

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in a Special Session Monday, July 21, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mrs. Carrie Dixon, President
 Mr. Anthony J. Mondaine, Vice President
 Mrs. Denise Fears, Treasurer
 Mrs. Jill Esry, Director
 Mr. Blake Roberson, Director
 Ms. Wendy Baird, Director
 Mrs. Brandi Prunte, Director

Also Present: Dr. Cindy Grant, Interim Superintendent
 Dr. Lance Stout, Ms. Patty Corum, Dr. Pam Boatright and Mrs.
 Cammie Smith.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Carrie Dixon, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Cammie Smith. Mrs. Dixon welcomed those who were in attendance. Mrs. Dixon said there no requests to address the Board of Education.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the June 21, 2025 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Brandi Prunte and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Patty Corum presented a Team Development Session, "Messy to Meaningful, Starting with Me." Ms. Corum has a background in education. Introductions from the group asking name, what is important and what is a hope for today. The Board had several breakout discussion and activities. Acquire effective communication tools, learn to manage difficult conversations, build trust and common vision in messy situations and Consider the importance of "starting with you" were discussion points.

The Board took a break for lunch.

Dr. Boatright provided The Board with a Cultural Proficiency Update Presentation. The District has a Cultural Proficiency Team that consists of certified and classified team members. The work our buildings and departments completed, along with survey results and 2025-2026 updates were shared with The Board. The Board was very happy with the focus of The Cultural Proficiency Team. There was discussion of the presentation being presented to the public either at a meeting or online, it was decided that would be addressed in the fall.

Dr. Grant lead a Community Engagement Discussion. Dr. Grant shared her 30 day plan, also shared she is meeting with many community members and attending several community events. Mrs. Dixon spoke about the World Café events and the success the events had. Group discussion regarding a World Café event in the Fall with the topic of requesting what the communities priorities are for a superintendent and the Spring with the topic of The Independence School District Facilities. Discussion of how to get more patrons to attend and how to engage more conversations. Dr. Grant's Cabinet Team is addressing the 7 main topics of the World Café events.

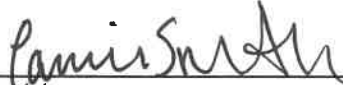
1. Communication and Engagement
2. Staff Support and Wellness
3. Student Support and Wellness
4. Instruction and Programs
5. Equity and Access
6. Community Connection
7. Facilities and Innovation

Dr. Grant lead a Staff Recognition Discussion. Asked The Board, what does that mean and how does it sound and look? The Board had a discussion of how staff recognition can look, whether it be acknowledgment, public recognition, making them feel valued, something they could enjoy, showing up and many other ideas.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Wendy Baird made the motion, seconded by Blake Roberson, to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Carrie Dixon
Anthony J. Mondaine
Denise Fears
Jill Esry
Blake Roberson
Brandi Prunte
Wendy Baird

Nays:



Secretary



President