

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COFFEYVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 445**

December 01, 2025

Special Meeting 4:00 p.m.

District Office

"Building on a culturally diverse community, USD 445 will prepare all students for life-long learning by providing resources for a comprehensive quality education in a safe environment that promotes high academic achievement and responsible citizenship in a global society." – Mission Statement

"Valuing individuals, Celebrating Learning, Improving Life! USD 445 will provide a happy, caring, hopeful environment that will empower children to achieve their greatest potential." – Vision Statement

The Board of Education of Coffeyville USD 445 acted to call a Special Meeting on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the District Office, 615 Ellis, Coffeyville, KS 67337.

Board President Jason Barnett called the special meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present	Others Present
Cindy Price Darrel Harbaugh Matt Jordan Robert Roesky Jason Barnett	Dr. Craig Correll...Superintendent Michael Speer...Dep. Sup./Bus. Manager Lora Stalford...Asst. Sup./Curriculum Director James Copeland...KGGF Radio Andy Taylor...Montgomery County Chronicle
Board Members Absent	
LaKisha Johnson Denise Gates	

Adoption of Agenda

Motion made by Darrel Harbaugh to adopt the agenda, second by Cindy Price.
Motion carried 5-0.

Board Discussion

FKHS Natatorium

- Presentation of timeline and status was presented by Michael Speer, Business Manager.
- A detailed timeline of the HVAC Phase 2 project and the series of events involving the FKHS pool, auditorium, and roof issues. The timeline covered work that began in early 2023 using ESSER funds, the architectural and engineering steps required by federal rules, the board's approvals, and the eventual HVAC replacements at the high school and middle school.
- Pool problems began in February 2024 when the pool filters failed, draining water into the basement of the high school. The pool was closed while waiting for the filter installation and the new HVAC to be installed. Over the next several months, inspections revealed severe structural issues, including deteriorated steel and a failing roof. Multiple presentations were made to the board throughout 2024 and 2025 regarding conditions, costs, design options, and the growing seriousness of the structure.
- By early 2025, Navitas along with some assistance from InCite Design Studios had developed project documents, RFP components, and ultimately a total project bid cost.
- In April 2025, the board, after a meeting, identified the costs as be extensive considering other district needs asked for more information regarding the pool facility. The board held several meetings and postponed decisions multiple times to gather more information, including feedback from the newly formed community pool committee.
- A major development occurred on November 25, 2025, when Navitas formally withdrew from the

project. Dr. Correll, Superintendent of Schools, cited a letter from Navitas as the reasons for their withdrawal:

- Community communications that contained false statements, unprofessional remarks, and hostility directed toward the district administration, and the school board were made directly to Navitas.
- There existed a breakdown in trust and transparency that made future partnership unworkable.
- This withdrawal creates significant challenges:
 - The district does not own Navitas's RFP documents, meaning it must start over with a new contractor.
 - This will extend the project timeline if repaired and complicate the demolition/repair decision in December.
 - It may also negatively affect the district's reputation with other potential contractors.
- Board members expressed serious concern about the actions of the community pool group, forcing Navitas to ultimately withdrawal from the project after many months of work, emphasizing the financial impact, damage to the district's credibility, and the risk of contractors refusing future work for the district because of the incident.
 - Jason Barnett read excerpts from a correspondence between a community pool member and Navitas. Mr. Barnett was also concerned with the longevity of the working relationship with the pool group, now that Navitas had withdrawn. Partnership is of concern, knowing community pool people were harassing Navitas.
 - Cindy Price shared that she was very disturbed with Navitas pulling out for the reasons stated, being emailed and texted by community members. Navitas is a Kansas company, and this gives Coffeyville a black eye.
 - Darrel Harbaugh commented that it will now be several months more since Navitas has pulled out.
- The board also discussed:
 - Additional discussion surrounding the pool being a "true" community pool as there are no restrooms, wide-open use, etc.
 - Community pool group fundraising claims and the need to verify actual funds before entering into any agreement.
 - Legal protections and required documentation before accepting community-raised money.
- Darrel Harbaugh commented on the necessity of district control, liability management, and policy enforcement, since the facility belongs to USD 445. Mr. Harbaugh continued with the district must retain ownership and all final decisions.
- Matt Jordan commented on the process that he has experienced with the committee pool group and how the district has been made to be the villain throughout the whole process. Concerned with how the process can move forward with a fractured group.
- Cindy Price made comments regarding the bonds that were attempted in 2018 and 2019 and how those improvements would have taken care of many of the district needs and that some of the members of the pool committee were part of the group that openly opposed the bonds and signed the petition to prevent the district from entering into a lease purchase. She followed with these are the same people who now want the district to refurbish a pool instead of classrooms.
- Jason Barnett commented on the uncertainty of funding in the future both for the district, giving the upcoming changes possible in state aid in a new school funding formula, and for the pool sustainability.

Action Items

Board action to approve the recommendation from the pool committee representatives to commit up to \$800,000 for the future of the FKHS Natatorium facility.

Motion made by Darrel Harbaugh to approve the recommendation from the pool committee representatives to commit up to \$800,000 for the future of the FKHS Natatorium facility. Seconded by Matt Jordan. Motion carried 4-1 with Robert Roesky opposed.

