



Arkansas City Public Schools

BOE BRIEFS

An informal report from the Board of Education Meeting

June 22, 2026

GE Aerospace Awards \$14,000 Grant to USD 470

USD 470 has been selected to receive a \$14,000 charitable contribution from GE Aerospace to support Arkansas City High School's agriculture education, computer science, and engineering programs. The district is grateful for GE Aerospace's investment in preparing students for future careers.

Board Tables Policy Updates

The Board tabled action on proposed updates to district policies related to staff communication with students, staff social media use, and student cell phone use. Board members requested revisions that provide clearer guidance, particularly regarding expectations for electronic communication between staff and students, including texting, direct messaging, and following or friending students on social media. The proposed updates also include revised expectations for student use of personal electronic devices during the school day, along with other recommendations from the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB).

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Resignations/Retirements:

- Angela Brown – Bus Aide
- Nubia Tarin – Maintenance

Reassignments/Transfers:

- None

Hirings:

- Eric Swanson – Head Boys Tennis Coach at ACHS

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Board approved a 3% pay increase for classified employees for the 2026-27 school year.
- The Board approved a 2.75% pay increase for administrative and supervisory employees for the 2026-27 school year.
- The Board approved the Arkansas City Police Department's request to use Arkansas City Middle School for training exercises on July 14 and July 30. ACMS staff will temporarily work from alternate district locations, and the school will be closed to visitors on both training days.
- The Board approved a resolution supporting USD 470's partnership with Blue Cross/Blue Shield Pathways, making the district eligible for up to \$10,000 in grant funding for substance use prevention and student support initiatives.
- The Board approved its meeting schedule for the 2026-27 school year. Regular meetings will generally be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. Meetings will be held at the Avery Family Learning Center, with several hosted at USD 470 schools throughout the year.
- The Board approved a series of policy updates recommended by the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB). The revisions help ensure district policies remain current with state law and address student attendance, graduation requirements, emergency procedures, and student records.
- The Board approved replacing the aging chiller system at Arkansas City High School to help ensure reliable cooling and support a comfortable learning environment.
- The Board reviewed a recommendation to discontinue the SuperEval platform and return to the district's previous administrator evaluation system. The proposed change would improve alignment with district needs while reducing annual software costs.
- The Board reviewed the timeline for developing and adopting the FY 2027 budget, including the required Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) process and upcoming public hearing requirements.
- The Board reviewed proposed updates to the Classified Personnel Handbook, including changes to attendance, leave, bereavement, required training, and employee procedures. The revisions are intended to provide clearer guidance and keep district practices up to date.
- The Board met in executive session under the trade secrets and financial affairs exception. No action was taken following the executive session.