Arkansas City Public Schools

BOE BRIEFS

An informal report from the Board of Education Meeting

September 28, 2026

ACHS Graduation Set for May 15

The Board approved Saturday, May 15, 2027, at 7 p.m. for the Arkansas City High School Commencement Ceremony. Setting the date and time now allows ACHS administration to move forward with planning and sharing details with seniors and their families.

Board Approves ACHS Pool Heater Replacement

The Board approved a $34,385 contract with Waldorf Riley Heating Cooling and Plumbing to replace the failed pool heater at Arkansas City High School.

The new heater is expected to arrive in 40-75 days, with installation taking about seven days. The project will be paid for through Capital Outlay and will allow the pool to return to regular use for students and the community.

Adams Elementary Shares Independent Reading Work

Adams Elementary students and staff shared how they are working to strengthen independent reading. The report included student book checkout trends, ways

teachers are helping students stay accountable during reading time, and feedback directly from students about what helps them stay interested and motivated.

The team also shared work from its Independent Reading Committee and Screen Time Task Force, along with next steps for goal setting, accountability, and helping students build stronger reading habits.

Additionally, Adams Principal Rosann Meier shared an update on bond construction at the school. She said the work has been going very well and praised the construction team for keeping the school informed and being mindful of students and their learning time.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Hirings:

- Samantha Jubeck – ESOL SAT at Frances Willard
- La Donna Shanmugakani – SAT at Adams
- Aubreyr Stangl – Bus Aide

Reassignments/Transfers

- N/A

Resignations/Retirements:

- Kimberly Ford – Elementary Library Media Specialist (*retirement eff. 7/5/2027)*

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Board heard from a few community members who shared concerns about the ACHS pool heater and expressed support for getting it repaired.
- The Board accepted a $300 donation from Cowley County to support school supply needs across the district.
- The Board received an update on the possibility of adding middle school soccer, including student interest, participation in surrounding schools, and expected costs. The administration will continue reviewing whether the program is feasible.
- The Board reviewed student participation in Cowley College concurrent enrollment courses and discussed efforts to offer more college-level courses on the ACHS campus.
- The Board discussed a proposed one-year pilot that would allow students to

personalize assigned parking spaces with approved designs. If approved, the voluntary program would include a $10 donation and guidelines for design, safety, cleanup, and maintenance.

- The Board approved updates to Policy IDAD – Title I Programs to better align with current federal requirements and Kansas Association of School Boards recommendations.
- The Board reviewed recent student assessment results, including how students are performing now and how that compares with previous years. The discussion also focused on how teachers can use the results to adjust instruction and provide extra support where needed.
- The Board reviewed the district's current spending and financial outlook. Discussion focused on managing ongoing costs, staffing needs, and future facility and equipment expenses so the district can plan and use its resources responsibly.
- The Board discussed staff feedback, building-level culture goals, and plans to continue measuring staff climate through surveys. A fall staff survey is planned for October, with another survey in the spring.