



Arkansas City Public Schools

# BOE BRIEFS

*An informal report from the Board of Education Meeting*

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2024**

## **Art Club**

The Board authorized the formation of the ACHS Art Club, initiated by art teacher Josie Krout and a group of creative students. The club will offer opportunities for students to engage in individual, school-wide, and community-based art projects. These activities are designed to boost students' confidence and foster a sense of pride in both school and community.

## **ACHS to host KSHSAA Large Group Music Festival on April 10, 2025**

The Board has authorized a non-attendance day at ACHS on April 10, 2025. This will allow ACHS to host the KSHSAA Large Group Music Festival, a prestigious event bringing together musicians from across the state. Hosting the event at one site ensures a smoother experience for all participants. Though this will reduce the instructional year by one day, it is a valuable opportunity for our music students and our community.

## **PERSONNEL UPDATE**

New Staff:

- Nathaniel King – SAT at Adams
- Alexis Smith – Cheer Sponsor at ACMS (Rule 10)
- Aurora Gonzales-Torres – SAT at Jefferson

Resignations/Retirements:

- Treyton Sleep – Social Studies at ACHS

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Roosevelt Elementary administration, faculty, and students presented a special report to the Board and invited Board members and visitors to participate in an informational gallery walk, celebrating the school's 150th anniversary.
- The Board accepted gifts including \$400 in books for Roosevelt Elementary and \$2,473.84 for show choir costumes for ACMS from Nick and Christie Rogers, a \$200 drum for ACMS from the American Legion, \$1000 for ACHS FFA from

Highland Hills Pet Hospital, old yearbooks from Robert McCarty, and \$300 in sweat pants for elementary schools.

- The Board authorized the USD 470 delegate to vote on Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) constitutional amendments and legislative matters in a way that best supports USD 470's interests.
- Superintendent Dr. Ron Ballard updated the Board on various school safety issues including an upcoming building safety assessment conducted in conjunction with the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) and an electronic hall pass system being implemented at the high school.
- Asst. Superintendent William Pfannenstiel informed the Board that the district has requested bids for possible door replacements at ACMS.
- The Board discussed 2025 ACHS Commencement plans. The event is currently scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at 7 p.m. but the administration will seek input from senior class leadership.
- Braden Smith, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reported our student enrollment – 2,896 students – as of the official September 20 count day.
- High school and middle school administrators updated the Board on the progress of the new cell phone policy, highlighting both successes and challenges.