

Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
August 10, 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 August 10, 2026, with President Stan Reeser presiding. Present: Diane Albert, Julie Hedrick, Amy Jensen, Sheila Brown-Kinnard, Stan Reeser, and Amy Warren. Absent: None
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.
Presentations	
Good News – WPS Welcomed New Staff Members at New Staff Orientation	Tammy Martin, Executive Coordinator for Instructional Support, shared highlights from the New Teacher Induction that welcomed more than 350 new staff to the District.
Good News – 2026 Rally at the Roundhouse	Greer Cowley, Executive Director of the WPS Foundation, thanked the community partners for supporting the third annual Rally at the Roundhouse, a staff kick off for the 2026-27 school year.
Good News – Wichita Public Schools District Wide Para Training	Holly Ingram, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services, shared that the district hosted the first District Wide Para Training to help paras prepare for the 2026-27 school year.
United Teachers of Wichita	Katie Laske, UTW President, shared information regarding literacy work, the new state cell phone law, educator feedback, programs, the walkthrough process, taking things off educator's plates, and teacher moves to new buildings.
Service Employees International Union	Esau Freeman, SEIU President, shared an example of entrance signage that addresses aggressive behavior guidelines for visitors.
Public Communications	Trish Hileman - Bond
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld shared that work and collaboration continues with the City of Wichita in the spirit of stronger and more efficient local government. He provided updates regarding the judicial election, primary election, and the Kansas State Board of Education technology guidelines. The superintendent also expressed gratitude for the HVAC crew and leaders, shared excitement for the first day of school, and reminded patrons to slow down as increased school bus and student traffic returns to the community. Finally, he highlighted key reports that will be presented during tonight's board meeting.
Education	
Strategic Plan and Priorities	Loren Hatfield, Holly Ingram, and Stephen Christian the district's Strategic Plan, outlining district goals to improve graduation rates, and the Strategic Priorities, which directs district efforts and resources.

