

Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
January 12, 2026

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 January 12, 2026, with President Diane Albert presiding. Present: Diane Albert, Amy Jensen, Julie Hedrick, Stan Reeser, Ngoc Vuong, and Amy Warren. Absent: Melody McCray-Miller
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 Northeast Magnet High School Color Guard.
Ceremonial Oath of Office	Sedgwick County Election Commissioner Laura Rainwater administered the ceremonial oath of office for Diane Albert, Julie Hedrick, Amy Jensen, and Amy Warren.
Public Hearing Regarding School Closing and Student Reassignment	A public hearing was held regarding the advisability of closing Chester I. Lewis Alternative Education Academy. Lavonta Williams shared comments regarding the Chester I. Lewis and his historic significance to Wichita.
Presentations	
Good News – School Board Recognition Month	Kelly Bielefeld, Superintendent, recognized the board members for school board recognition month.
Good News – WPS music students selected for SCKMEA honor ensembles and WPS music faculty receiving recognition from SCKMEA, ASTA & Yamaha Corporation of America	Shawn Chastain, Executive Coordinator of Fine Arts, recognized Nina Kindt-Wilson (OK Elementary) for the SCKMEA Outstanding Elementary Educator; Jayme Hayes (Mayberry Middle School) for the SCKMEA Outstanding Middle Level Educator; Frances Oare (Allison Middle School) for American Strings Teachers Association (ASTA) the Outstanding Leadership Award; and Erik Stone (Gordon Parks Academy) for Yamaha Corporation's Music Educators 40 under 40.
Good News – Fall Student Athletes State Recognition	Chris Asmussen, Athletics Director, recognized fall student-athletes who placed in state competitions: ○ Alina Lam (Southeast High School) fourth in girls' golf ○ Southeast High School boys' soccer team fourth at state
United Teachers of Wichita	Steven Maurer, UTW AFT Organizing Specialist, recognized the outgoing board members, congratulated the newly elected and re-elected board members, and shared appreciation for paid collaboration time and changes to parent notification policies.
Service Employees International Union	None.
Public Communications	Aaron Andrews – School Closures Kendrell Holley – Follow Up to Albuterol Walt Chappell – Budget

	Kathy Johnson – Unused Paid Leave Rebecca Armstrong – District's Managerial Structure Trish Hileman – Capital Budget Facilities Martin Schoket – Chester Lewis and Facilities Tour
Education	
Strategic Plan Goal 1: Graduation Rate	Loren Hatfield, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools, reviewed the Strategic Plan Goal 1 graduation rate baseline data, a Class of 2025 update, and strategies employed to continue making academic progress in Wichita Public Schools. 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 board room at 7:54 p.m. and returned at 7:57 p.m.
Student Success Through Industry-Recognized Credentials	Tim Hamblin, Executive Director of College and Career Readiness, shared data regarding credentials and student speakers reported out on their experience with the program. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
Report	
Facilities Master Plan and Listening Tour Presentation	Gil Alvarez, Deputy Superintendent, and Steve Noble, Chief Operations Officer, gave an update to the district's facilities master plan and reported out on the summary of findings from the district's listening tour. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
2026 Legislative Agenda	Addi Lowell, Chief Financial Officer, and Susan Willis, Senior Finance Manager, reported out on the district's agenda for the 2026 legislative session, which allows for a targeted and focused approach to educating and advocating for issues impacting our district. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.
	Mr. Vuong left the board room at 9:31 p.m. and returned at 9:34 p.m.
	Ms. Hedrick left the meeting at 10:06 p.m. and returned at 10:10 p.m.
Consent	Mr. Reeser (Mr. Vuong) moved the Board of Education approve the consent agenda with the exception of item E.2, Destination Innovation Renewal. The motion passed 6-0. Mr. Vuong left the board room at 10:12 p.m. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved the Board of Education approve consent item E.2 Destination Innovation Renewal. The motion passed 5-0.

	Mr. Vuong returned to the board room at 10:14 p.m.						
Human Resources Report Appendix 2	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.						
Treasury Warrants: November 2025 Appendix 3	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.						
Monthly Finance Report: November 2025 Appendix 4	<u>Recommendation:</u> The report is provided for the Board's information. No action is requested.						
FY26 Schools for Fair Funding Membership Dues Appendix 5	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the board approve and authorize the President to pay an amount not to exceed \$57,407.09 as membership dues to SFFF.						
Design Services – McCollom Elementary – Controls Replacement	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Integrated Consulting Engineers, Inc., for design services to replace the HVAC Controls at McCollom Elementary School in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.						
Heights High School – Wood Shop Renovation	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Commerce Construction Services, Inc., for Heights High School Woodshop Renovation in an amount not to exceed \$280,190.						
Design Services – West – Code Deficiency Corrections	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve entering into a contract with Schaefer Architecture for design services to correct fire and building code deficiencies at West High School in amount not to exceed \$64,000.						
Design Services – Hadley Middle School Repairs	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Hanney & Associates Architects for design services related to repairs at Hadley Middle School in an amount not to exceed \$325,000.						
Carpet Replacement – Various	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Star Lumber & Supply Company, Inc., for flooring replacement as outlined above in an amount not to exceed \$330,802.55.						
East – JV Baseball Field Fencing	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with Reddi, Aero Fence Company, (formerly Great American Flooring) for the JV Baseball Field fencing project at East High School in an amount not to exceed \$67,480.						
Consulting Services – Structural Evaluations - Various	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve entering into a contract with Mauler Engineering, LLC, for consulting services to perform structural evaluations at the schools listed above, in an amount not to exceed \$215,000.						
Curtis Middle School – Interior Improvements	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board enter into a contract with ICON Structures, Inc., for Curtis Middle School interior improvements in an amount not to exceed \$33,000.						
Estimating Services – Capital Plan Development – Various Sites	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve entering into a contract with Lighthouse Construction Guidance, LLC, for estimating consulting services, in an amount not to exceed \$50,500.						
Purchasing Consent Appendix 6	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval. <table><tr><th>Description of Products/Services</th><th>Amount</th><th>Responsible Party</th></tr><tr><td>1. Combination Ovens</td><td>\$60,599.54</td><td>Fabián Armendáriz</td></tr></table>	Description of Products/Services	Amount	Responsible Party	1. Combination Ovens	\$60,599.54	Fabián Armendáriz
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1. Combination Ovens	\$60,599.54	Fabián Armendáriz					

