

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in a Special session Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room 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
Members Present by Videoconference: Mrs. Brandi Prunte, Director

Also Present: Dr. Cindy Grant, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Lance Stout, Mr. Kevin Lathrom, Dr. Pam Boatright, Dr. Randy Maglinger, Dr. Anthony Robinson, Ms. Megan Murphy, Ms. Amy Chappell, Mr. Greg McGhee, Dr. Brett Player, Mr. Todd Theen, Mr. Ken Jarnagin, staff members, patrons 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.

Denise Fears made a motion to move the AMI to the 3rd agenda item and if The Board runs out of time, it will be moved to open session. The Superintendent Search Firm should be the first agenda item to allow time. Brandi Prunte seconded the motion and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout addressed The Board to discuss the superintendent search firms. He dedicated Monday June 16th as a day to focus on the request to reach out to superintendent search firms, giving them a deadline of Friday, June 20th. Five search firms were presented to the board via email for their review prior to the meeting, they were also provided a rubric to score each one, Denise Fears added some additional items to consider that was not listed on the rubric. The Board members discussed the firms. The Board decided to narrow it down to 2 search firms and request a personal presentation from each firm. If they were undecided after that, they would seek a 3rd to present. It was decided to request a presentation from McPherson & Jacobson and MSBA. Dr. Stout will communicate with those companies to arrange for a presentation in August.

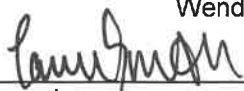
Mr. McGhee presented to The Board a slideshow presentation regarding the construction progress being made at Fairmount. The construction is on target to have everything complete and all furniture moved in by August 1st. Several photos and descriptions were shared about the construction progress being made. Dr. Grant thanked the facilities team for all of their hard work and shared the transformation is phenomenal.

Dr. Randy Maglinger and Mr. Kevin Lathrom shared the AMI Presentation, they feel the district's plan is to best serve our districts students. Dr. Grant spoke about the process of submitting a plan to the state. Paper copies will be sent home with elementary students each quarter for the possibility of inclement weather. Weather will be monitored, if it appears there is a chance of inclement weather, Chromebooks will be sent home with secondary students. The vote for this will take place during open session.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Brandi Prunte made the motion, seconded by Wendy Baird, to adjourn the meeting and move into open session. 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