Appendix 8

All Minutes are unofficial unless approved by the Board of Education.

Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
August 26, 2024

Roll Call	The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 259, Sedgwick County, Kansas, met in regular session in Room 809 of the Alvin E. Morris Administration Center*, 903 S. Edgemoor, Wichita, Kansas, at approximately 6 p.m., on August 26, 2024, with President Stan Reeser presiding. (*The meeting was originally scheduled to be at the North High Lecture Hall, 1437 N. Rochester. Due to a neighborhood power outage the meeting was relocated.) 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 Hamilton Middle School JROTC Cadets.

Reports	
Good News	US Department of Energy: Renew America's Schools Prize Contact(s): Luke Newman, Holly Wilson Wichita Public Schools has been awarded a $15.3 million Renew America's Schools Prize through the Department of Energy. This cooperative agreement will provide energy upgrades to 21 schools, with the majority either located in a disadvantaged area or serving disadvantaged students. Schools included in this grant are Cessna; Christa McAuliffe Academy, Cloud, Coleman, College Hill, Colvin, Dodge, Earhart, Gammon, Gordon Parks Academy, Horace Mann, Jackson, Lawrence, Linwood, Mueller, Ortiz, Southeast Highschool, Spaght, Stucky, Washington and Woodman. Team members for this project are in Appendix 00. Recognizing Top Performers in Reducing Absenteeism Contact(s): Sherrie Frazey, Branden Johnson Wichita Public Schools recognized buildings making strides in reducing chronic absenteeism, aligning with the district's goal of enhancing safety and belonging. Principals from the top-performing schools at each level were invited to share strategies their schools implemented towards the WPS Strategic Plan. Joel Escarpita, principal at Horace Mann, and Claudia Cooper, principal at Southeast High, briefed the Board. The schools recognized were: Seltzer Elementary School: Reduced absenteeism from 33.21% in 2022-2023 to 20.73% in 2023-2024, a 37.60% decrease. Horace Mann Dual Language Magnet: Reduced absenteeism from 14.21% in 2022-2023 to 6.56% in 2023-2024, a 52.85% decrease. Southeast High: Reduced absenteeism from 53.15% in 2022-2023 to 39.01% in 2023-2024, a 26.60% decrease.
Report: United Teachers of Wichita (UTW)	Katie Warren, UTW President. Topic: Building temperatures and air conditioning.
Report: Service Employees International (SEIU)	Esau Freeman, SEIU business manager. Topic: Beginning of 2024-25 school year.

Public Hearing on the 2024-25 Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate Appendix 1	State statute requires the Board to hold a public hearing on the intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate in the 2024-25 Budget. The purpose of the hearing is to hear and answer objections of taxpayers relating to the tax rate in mills in the proposed budget which exceeds the Revenue Neutral Rate provided by the Sedgwick County Clerk. 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. Members of the public who have registered to speak in accordance with requirements published in tonight's agenda may address the Board. Following receiving of statements by the public, the Board President will close the public hearing. The Board will have the opportunity to ask questions, if necessary, following the Public Hearing. The Board will also be asked to set the hearing date for the 2024-25 Budget. A resolution authorizing a levy of property taxes to finance the 2024-25 budget exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate is required after the public hearing under K.S.A. 79-2988. Speakers who want to address the Board during the **Public Hearing on Revenue Neutral Rate** 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. A speaker's comments will be limited to the budget, will not include personnel matters concerning district employees and/or matters that would violate the privacy of students, and will not exceed 3 minutes. Speakers will provide twelve (12) copies of any handouts to the Clerk of the Board's table for distribution at the Board table. Speakers for public hearing only: Mary Fouquet, 133 N. Elder, Wichita, KS 67212. Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve Resolution 2024-05 entitled "A resolution expressing the property taxation policy of USD 259 (Wichita) Sedgwick County, Kansas, with respect to the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate for financing the annual budget for 2024-25". The resolution is provided in Appendix 1. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved the Board of Education approve Resolution 2024-05 entitled "A resolution expressing the property taxation policy of USD 259 (Wichita) Sedgwick County, Kansas, with respect to the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate for financing the annual budget for 2023-24." The resolution is provided in Appendix 1. The motion passed 7-0.
Finance	
2024-25 Budget: Authorization to Publish Notice of Hearing Appendix	Susan Willis, Chief Financial Officer, briefed the Board on the 2024-25 budget timeline. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information. Ms. Albert (Mr. Vuong) moved the Board authorize publication of the 2024-25 Budget notice of hearing. The motion passed 7-0.