Adjournment

Motion made by Darrel Harbaugh to adjourn the USD 445 Board of Education special meeting. Seconded by Matt Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.

At 4:56 p.m., President Jason Barnett adjourned this December 1st, 2025 special session of the governing Board of Education for Coffeyville Unified Schools District 445.

Clerk of the Board

Unofficial

USD NO. 445 COFFEYVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting
December 1, 2025



SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

- Reminders:
 - Special Meeting was called by the Board of Education
 - No agenda items may be added to the agenda
- Agenda
 - Adoption of the Agenda
 - Board Discussion – FKHS Natatorium
 - Action Item:
 - Board action to approve the recommendation from the pool committee representatives to commit up to \$800,000 for the future of the FKHS Natatorium facility.
 - Adjournment



TIMELINE REVIEW – HVAC REPLACEMENT

- 02/2023 – Request to KSDE to use ESSER for HVAC renovation
- 03/2023 – Architectural Plan Request approved by KSDE
- 06/2023 – RFP for Energy Conservation Project released (Dept. of Energy)
- 06/2023 – RFO for Professional Engineering Design Services for HVAC Renovation designs.
- 07/2023 – Board official action to work with Navitas
- 07/2023 – Board official action to work with Smith & Boucher for engineering designs.
- 09/2023 – ESSER / KSDE Capital HVAC Project Request Approved
- 11/2023 – Board official action taken with Navitas for HVAC Update \$2.8 million



TIMELINE REVIEW – HVAC REPLACEMENT/NATATORIUM ROOF

- 11/2023 – Board official action taken for updated controls/LED lighting /weatherization project for \$2.1 million
- 12/2023–10/2024 – payouts made periodically to Navitas
- 02/2024 – Pool filter failed, pool drained into basement
 - Pool closed while waiting for filter installation
- 03/2024 – Presentation to Board; quote to replace filters
 - Board action approving filter purchase
- 06/2024 – Presentation to Board; Indication of issue with natatorium roof structure by structural contractors.
- 07/2024 – Construction Meeting: first recommendation of joist/roof replacement



TIMELINE REVIEW – NATATORIUM ROOF

- 08/2024 – Presentation to Board regarding pool history, roof and structure situation
 - Navitas to continue process since they were in buildings already with InCite Design (through Navitas) developing the design plans for roof
- 10/2024 – Presentation to Board: pool update
- 02/2025 – Presentation to Board: Roof tied to structure; RFP items
 - Roof Structure & Metal Decking Replacement
 - Packaged Rooftop Unit Replacement Installation
 - Exhaust Fan Demolition
 - Door & Transom Window Replacement
 - Interior Door Replacement (optional)
 - Paint and Coating – Roof Structure & Ceiling Mounted Equipment
 - Paint and Coating – Interior Walls & Doors
 - Masonry Infill
 - Metal Corrugated Wall Panel Replacement
 - Partition Removal and Reinstallation



TIMELINE REVIEW – NATATORIUM ROOF

- 04/2025 – Special Board Meeting: Presentation of information by Navitas RFP results, costs, area layout and timeline
 - Total replacement/update cost approximately \$2.2 million
 - Action item was removed from regular April agenda while the district took time to gather the requested information for the board.
 - Requested information presentation was scheduled for June 2025
- 06/2025 – Presentation to Board of requested information
 - Originally a pool decision was to be on the June agenda, but the Board removed the decision until July.
- 07/2025 – A decision on the future of the FKHS Natatorium was not included on the July agenda and instead was placed on the August 2025 board agenda
 - Requested of the Board by community members



TIMELINE REVIEW – NATATORIUM ROOF

- 08/2025 – Action to permanently close the FKHS Pool was deleted from the agenda and action item seeking an RFP for demolition costs was added
 - Open Forum for community members to speak directly to the Board of Education
 - RFP for updated costs for repair were never sent out as it is not district owned
- 08/2025 – 1st FKHS Community Pool Meeting
- 09/2025 – Board action taken:
 - Hire InCite Design Studios to create the RFP and bid documents for the demolition of the FKHS Natatorium facility
 - Officially appoint board members to the pool committee
- 09/2025 – 2nd FKHS Community Pool Meeting w/Navitas
- 10/2025 – Presentation to Board regarding capital improvement facility planning, history and financing



TIMELINE REVIEW – NATATORIUM ROOF

- 11/17/2025 – 3rd FKHS Community Pool Meeting
- 11/19/2025 – Incomplete demo RFP received (drawings only)
- 11/25/2025 – Demo RFP completed and download link sent
- 11/25/2025 – Letter from Navitas withdrawing from Natatorium project
 - “We believe in this design-build style approach and its ability to deliver the right project at the right cost. However, we also recognize that over the past few months of discussions and meetings, this process has led to additional questions, a perceived lack of transparency and potential source of mistrust between the community and the school district. Which contradicts our purpose of helping both our clients and the communities we serve.”
- 11/26/2025 – Letter from InCite regarding delay in RFP received
- 12/2025 – Special board meeting called so the Board of Education may discuss the FKHS Natatorium as a whole



**USD NO. 445
COFFEYVILLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Special Meeting
December 1, 2025



Unofficial