

**Board of Education Agenda**  
**Wichita Public Schools - USD 259**  
**August 26, 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 – Hamilton Middle School JROTC Cadets

**II. Reports**

A. Good News

- 1. US Department of Energy Cooperative: Renew America's Schools Prize [Appendix 00](#)

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](#).

2. Recognizing Top Performers in Reducing Absenteeism

Contact(s): Sherrie Frazey, Branden Johnson

Wichita Public Schools recognizes 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 are invited to share strategies their schools implemented towards the WPS Strategic Plan.

The schools recognized are:

Seltzer Elementary School: Reduced absenteeism from 33.21% in 2022-2023 to 20.73% in 2023-2024, a 37.60% decrease.

Horace Mann Middle School: 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.

B. United Teachers of Wichita

C. Service Employees International

**III. Public Hearing on the 2024-25 Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate** [Appendix 1](#)

Contact(s): Susan Willis, Addi Lowell

Funding Source: NA

2024-25 Budget

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.

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](#).

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.

#### IV. Finance

- A. 2024-25 Budget: Authorization to Publish Notice of Hearing

Appendix 2

Contact(s): Kelly Bielefeld, Susan Willis, Addi Lowell  
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: The proposed 2024-25 district budget will be summarized for the Board at tonight's meeting. The 2024-25 Notice of Hearing is provided in [Appendix 2](#).

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve the publication of the 2024-25 Notice of Hearing that will set the annual budget hearing for September 9, 2024.

#### V. 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.

#### VI. Education

- A. WPS Every Student Future Ready Strategic Plan

Contact(s): Gil Alvarez  
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: Administration will update 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.

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

#### VII. Consent

- A. Finance

1. Monthly Finance Report: July 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.

B. Bids

1. Purchasing Consent

Appendix 4

Purpose: Report.

Recommendation: Board approval.

Summary

Description of products/services	Amount	Responsible Party
1. Asbestos Repair & Removal	\$200,000.00	Terri Moses
2. Certified Athletic Trainers – Annual	\$339,000.00	Loren Hatfield
3. Oracle ERP Assessment	\$40,000.00	Susan Willis/Fabian Armendariz
4. Band Uniforms	\$101,000.00	Shawn Chastain/Holly Ingram/Gil Alvarez
5. Carpet – Annual	\$150,000.00	Luke Newman
6. Playground Equipment & Rubberized Mulch	\$500,000.00	Luke Newman
7. CTE Laser Cutters	\$49,968.00	Tim Hamblin/Loren Hatfield
8. Food – July 2024	\$1,824,316.63	Fabian Armendariz
9. Supply Stock Report – July 2024	\$123,688.35	Fabian Armendariz

C. Programs/Grants

1. Arts Partners

Contact(s): Gil Alvarez, Shawn Chastain  
Funding Source: General Funds  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: Arts Partners is available districtwide to provide programs for students and professional development for teachers at self-selected partnership schools that have chosen to be more involved in arts integration. On average, the number of schools served by Arts Partners visiting artists is 45 over the course of the academic year. In addition, Arts Partners will provide programs and professional development to eight elementary schools supported by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant.

Recommendation: It is recommended the Board approve payment to Arts Partners in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the 2024-25 school year.

2. Structural Repairs at North and Northwest High Schools: Appendix 5  
Construction Manager at Risk – GMP #3

Contact(s): Luke Newman  
Funding Source: Capital Outlay  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: The 2024-25 Capital Outlay Budget includes monies for construction projects at North and Northwest High Schools. On July 31, 2023, the Board approved entering into a contract with Hutton Corporation to provide Construction Manager at Risk services for the Structural Repairs at North and Northwest High Schools. The Board of Education approved Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) awards #1 and #2 in the cumulative amount of \$12,497,840. GMP #3, in the amount of \$1,801,969, has been established to execute structural floor repairs for North High School “B-Hall” (North of Media Center), “C-Hall” (East of Original Gymnasium) and “J-Hall” (Northwest of Original Gymnasium).

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board 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.

3. Structural Repairs at North and Northwest High Schools - Design Professional

Contact(s): Luke Newman  
Funding Source: Capital Outlay  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: On July 31, 2023, the Board finalized an agreement with Schaefer Architecture to provide professional design services for structural renovations at North and Northwest High Schools. The fees for these services are proportional to the total construction costs outlined in the original Request for Proposal (RFP). After comprehensive preliminary assessments of the structural and mechanical components, it became apparent that both the scope of construction work and associated professional design fees would increase.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board 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.

4. Nutrition Services Expansion – Construction Manager at Risk – GMP #5 Appendix 6

Contact(s): Luke Newman, Fabian Armendariz  
Funding Source: Nutrition Services  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: On March 8, 2023, the Board approved entering into a contract with Hutton Corporation to provide Construction Manager at Risk services for the Nutrition Services Expansion Project. The Board of Education approved Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) awards #1 through #4 in the cumulative amount of \$7,222,156. Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) #5, in the amount of \$2,916,076, has been established to expand the number of loading dock delivery bays.