	<u>Recommendation:</u> It was requested that the Board approve the Strategic Priorities, which directs District efforts and resources towards our vision of becoming an organization with Thriving Students and Staff and a Future Ready District of Choice. Ms. Hedrick (Ms. Albert) moved. The motion passed 6-0. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.						
	At approximately 7:02 p.m. Mr. Reeser left the meeting and returned at approximately 7:06 p.m.						
Reports							
2026 Bond Proposal Update	Gil Alvarez, Deputy Superintendent, shared an informational update on actions and progress related to the 2026 bond proposal. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.						
Budget Report: Authorization to Publish the Notice of Hearing and Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026-27 Budget	Addi Lowell, Director of Finance, shared a proposed 2026-27 district budget along with the Notice of Hearing and Notice of Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate. <u>Recommendation:</u> District administration recommends that the board approve the publication of the 2026-27 Notice of Hearing and Notice of Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate, setting the budget and revenue neutral rate hearings for Monday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Hedrick) moved. The motion passed 6-0. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was for the Board's information.						
Consent	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented, with the exception of consent agenda item C.1.5. Common Sense Media. The motion passed 6-0. The board held discussions regarding the pulled consent agenda item. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved to approve the consent agenda item C.1.5. Common Sense Media, as presented. The motion passed 5-1.						
Human Resources Report Appendix 2	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.						
Professional Mitigation Services – Various	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board approve an amount not to exceed \$121,000 to be paid to Anderson Wildlife Solutions for professional bat mitigation services at the named sites.						
Facilities Consent Appendix 3	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval. <table><tr><td>Description of Products/Services</td><td>Amount</td><td>Responsible Party</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Description of Products/Services	Amount	Responsible Party			
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	1. North High School – Historic Conservation Treatments	\$70,000	Luke Newman																								
Purchasing Consent Annual Renewals Appendix 4	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval. <table><tr><th>Description of Products/Services</th><th>Amount</th><th>Responsible Party</th></tr><tr><td>1. STEALTH Evaluation Services</td><td>\$50,000</td><td>Addi Lowell</td></tr><tr><td>2. Smart Sense Food Thermometers and Annual Monitoring</td><td>\$21,000</td><td>Fabián Armendáriz</td></tr><tr><td>3. Canvas</td><td>\$226,275</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>4. Classlink - Launchpad</td><td>\$140,308</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>5. Common Sense Media</td><td>\$50,000</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>6. Student Data/Mifi Services</td><td>\$144,000</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr><tr><td>7. Student Device Repair Services</td><td>\$150,000</td><td>Rob Dickson</td></tr></table>			Description of Products/Services	Amount	Responsible Party	1. STEALTH Evaluation Services	\$50,000	Addi Lowell	2. Smart Sense Food Thermometers and Annual Monitoring	\$21,000	Fabián Armendáriz	3. Canvas	\$226,275	Rob Dickson	4. Classlink - Launchpad	\$140,308	Rob Dickson	5. Common Sense Media	\$50,000	Rob Dickson	6. Student Data/Mifi Services	\$144,000	Rob Dickson	7. Student Device Repair Services	\$150,000	Rob Dickson
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Juvenile Detention Facility & County Detention Facility Services (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board authorize the district to enter into an agreement with Orion to provide 2026-27 educational services for students placed at either the Sedgwick County Juvenile Detention Facility or Sedgwick County Detention Facility in an amount of \$1,121,875.																										
Orion Adult Students (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board authorize the district to enter into an agreement with Orion during the 2026-27 school year, for a diploma completion program for adult students who are completing their high school diplomas in the amount of \$1,056,651.75.																										
Orion Summer School Program	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board approve an agreement with Orion Education and Training in the amount not to exceed \$42,000 for summer school services provided to students residing at the Sedgwick County Juvenile Detention Facility for the 2025-26 school year.																										
Language Assessment Program for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Children (LAP-DHH)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the Board authorize the district to compensate the Kansas State School for the Deaf the required \$2000 per student fee for participants in the Language Assessment Program that reside within district attendance boundaries in order to be in compliance with K.S.A. 75-5397e and K.S.A. 75-4215. The district currently has thirteen students participating in LAP-DHH, bringing the anticipated compensation to \$26,000.																										
Positive Rhythm Productions – Restorative Practices with Rob Simon (Renewal)	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the Board approve an agreement with Rob Simon to provide Restorative Practices in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 beginning August 1, 2026, and ending July 31, 2027.																										
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 June 2026 in the amount of \$12,043.15 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of \$12,017.74 to McDonald Tinker PA.																										
BOE Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2026 Board Workshop Appendix 5	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.																										

BOE Meeting Minutes for July 20, 2026 Board Meeting Appendix 6	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval.
Various Policy Updates Appendix 7	<u>Recommendation:</u> Board approval. P6020 Textbook Adoption Procedures P3415 Investment of Idle Funds P3515 Voluntary Retirement Plans P1409 Employee Fund Raising Campaigns P3307 Credit/Procurement Cards P6326 Course Credit - Secondary
Discussion	
P1413 – Coordination with the WPS Foundation Appendix 8	<u>Recommendation:</u> A new board policy 1413 Coordination with the WPS Foundation was brought forward for board discussion to establish guidelines to ensure coordination and transparency between WPS and WPS Foundation.
Action	
Board Appointment Process Appendix 9	<u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended the board approve the board appointment process as presented. The timeline, application, and notice of vacancy is attached in the appendix. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Warren) moved. The motion passed 6-0.
Executive Session	
Negotiations	At approximately 8:50 p.m. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Warren) moved to go into executive session to discuss matters relating to employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative or representatives of the body or agency; to protect the district's right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position and the public interest for 30 minutes following an 8-minute break. The open meeting will resume in the board room at approximately 9:28 p.m. The motion passed 6-0. Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved to extend the executive session by 10 minutes. The open meeting will resume at approximately 9:49 p.m. The motion passed 4-0, with Ms. Warren, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Albert, and Mr. Reeser present and voting.
Reports and Requests	Ms. Jensen asked the board members to invite their representatives and the candidates to the September 9 KASB legislative listening tour which will be held at the Alvin E. Morris Administrative Center.
Adjournment	Mr. Reeser (Ms. Albert) moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 6-0. At approximately 9:50 p.m., the meeting adjourned.


 Litona Hoyt
 Clerk of the Board