman, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, presented the updated Facility Master Plan and responded to questions and comments from the Board. Four community stakeholder sessions were held: two on April 22 (at the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center and Brooks Magnet Middle School, respectively) and two on April 23 (at West High and North High, respectively). On August 28, the Board approved a motion to ask staff and plan managers to move forward with Facility Master Plan – Step 1.</p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Walt Chappell, 3165 N. Porter, Wichita, KS 67204.</p> <p>Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld, along with Ms. Willis and Mr. Newman, provided a summary of Step 1 of the plan and necessary bond financing. The following buildings would be demolished and rebuilt: Adams Elementary; Black Elementary; Caldwell Elementary; Irving Elementary; McClean Elementary, Coleman Middle School (a new building constructed on the current grounds); and Truesdell Middle School.</p> <p>The following new buildings would be built: Construction Trades Future Ready Center (adjacent to East High); Early Childhood Center (at the current Chester Lewis site); and athletic fields at Northeast Magnet High School.</p> <p>The following buildings would be renovated and repurposed: Cessna Elementary (expanded and converted to a K-8 school); Isely Elementary (expanded and converted to a K-8 school); the existing Coleman Middle School (renovated and repurposed into an alternative learning center); Wells Alternative (expanded and repurposed to include Sowers Alternative High); and ongoing maintenance at district high schools.</p> <p>The following buildings would be closed and relocated: Chester Lewis – Wichita Alternative High; Dunbar Support Center – Multilingual Education Services and other programs; the Joyce Focht Instruction Support Center and Education Imagine Academy; Little Early Childhood Center (relocated to new Early Childhood Center to be built); and Sowers Alternative High (relocated to expanded Wells building).</p> <p>The following buildings would close: L'Ouverture Elementary; OK Elementary; Pleasant Valley Elementary; and Woodland Elementary.</p> <p>Administration recommends funding these actions by submitting a \$450 million bond question to voters residing within district boundaries in a special election to be called February 25, 2025. The cost to the district for conducting a special election is \$113,000. The bond issue would have a proposed mill levy of 7.5 mills and be repaid over 20 years.</p> <p>The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. Board members had the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.</p>
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Bond Proposal Presentation and Election Resolution Appendix 2 <i>(continued)</i>	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board adopt Resolution 2024-07 authorizing and calling for a Bond Election on February 25, 2025 and authorize the submission of an Application to the Kansas State Board of Education to authorize the calling of the election. The motion passed 6-1. Yea: Ngoc Vuong, Hazel Stabler, Stan Reeser, Diane Albert, Melody McCray-Miller, Julie Hedrick. Nay: Kathy Bond. The signed Resolution, Application to the Kansas Board of Education, and the Wichita Eagle Publication Notice are provided in the Appendix. The Publication Notice will also appear in the Derby Informer. After the Board's vote, Scott Newell of Woolpert and Jennifer Volk of Creative Entourage briefed the Board on pre-bond communication and development.
	At approximately 6:39 p.m., Mr. Vuong left the Board table. At approximately 6:40 p.m., Mr. Vuong returned.
	At approximately 7:36 p.m., Board President Reeser announced the Board would take a ten minute recess. At approximately 7:46 p.m., Board president Reeser reconvened the meeting.
Public Communications	None submitted.
Education	
Strategic Plan Goal #1: Progress Monitoring Report	Loren Hatfield, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools, and Amanda Sharshel, Executive Director for Instructional Support, briefed the Board. As part of the district's Future Ready Strategic Plan, administration will provide the Board regular progress monitoring reports. This report reviewed the Goal 1 baseline data and strategies employed to continue making academic progress in Wichita Public Schools. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
Consent: Disposal of Routine Business	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board of Education approve the following items of routine business. The motion passed 7-0.
Human Resources Report: August 2024 Appendix 3	Board approval.
Treasury Warrants: August 2024 Appendix 4	Board approval.

Purchasing Consent Appendix 5	Board approval.
Estech Systems, Inc. Phone Solutions Appendix 6	Approve an agreement with Estech Systems, Inc. utilizing the TIPS agreement #240303, not to exceed \$1,156,217.
Chronic Absenteeism Intervention Program (Renewal) Appendix 7	Authorize the district to enter into an agreement with EveryDay Labs for the 2024-25 school year. This contract shall not exceed \$170,000 funded through federal Title I funds.
The Pando Initiative (Renewal)	Approve contract services and enter into an agreement with The Pando Initiative providing services at 15 district schools in an amount of \$505,150.
BOE Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2024 Appendix 8	Board approval.
Agreement to Transfer Former Park Elementary to the City of Wichita Appendix 9	Board member Kathy Bond pulled this item for further discussion. Please see "Action on Pulled Consent Items" on Page 6 of these minutes.
WPS Foundation Donor Management and Accounting Software Appendix 10	Approve the purchase of software licenses for the Wichita Public Schools Foundation and payment to Blackbaud in an amount not to exceed \$42,000 annually.
Roof Replacement – Minneha Core Magnet	Approve an amount not to exceed \$331,131.03 to cover all expenses associated with roof remediation at Minneha which would cover costs to Reconstruction Services, SGA, Mahaney, and any contingencies or potential overages on materials as this long-term project progresses.
Water Damage – East High	Approve an amount not to exceed \$25,545.62 to cover all expenses paid to Reconstruction Services, LLC, associated with water remediation and floor replacement at East High School.
Pre-Bond Program Development Services	Board member Kathy Bond pulled this item for further discussion. Please see "Action on Pulled Consent Items" on Page 6 of these minutes.
Owner's Representative for Renew America's Schools Grant Appendix 11	Enter an agreement with Collaborative Construction & Facility Consulting, LLC, for owner's representative services in an amount not to exceed \$216,667. This is the first of two possible renewals of this contract.
Right of Entry Agreement – Evergy Kansas South, Inc. - Horace Mann Magnet	Enter into an agreement with Evergy Kansas South, Inc., for the right of entry to perform the necessary work. District General Counsel has approved of this agreement.
Settlement Agreement – J.H. v Unified School District No. 259, et al.	Approve and authorize the district to pay an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to J.H. which will result in a full and final settlement of this claim.

Action on Pulled Consent Items	Pulled items are presented in the order of the BOE Agenda.
Agreement to Transfer Former Park Elementary to the City of Wichita Appendix 9	Mrs. Bond pulled this item and stated her intention to vote against approval. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board approve the agreement. The motion passed 6-1, with Mrs. Bond voting no.
Pre-Bond Program Development Services	Mrs. Bond pulled this item and stated her intention to vote against approval. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board enter into an agreement with Woolpert, Inc., for pre-bond program development services in an amount not to exceed \$312,000. The motion passed 6-1, with Mrs. Bond voting no.
Miscellaneous	
Superintendent's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Was able to see WPS football and tennis events at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.- Invited Board members and the community to the Wichita Art Museum this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Arts in Education Week. Musicians from district high schools will perform.- Emphasized that student attendance is important, and this is reported to him by teachers as well.- Will begin work the next day with Woolpert regarding bond development and services.
Board of Education Reports/Requests	Mr. Vuong and Mrs. Bond requested an update regarding the district's mobile device policy.
New Business	None submitted.
Adjournment	Mr. Reeser (Mrs. Bond) moved the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. At approximately 9:04 p.m., the meeting adjourned.