

Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
September 8, 2025

Roll Call	The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 259, Sedgwick County, Kansas, met in regular session in the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center, 903 S. Edgemoor, Wichita, Kansas, at approximately 6:00 p.m., on September 8, 2025, with President Diane Albert presiding. Present: Diane Albert, Kathy Bond, Julie Hedrick, Melody McCray-Miller, Stan Reeser, Hazel Stabler, and Ngoc Vuong.
Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance	The business portion of the meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Southeast High School Color Guard.
Public Hearing on the 2025-26 Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate	The Board held a public hearing on the intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate in the 2025-26 Budget. State statute requires the Board to hold a public hearing on the intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate in the 2025-26 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. 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. A resolution authorizing a levy of property taxes to finance the 2025-26 budget exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate is required after the public hearing under K.S.A. 79-2988. Linda Runer shared comments regarding taxes Jim Benage shared comments regarding the revenue neutral rate. Cassie Dollinger shared comments regarding proficiency rates. Joann Hubbard shared comments regarding appeals to taxes. Ms. Albert (Ms. Hedrick) moved to close hearing. Motion passed 7-0.
Public Hearing on 2025-26 Proposed Budget	The Board held a public hearing on the proposed 2025-26 Budget. State statute requires the Board to hold a public hearing on the proposed 2025-26 Budget. The purpose of the hearing is to hear and answer objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget and for purposes of considering amendments to the proposed budget. 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, during the Finance presentation. The Board will be asked to adopt the 2025-26 Budget following the public hearing. Jessica Amir shared comments regarding consistent building air conditioning. Ms. Albert (Ms. McCray-Miller) moved to close hearing. Motion passed 7-0.
Presentations	
Good News – Wichita Public Schools Financial Services Team Recognized for Effective Reporting Efforts	Addi Lowell, Chief Financial Officer, recognized the district's financial services team for the 33 rd consecutive year in receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.
Good News – Welcoming New Program Manager for the Native American Indian Program	Susan Willis, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer, and Addi Lowell, Chief Financial Officer, welcomed the new Native American Indian Education Program Specialist Veronica Gillette.
Good News – 3. Wichita Public Schools Named 2025 Distinguished District by ISTE + ASCD	Rob Dickson, Chief Information Officer, shared that the district has been recognized as the 2025 Distinguished District by ISTE & ASCD for its innovation and effectiveness in leveraging technology to improve student outcomes and engagement.
United Teachers of Wichita	Katie Warren, UTW President, spoke regarding the Department of Justice Code of Conduct, consistency, and building level concerns.
Service Employees International Union	None.
Public Communications	Patrick Murphy – Native American Education Program and Kendrell Holley – Albuterol Update
Education	
College Readiness	Loren Hatfield, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, shared a report on Outcome 2 of the Future Ready Strategic Plan, highlighting the Class of 2025 survey results. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
	Mr. Reeser left the meeting at 6:43 p.m. and returned at 6:46 p.m.
Reports	
2025-26 Budget Report & Adoption Appendix 1	On August 4, 2025, the Board of Education approved the publication of the 2025-26 Notice of Hearing and Notice of Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate, setting the budget and revenue neutral rate hearings. The Notice was published in <i>The Derby Informer</i> (Sedgwick County's official newspaper of record) and the <i>Wichita Eagle</i> on August 13, 2025, with the public hearings scheduled at the beginning of this meeting. Addi Lowell, Chief Financial Officer, provided a final presentation of the proposed 2025-26 budget, including information relating to the annual Needs Assessment and State Assessment evaluation and use in the budget approval process. Base aid is \$5,615 per student.

