Arkansas City Public Schools

BOE BRIEFS

An informal report from the Board of Education Meeting

February 23, 2026

Before the Board meeting, a public hearing was held on the proposed Construction Manager At-Risk position. No comments were received.

Celebrating Good News

The Board of Education and district leaders celebrated student success at Monday night's meeting, recognizing achievements, character, and school pride across the district.

ACHS senior Hadley Musson was named a 2026 Rudd Scholar, earning a full four-year scholarship to Kansas State University.

Adams Elementary students were recognized for strong character. One third grader stood out for turning in a $20 bill they found so it could be returned to its owner.

ACHS Show Choir, Unleashed, had an outstanding performance at the Joplin Show Choir Invitational. The group placed first in the 4A division, earned Best Closer, and advanced to the finals.

IXL Elementary Report

IXL Elementary staff and students shared a report with the Board of Education on Monday night, highlighting their work to support student learning and engagement.

The presentation included an overview of building goals, strategies to improve writing, and efforts to increase student participation in the classroom. Staff also shared how they are using data to guide instruction and support student growth.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Resignations/Retirements:

- Brittnie Burris – Bus Aide
- Jasmine Haddock – Math at ACHS
- Chelsea Hand – SAT at Adams
- Sarah Rozzell – P.E./ESOL at ACHS
- Shannon Sultz – Counselor/Social Worker at Adams

Reassignments/Transfers:

- None

Hirings:

- Bailey Crull – ESOL SAT at Adams
- Micah Meza – SAT at Jefferson
- Hunter Thompson – ACHS Asst. Baseball Coach
- Sierra Walker – ACHS Boys Asst. Tennis Coach

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Board accepted $75 in clothing, hats, and gloves for Adams Elementary from William Newton Ortho and $700 in books and games for Head Start from the VFW Auxiliary.
- The Board heard from Charles Rohr regarding high school honor roll publicity.
- The Board held an executive session to discuss the ongoing superintendent search.
- The Board reviewed and approved the Kansas State Department of Education audit for the 2025–2026 school year at Monday night's meeting. The audit checks student enrollment and district spending to make sure everything meets state requirements.
- The Board approved updates to two district policies at Monday night's meeting. One focuses on school safety and visitor procedures. The other explains how sensitive topics are taught, with a focus on staying neutral and centered on learning. The Board also chose to use the term "employee" instead of "teacher" in that policy.
- The Board approved publishing a request for qualifications (RFQ) to begin selecting a construction manager for upcoming projects. This process allows the district to review qualified firms and choose the best fit.
- The Board approved the 2026 summer school schedule and budget. The program will continue to support student learning with targeted instruction and hands-on activities that keep students engaged.
- The Board authorized the business office to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for potential school bus purchases.
- The Board reviewed the district's current telephone system during Monday night's

meeting. District leaders shared that the system is nearing the end of its support life, which could impact reliability and future updates. The district is exploring replacement options, including on-site, hybrid, and fully cloud-based systems.

- The Board reviewed a proposal to add a HOSA (Future Health Professionals) chapter at ACHS. The program would give students interested in health careers hands-on learning, leadership opportunities, and the chance to compete. It would also help connect students to future careers and support our local workforce.
- The Board held an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel.
- Following the executive session, the Board approved one-year contract extensions for the Security Coordinator, Director of Communications, Director of Technology, High School Security Team Leader, Director of Maintenance, Transportation Supervisor, and Director of Human Resources.