	2. Alternative Transportation Services Pilot Program	\$700,000.00	Fabián Armendáriz
	3. Middle and High School Athletic Floor Refinishing	\$350,000.00	Luke Newman
	4. Elementary School Athletic Floor Refinishing	\$50,000.00	Luke Newman
	5. Stage Rigging Inspection	\$27,100.00	Luke Newman
	6. Food – November 2025	\$811,496.95	Fabián Armendáriz
	7. Supply Warehouse Stock – November 2025	\$484,533.93	Fabián Armendáriz
	Secondary ELA Core Curriculum (MyPerspectives from SAVVAS) - Renewal	<u>Recommendation:</u> Contingent upon a mutually agreeable contract, it is recommended that the Board authorize the purchase of the identified resources and professional development by SAVVAS in an amount not to exceed \$7,500,000.	
Destination Innovation, Inc. formerly known as Rise Up for Youth/RUFY - Renewal	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement with Destination Innovation, Inc. to provide mentoring and accountability programs at eight high schools in an amount not to exceed \$21,000.		
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 November 2025 in the amount of \$12,017.68 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of \$7,984.00 to McDonald Tinker PA.		
Release of Easement and Communications Agreement	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve the release of the June of 2004 agreements.		
BOE Meeting Minutes for November 24, 2025 Appendix 7	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		
BOE Meeting Minutes for December 1, 2025 Appendix 8	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		
Gordon Parks Academy to New York, NY	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve for Gordon Parks Academy to attend the activities in New York, NY in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.		
Board Policy 4004 – Whistleblower Appendix 9	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		
Board Policy 3400 – Mileage Appendix 10	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		
Board Policy 7350 – School Trips & Student Transportation in Private Vehicles Appendix 11	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		
Board Policy 1806 – Report to Parents on Student Progress Appendix 12	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.		

Reports and Requests	
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld shared comments regarding recent legislation regarding cell phone policies and expressed the need for broader community conversations about student well-being and health.
New Business and Board of Education Requests	Mr. Vuong shared comments regarding personal electronic devices and student usage and made a board request for a policy to address excessive use or misuse of 1:1 device. Ms. Warren submitted a board request to revisit the cell phone policy and personal electronic devices. Mr. Reeser spoke about local control.
Executive Session	
Executive Session – For the purpose of discussing matters relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting student	At approximately 10:25 p.m. Ms. Albert (Ms. Hedrick) moved that the board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting student for 15 minutes. The executive session included all the board members present and General Counsel Dan Lawrence, Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld, and Board Clerk Litona Hoyt. The open meeting returned at approximately 10:40 p.m. The motion passed 6-0.
Action	
Appeal Hearing 1	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved to uphold the findings of the hearing officer for the student appeal hearing held on December 9, 2025. The motion passed 6-0.
Appeal Hearing 2	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved to uphold the findings of the hearing officer for the student appeal hearing held on January 7, 2026. The motion passed 6-0.
Executive Session	
Executive Session – Attorney Client Privilege	At approximately 10:42 p.m. Ms. Albert (Mr. Reeser) moved that the board go into executive session for attorney-client privilege for 10 minutes. The executive session included all the board members present and General Counsel Dan Lawrence, and Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld. The open meeting returned at approximately 10:52 p.m. The motion passed 6-0.
Election of Officers (Board of Education)	In accordance with BOE Policy 0100 – Organization of the Board: “At the Board’s first meeting on or after the second Monday in January of each year, the Board shall elect a president and vice president from its members, each of whom shall serve for one year or until his/her successor is elected.” The election of officers shall be by open ballot. Board policy stipulates that each member may vote for any member of the Board and successive ballots shall be taken for each office until one member receives four votes. The newly elected president and vice-president shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the meeting at which they are elected.

Election of President	<u>President:</u> Stan Reeser Ballot 1: <u>Voting for Stan Reeser:</u> Diane Albert, Amy Jensen, Julie Hedrick, Stan Reeser, Ngoc Vuong, and Amy Warren. Board members cast their electronic ballots and the ballots were reported into the meeting record.
Election of Vice-President	<u>Vice-President:</u> Julie Hedrick Ballot 1: <u>Voting for Julie Hedrick:</u> Diane Albert, Amy Jensen, Julie Hedrick, Stan Reeser, Ngoc Vuong, and Amy Warren. Board members cast their electronic ballots and the ballots were reported into the meeting record.
Adjournment	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 6-0. At approximately 10:56 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Litona Hoyt
Clerk of the Board