	The district will maximize its Local Option Budget (LOB) authority at 33% of the General fund. The 2025-26 proposed maximum budget authority is \$1,009,854,676. The estimated mill levy will be 51.387 mills. <u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the board adopt the Revenue Neutral Rate Resolution, the Local Option Budget (LOB) Resolution, and the 2025-26 Budget as presented. Revenue Neutral Rate Resolution: Ms. McCray-Miller (Mr. Reeser) made a motion that the board adopt Resolution 2025-03 – expressing the property taxation policy with respect to exceeding the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate for financing the annual budget for 2025-26. Ngoc Vuong - yes Hazel Stabler - yes Diane Albert - yes Melody McCray-Miller - yes Stan Reeser- yes Julie Hedrick - yes Kathy Bond - no Motion passes 6-1. Local Option Budget Resolution: Ms. McCray-Miller (Mr. Reeser) made a motion that the board adopt Resolution 2025-04 – a resolution to authorize the Supplemental General/LOB budget percentage at an amount of 33 percent for the 2025-26 budget. Ngoc Vuong - yes Hazel Stabler - yes Diane Albert - yes Melody McCray-Miller - yes Stan Reeser - yes Julie Hedrick - yes Kathy Bond - no Motion passes 6-1. 2025-26 Budget: Ms. McCray-Miller (Ms. Hedrick) made motion that the board adopt the 2025-26 budget. As a part of this process it is noted the Board was included in the state assessments review, documenting answers to the three state assessments requirements, and needs assessments review as follows: The needs assessments for each attendance center were provided to the Board at the May 19, 2025 Board of Education Meeting. Review of state assessment data took place preliminarily at the May 19, 2025 Board of Education Meeting, and finalized at the August 4, 2025 Board of Education Meeting, where the mandatory questions were answered by the Board of Education. The Board has evaluated needs assessments through the budget development cycle, hearing from buildings that the four main areas schools identified for overcoming barriers include teacher and staff
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	recruitment and retention, mental health and social emotional needs, parent involvement and support, and attendance issues. The Board of Education has used assessments in approval of district budget. The BOE adopted a budget that included additional allocations for core services, newcomer programming, ESOL services, social emotional supports in the form of counselors, social workers, and psychologists, behavior supports, unified pre-k expansion, community school implementation, small group instruction paras, and attendance initiatives. Motion passes 5-2. Following the Board's adoption, the 2025-26 Budget will be sent to Sedgwick County and the Kansas State Department of Education. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
	Ms. McCray-Miller left the meeting at 7:37 p.m. and returned at 7:41 p.m.
	Mrs. Bond left the meeting at 7:38 p.m. and returned at 7:44 p.m.
	Ms. Stabler left the meeting at 7:57 p.m. and returned at 7:59 p.m.
Consent	Mrs. Bond (Mr. Reeser) moved the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed 6-1.
Human Resources Report Appendix 2	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
Treasury Warrants: July 2025 Appendix 3	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
Monthly Finance Report: July 2025 Appendix 4	<u>Recommendation:</u> The report is provided for the Board's information. No action is requested.
Sale of Property to DLK Enterprises, LLC, also known as Pyxis, Inc. – Former Payne Elementary	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the BOE approve the Real Estate Purchase Agreement with DLK Enterprises, LLC, also known as Pyxis, Inc., for \$415,000.
Design Services – West High School – Courtyard Stormwater Flume System	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Professional Engineering Consultants for engineering design services for the West High School Courtyard Stormwater Flume System in an amount not to exceed \$38,213.
Sale of Property to Classical School of Wichita Association – Former Clark Elementary	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the BOE approve the Real Estate Purchase Agreement with Classical School of Wichita Association, for \$600,000.
Boiler Replacement - Mead Middle School	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board authorize the district to enter into an agreement based on pricing from TIPS-USA Contract 24010401 & 24010402 with Midwest Machinery (Chesterfield, MO), to provide two replacement boilers at Mead Middle School in an amount not to exceed \$83,880.00.
Roof Replacement – Minneha Core Magnet (Correction)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve the Minneha project from the 2025-26 budget, in an amount not to exceed the original \$331,131.03. This amount will cover all expenses associated with roof remediation at Minneha including

	Reconstruction Services, SGA, Mahaney, and any contingencies or potential overages on materials as this long-term project progresses.																																				
Cornerstone Data - District Data Consulting	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board of Education approve the agreements with Cornerstone Data, Inc. for consulting services to: • Complete Attendance & Behavior Consulting through October 2025 (not to exceed \$22,440) • Provide Standard Consulting at 40 hours per month, October 2025 – June 2026 (not to exceed \$59,400) The total estimated cost for September 2025 – June 2026: \$81,840.																																				
Incident IQ Software Platform Purchase	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board approve the purchase of the Incident IQ software platform from Incident IQ, LLC for a total Year 1 cost of \$215,572.16.																																				
Approval of Partnership with Code to the Future for Computer Science Immersion at Spaght Magnet Elementary (Correction)	<u>Recommendation:</u> Administration recommends approval of the partnership agreement with Code to the Future for the implementation of the computer science immersion program at Spaght Magnet Elementary, as outlined above, for the period June 1, 2025, through August 31, 2030 in a total amount not to exceed \$209,000.00.																																				
Purchasing Consent Appendix 5	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval. <table><tr><th>Description of Products/Services</th><th>Amount</th><th>Responsible Party</th></tr><tr><td>1. Athletic Charter Bus Service - Annual</td><td>\$125,000.00</td><td>Loren Hatfield</td></tr><tr><td>2. Athletic Rental Car Services - Annual</td><td>\$100,000.00</td><td>Loren Hatfield</td></tr><tr><td>3. Translation Services - Annual</td><td>\$150,000.00</td><td>Rachel Bell</td></tr><tr><td>4. Carpet - Annual</td><td>\$150,000.00</td><td>Luke Newman</td></tr><tr><td>5. Microsoft School Service Agreement - Annual</td><td>\$1,700,000.00</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>6. Mobile Device Management</td><td>\$210,000.00</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>7. Student Data/MIFI Services</td><td>\$60,000.00</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>8. User Licenses for Oracle PBS and EPRCS - Annual</td><td>\$36,406.80</td><td>Rob Dickson/Addi Lowell</td></tr><tr><td>9. Food - July 2025</td><td>\$400,386.28</td><td>Fabián Armendáriz</td></tr><tr><td>10. Fuel - April-June 2025</td><td>\$642,276.04</td><td>Fabián Armendáriz</td></tr><tr><td>11. Supply Warehouse Stock - July 2025</td><td>\$280,889.61</td><td>Fabián Armendáriz</td></tr></table>	Description of Products/Services	Amount	Responsible Party	1. Athletic Charter Bus Service - Annual	\$125,000.00	Loren Hatfield	2. Athletic Rental Car Services - Annual	\$100,000.00	Loren Hatfield	3. Translation Services - Annual	\$150,000.00	Rachel Bell	4. Carpet - Annual	\$150,000.00	Luke Newman	5. Microsoft School Service Agreement - Annual	\$1,700,000.00	Rob Dickson	6. Mobile Device Management	\$210,000.00	Rob Dickson	7. Student Data/MIFI Services	\$60,000.00	Rob Dickson	8. User Licenses for Oracle PBS and EPRCS - Annual	\$36,406.80	Rob Dickson/Addi Lowell	9. Food - July 2025	\$400,386.28	Fabián Armendáriz	10. Fuel - April-June 2025	\$642,276.04	Fabián Armendáriz	11. Supply Warehouse Stock - July 2025	\$280,889.61	Fabián Armendáriz
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The Opportunity Project Agreement (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve an agreement and partnership between The Opportunity Project and Wichita Public Schools for a one-year total not to exceed \$455,000.																																				
Owner's Representative for Renew America's Schools Grant (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board renew the agreement with Collaborative Construction & Facility Consulting, LLC, for owner's representative services in an amount not to exceed \$68,250. This is the second of two possible renewals of this contract.																																				
Prime Fit (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board approve a contract for services with Prime Fit Youth Foundation LLC in the amount not to exceed \$100,000.																																				