Public Communications	Walt Chappell, 3165 N. Porter, Wichita, KS 67204. Topic: Facility Master Plan.
Education	
WPS Every Student Future Ready Strategic Plan	Gil Alvarez, Deputy Superintendent, updated the Board on the 2024-25 Every Student Future Ready strategic plan. This update includes information on goal targets and tracking data to kick-off the WPS Every Student Future Ready Strategic Plan for the 2024-25 school year. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information.
	At approximately 7:11 p.m., Ms. McCray-Miller left the Board table. At approximately 7:16 p.m., Ms. McCray-Miller returned. At approximately 7:13 p.m., Mr. Vuong left the Board table. At approximately 7:15 p.m., Mr. Vuong returned. At approximately 7:18 p.m., Ms. Hedrick left the Board table. At approximately 7:21 p.m., Ms. Hedrick returned. At approximately 7:43 p.m., Mr. Reeser left the Board table. At approximately 8:01 p.m., Mr. Reeser returned.
Consent: Disposal of Routine Business	Ms. Hedrick (Mr. Vuong) moved the Board of Education approve the following items of routine business. The motion passed 6-0, with Mr. Reeser absent.
Monthly Finance Report: July 2024 Appendix 3	Provided for the Board's information. No action is requested
Purchasing Consent Appendix 4	Board approval.
Arts Partners	Approve payment to Arts Partners in an amount not to exceed $100,000 for the 2024-25 school year.
Structural Repairs at North and Northwest High Schools: Construction Manager at Risk – GMP #3 Appendix 5	Amend the contract with Hutton Corporation to include Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) #3 in the amount of $1,801,969. This will bring the cumulative total for GMP #1 through #3 to $14,299,809.
Structural Repairs at North and Northwest High Schools - Design Professional	Approve an additional amount of $160,973.65 with Schaefer Architecture, for professional design services, on the repairs at North and Northwest High Schools. This would bring the total not to exceed amount to $680,973.65.
Nutrition Services Expansion – Construction Manager at Risk – GMP #5 Appendix 6	Amend the contract with Hutton Corporation to include Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) #5 in the amount of $2,916,076. This will bring the cumulative total for GMP #5, and previously approved GMP awards #1 through #4 to $10,138,232.
BOE Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2024 Appendix 7	Board approval.

Legal Services: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and McDonald Tinker PA	Authorize payment for legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation and Workers' Compensation under the school district's self-insured programs for July 2024 in the amount of $4,478.00 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of $15,781.72 to McDonald Tinker PA.
Water Damage – East High School	Approve an amount not to exceed $153,956 with Reconstruction Services, LLC to cover all expenses associated with remediating this damage.
Water Damage – Heights High School	Approve an amount not to exceed $134,123 with Reconstruction Services, LLC to cover all expenses associated with water remediation and water fountain replacement.
Chiller Replacement – Horace Mann Middle School	Approve an amount not to exceed $394,035.07 with Reconstruction Services, LLC to cover all expenses associated with chiller replacements, chiller rental, and chain link fence installation to prevent future theft.
Operations	
Facilities Master Plan – Step 1 Final Draft	Kelly Bielefeld, Superintendent, and Luke Newman, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, briefed the Board. The proposed Facilities Master Plan involves demolishing seven schools in part or in whole and rebuilding on the same location. Other buildings will be built new, renovated, repurposed, or added on to. Other schools and programs will be consolidated, relocated, or converted from one focus to another. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information, discussion, and appropriate action. Ms. Albert (Ms. McCray-Miller) moved the Board approve the final draft of the Facilities Master Plan – Step 1. The motion passed 7-0.
	At approximately 9:00 p.m., the Board took a brief recess at Mrs. Bond's request. At approximately 9:10 p.m., President Reeser reconvened the meeting.

Transform24 Report	Fabián Armendáriz, Director of Operations, briefed the Board. On March 4, 2024, the Board approved resolution 2024-01 to close 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 to improve the school system of the district. At the same meeting, the BOE also approved boundaries to confirm the new neighborhood schools for families impacted by the school closing decision. The entire school closure process and outreach efforts became known as Transform24. District administration worked extensively through the remainder of the 2023-24 school year to ensure impacted students, families, and staff experienced a smooth transition. This presentation updated the BOE on the impact school closures had on student enrollment and staff at not only impacted schools, but the entire district. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information.
Miscellaneous	
Superintendent's Report	- Thanked Mr. Armendáriz for his work on the new building committee. - Also thanked district staff for relocating the meeting from North High to the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center due to power outages in north Wichita.
Board of Education Reports/Requests	Mrs. Bond - Attended the most recent District Crisis Team meeting. - Also attended the 2024 McConnell Air Force Base Air Show. - Requested information regarding building temperature controls.
New Business	None submitted.
Adjournment	Mr. Reeser (Mrs. Bond) moved the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. At approximately 9:45 p.m., the meeting adjourned.