Recommendation: It is recommended the Board 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.

D. Miscellaneous

1. BOE Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2024

Appendix 7

Contact(s): Patrick Greene

Purpose: The BOE Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2024 are attached in the Appendix.

Recommendation: Board approval.

2. Legal Services: Fleeson, Goings, 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  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: Fleeson, Goings, Coulson & Kitch, LLC have submitted a statement for July 2024 legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation in the amount of \$4,478.00.

McDonald Tinker PA have submitted a statement for July 2024 legal services and expenses for Workers’ Compensation in the amount of \$15,781.72.

This brings the 2024-25 fiscal year-to-date total to \$4,478.00 for Civil Litigation services and \$15,781.72 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 July 2024 in the amount of \$4,478.00 to Fleeson, Goings, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of \$15,781.72 to McDonald Tinker PA.

3. Water Damage – East High School

Contact(s): Sean Hudspeth, Danielle Dettmer, Luke Newman, Shane Schumacher

Funding Source: 47 Fund – Self Funded Insurance Reserve  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: On March 25, 2024, a clogged roof drain at East High School caused leaking water in the library. Water damage also occurred on walls, floors, and ceiling tiles. Estimated repair costs, additional expenses, and contingency funds bring the requested reserves to \$153,956.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve an amount not to exceed \$153,956 with Reconstruction Services, LLC to cover all expenses associated with remediating this damage.

4. Water Damage – Heights High School

Contact(s): Sean Hudspeth, Danielle Dettmer, Luke Newman, Shane Schumacher  
Funding Source: 47 Fund – Self Funded Insurance Reserve; Capital Outlay  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: On June 8, 2024, a water fountain leaked over the weekend, flooding a hallway and five adjoining classrooms. Resulting damage requires remediation to floors, ceiling tiles, and walls in the hallway and classrooms. The water fountain also requires replacement. Estimated total cost of all repairs, additional expenses, and contingency funds brings the requested reserves total to \$134,123. (Hallway and classroom water remediation will be covered under 47 funding and is \$129,952 of this total. The water fountain replacement is being funded by Capital Outlay and makes up the remaining \$4,171.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve an amount not to exceed \$134,123 with Reconstruction Services, LLC to cover all expenses associated with water remediation and water fountain replacement.

5. Chiller Replacement – Horace Mann Middle School

Contact(s): Sean Hudspeth, Danielle Dettmer, Luke Newman, Shane Schumacher  
Funding Source: 47 Fund – Self Funded Insurance Reserve; Capital Outlay  
2024-25 Budget

Purpose: On July 2, 2024, copper thieves broke open one of two chillers at Horace Mann Middle School, cutting lines, stealing coils, and causing leaks in the system, permanently damaging the chiller. A temporary chiller has been rented to keep the building cooling through the summer and early fall, but a permanent replacement is needed. The replacement of the second chiller is planned at the same time. The second chiller is nearing end-of-life, and replacing it at the same time as the vandalized chiller allows us to take advantage of installation efficiencies. Additionally, both chillers have new controls allowing communication back to the central digital control system. Appraisals have been conducted by an independent adjuster and two different independent contractors. Chain link fencing is planned to prevent future theft.

Estimated total cost of all repairs, additional expenses, and contingency funds brings the requested reserves total to \$394,035.07. The 47-funded repairs include replacement of the temporary chiller and the one plus associated work, totaling \$258,092.51. Of note is that \$250,000 is the insurance retention, so \$8,092.51 is expected to be reimbursable back to the district through the insurance carrier. Capital Outlay repair includes the chain link fence and second chiller, totaling \$135,942.56.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board 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.

## **VIII. Operations**

### **A. Facilities Master Plan – Step 1 Final Draft**

Speaker: Walt Chappell, 3165 N. Porter, Wichita, KS 67204.

Contact(s): Kelly Bielefeld, Luke Newman  
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: The purpose of this presentation is to review the final draft of the Facilities Master Plan – Step 1 and underscore the critical role it plays in connection with the District Strategic Plan.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve the final draft of the Facilities Master Plan – Step 1.

### **B. Transform24 Report**

Contact(s): Fabián Armendáriz  
Funding Source: NA

Purpose: On March 4, 2024, the Board of Education approved the recommended 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 is intended to update the BOE on the impact school closures had on student enrollment and staff at not only impacted schools, but the entire district.

Recommendation: This presentation is for the Board's information. No action is necessary.

## **IX. Miscellaneous**

- A. Superintendent's Report
- B. Board of Education Reports and Requests
- C. New Business
- D. Adjournment