The Pando Initiative (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> The recommendation is that the Board authorize the district to enter into an agreement with The Pando Initiative for contracted services to support student growth in the amount not to exceed \$1,195,000.
Untamed Athletes (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that Board authorize the district to enter into a contract for services agreement with Untamed Athletes in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.
Capitol Strategies Agreement (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve renewal of the contract for the 2025-26 fiscal year with Capitol Strategies for government relations services in an amount of \$6,166 per month plus expenses, not to exceed \$78,000, which represents no cost increase for the last five years.
Peacekeeper Training (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board authorize the district to enter into an agreement with Restorative Practices Consultants, LLC for Peacekeeper Training and support in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.
STEALTH Evaluation Services (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is the recommendation that the district enter into a contract for evaluation services with Educational Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas (ESSDACK) for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.
Workers' Compensation Settlement: [A.C.]	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve this agreed upon award for A.C.'s 2024 work injury in the total amount of \$50,000.
Workers' Compensation Settlement: [J.F.]	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve this agreed upon settlement for J.F.'s 2024 work injury in the total amount of \$32,500.
Legal Services: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and McDonald Tinker PA	<u>Recommendation:</u> 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 2025 in the amount of \$9,995.21 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of \$16,291.29 to McDonald Tinker PA.
Designate School Attendance Officers (Annual)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board authorize the Administration to designate principals, and/or designee, as school attendance officers responsible for monitoring and reporting student attendance to proper district authorities and authorize the Assistant Superintendents of Elementary and Secondary Schools to report attendance information for the district to the Secretary of the Kansas Department for Children and Families, and/or the Eighteenth Judicial District, District Attorney, and/or to the Commissioner of Education, as appropriate.
Appointment of Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer (Annual)	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
Freedom of Information Officer Appointment (Annual)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board appoint Litona Hoyt, Clerk of the Board, as the district's Freedom of Information Officer to serve for the fiscal year 2025-26 or until further order of the Board.
BOE Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2025 Appendix 6	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
BOE Meeting Minutes for August 4, 2025 Appendix 7	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.

Northwest High School to Pasadena, CA	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve for the Northwest High School Choir Program to attend the performance and other activities in Pasadena, CA in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.
P4016 - Salary Placement Procedures for Classified Staff Appendix 8	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
Action	
Kansas Association of School Boards – Delegate Assembly (Annual)	Recommendation: This item provides an opportunity for the Board's discussion and appropriate action. Mrs. Bond (Ms. McCray-Miller) moved to appoint Ms. Hedrick as delegate to represent the district at the 2025 Delegate Assembly. The motion passed 7-0. Ms. Hedrick (Ms. Stabler) moved to appoint Ms. McCray Miller as alternate. The motion passed 7-0.
Reports and Requests	
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld commented on the sale of district properties sharing information about the district's process for the scoring rubric and engaging community members. Comments were also made regarding state assessment scores, enrollment, and community partnerships.
New Business and Board of Education Requests	None.
Adjournment	Mrs. Bond (Ms. McCray-Miller) moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. At approximately 9:26 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Litona Hoyt
Clerk of the Board