



BOARD MEETING RECAP

Board Items

Legislative Update Dr. Stuart Little, district lobbyist, provided a legislative update. Dr. Little shared 2025 legislative session themes, budget details, and details about the end of the session. He also provided an outline on legislation passed, legislation alive for 2026, legislation considered dead, and information about the K-12 Education Funding Task Force.

[Click here to review presentation slides.](#)

Budget Workshop- Non-Operating Funds Russell Knapp, chief financial officer, reviewed self-supported funds, flow-through funds, bond debt funds, and capital outlay funds. This presentation is part of an ongoing budget development process.

The presentation included a recommendation from Strategic Plan Action Team 1.3.1 to build a New Early Childhood Education Center, to serve as a comprehensive hub for Pre-Kindergarten. It would feature intentionally designed early learning space, a full continuum of classroom models, centralized hub for services, flexible placements and transitions, increased opportunities for diverse peer access, and spaces for screening, training, and care. The designated location would be the site of the former Katherine Carpenter Elementary School building. The building would be

funded with \$26.9 million available through the 2021 bond authorization. The board will consider the designation of an architect to design the project and a construction manager at a future board meeting.

[Click here to view the presentation.](#)

[Click here to see an acronym reference sheet.](#)

Board Policy Board of Education meetings held a second reading and approved the following policy:

Policy KH: Public Gifts/Donations to the School District. [Click here for a link to review the policy.](#)

[Click here to review the Community Funded Position Request Review Process.](#)

Open Enrollment Building Capacity Dr. Chris Lowe, director of elementary services, Kristie Darby, director of elementary services and Title I, and Lacy Warren, director of secondary services, shared information about open enrollment capacity for the 2025-2026 school year.

[Click here for the Open Enrollment report.](#)

[Click here for the presentation.](#)

Later, the Board of Education approved the enrollment report, including enrollment projections, the capacity for each Shawnee Mission school, the pupil-to-teacher ratio, and the number of open seats available for nonresident students in schools and district programs for the 2025-2026 school year.

From The Superintendent Report



KSPA Honors Superintendent Dr. Michael Schumacher shared that The Kansas Scholastic Press Association (KSPA) honored two Shawnee Mission School District educators for their outstanding work supporting student journalism. KSPA

honored Dr. Ryan Flurry, principal of career education campuses and coordinator of career and technical education as 2025 Administrator of the Year. He was praised for his unwavering support of student journalism, press rights, and adviser collaboration across all Shawnee Mission high schools. Shawnee Mission North High School adviser Becky Tate was inducted into the KSPA Hall of Fame. Tate has led SM North's journalism program for 35 years, and has shaped generations of student journalists and advisers. Her students have earned numerous national awards and she has led both the KSPA and National Scholastic Press Association.

Sporting Samaritan Sporting Kansas City honored Teresa McEntire, Comanche art teacher, as a Sporting Samaritan. This honor is given to celebrate outstanding teachers who make Kansas City a better place to live, work, and play. Christina Lively, Blue KC Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer stated: "For the past three decades, Teresa has poured her heart and soul into educating the next generation on the importance, values, and benefits of art. The unwavering commitment she's shown to the Shawnee Mission School District is inspiring and we're honored to



highlight an outstanding educator who continues to impact students in their educational journey.”

Lunch Bunch Promo We want everyone to know that in the summer there will be opportunities for children to obtain free, nutritious meals in the Shawnee Mission School District. Summer Lunch Bunch will

start on June 2 and continue through July 25, Monday through Friday, with minimal holiday closures at select locations. [Click here](#) for time, date, and location specifics. We encourage everyone to share that meals will be provided this summer!



R&D Forum Dr. Schumacher noted what an amazing week our community had in Shawnee Mission last week. It started with the incredible student showcase, featuring student projects from across the district. “It was such an exciting time to see students,

their families, and community supporters in this building seeing all of the amazing innovations and creations from our students,” Dr. Schumacher added. Shawnee Mission also enjoyed the Next Great Idea pitch competition, where student innovators shared their pitches for their great ideas for prize money. “Our students did an amazing job!” Dr. Schumacher expressed. Anyone who wasn’t able to watch this competition or the award ceremony live can watch it on YouTube.

[Click here to watch the Next Great Idea competition.](#)

[Click here to watch the Award Ceremony.](#)

Superintendent Dr. Schumacher extended a special thanks to Dr. Leigh Anne Neal, chief of early childhood and sustainability, as well as all of our leadership and learning team, the multiple teams here at the CAA, and ALL of the principals and educators who dedicated time to provide this spotlight for students. “As always, we thank the Regnier family for their long standing support of this Shawnee Mission tradition,” he shared. “We look forward to seeing everyone next year!”



Middle School JAG-K At the last board workshop, Dr. Schumacher shared some highlights from students involved in JAG-K programs at the high school level. JAG-K stands for Jobs for America’s Graduates-Kansas, and is a program that helps students explore career opportunities through practicing a variety of skills. Westridge Middle School shared that they had eight students qualify to participate in

the JAG-K state Career Development Conference competition. Jyzzelle Perez and Hugo Madrid Rodriguez achieved fifth place in the outstanding chapter event. Hocker Grove Middle School also took eight students to the state competition. The team celebrated a third place recognition for Digital Chapter Book.

“Congratulations to all of these students and their career specialists Hannah Voyles and Rebecca Cornett,” Dr. Schumacher added.



NJROTC Success The Shawnee Mission North NJROTC team continues their long streak of success after competing in a virtual National Championship. They finished first in armed regulation, second in color guard, third in armed exhibition, and fifth overall.

“Congratulations to Chief Warrant Officer Dennis Grayless and all of these Bison for all of their hard work, dedication, and for all they accomplished,” Dr. Schumacher expressed.



Podcast Update Dr. Schumacher provided an update on some of the district’s recent podcast episodes. Recently, Shawnee Mission Mic’d Up featured [Shawnee Mission Signature Programs](#), highlighting two students and a teacher who are engaged in these unique programs at the Center for Academic Achievement and Career and Technical Center. These programs provide students an opportunity to pursue their passion, gain real experience in their industry of choice, and even earn professional credentials to support their post-secondary goals. Another recent episode allowed us to take a deep dive into the R&D Forum and what has made it such a longtime tradition in Shawnee Mission. This episode features Dr. Neal, Bob Regnier (whose family supports the forum), and Audrey Jennings, SM West junior, who was a Next Great Idea winner in 2024. [Click here for a link to download or subscribe to the most recent episodes of Shawnee Mission Mic’d Up!](#)

All Star Shawnee Mission recognized two Shawnee Mission All Stars. They include:

Anne Kwon, social worker at Nieman Elementary School. [Click here to see a video about Anne.](#)

Darcy Smith, food service at Westridge Middle School. [Click here to see a video about Darcy.](#)

Anyone wanting to nominate a Shawnee Mission School District team member as an All Star can do so by [filling out this form](#).

This publication, provided after each Shawnee Mission Board of Education meeting, provides a recap of some actions taken by the Shawnee Mission Board of Education and information about activities in the school district. An archive video of the meeting can be found by [clicking here](#). Links to board policies, agenda, and meeting minutes can be found by [clicking here](#).