

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, December 8, 2025, 5:30 PM

Board of Education Room, District Office, 15020 Metcalf Ave., Overland Park, KS 66223

A. OPENING ITEMS.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer

Samara Saunders, a 5th-grade student from Cedar Hills Elementary, will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Awards and Recognitions.

Distinguished Service Award Recipient:

- David Banks is the Custodian at Prairie Star Middle School.

Excellence in Education Recipient:

- Retirement of Kyle Hayden, the Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Operations.

Special Recognitions:

- Board Member Jim McMullen, Member 6 - South Area

3. Public Comments.

One patron addressed the Board of Education: Irena Weaver: School Board member recognition.

B. REGULAR AGENDA.

1. Call the Meeting to Order.

Board President Jan Kessinger called the meeting to order at 5:54 p.m.

2. Approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Agenda.

I move that the Board of Education amend the December 8, 2025, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda by removing Action Item E.3. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Patrick Hurley, Carried.

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Jim McMullen: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

I move that the Board of Education approve the December 8, 2025, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda as amended. This motion, made by Clay Norkey and seconded by Jodie Dietz, Carried.

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Jim McMullen: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Approve the Consent Agenda.

Our rules of Parliamentary Procedure provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Board by a single motion. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Board members and the public in advance to ensure an extensive review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member.

I move that the Board of Education approve the December 8, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting consent agenda as published with minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Jim McMullen and seconded by Clay Norkey, Carried.

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Jim McMullen: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2. Approve the Meeting Minutes.

The Board of Education approved the November 10, 2025, Board of Education Special and Regular Meeting Minutes.

3. Approve the Cash Summary Report.

The Board of Education approved the Cash Summary Report.

4. Approve the Bids and Contracts.

Bids and contracts may not be available until the day of the Board meeting. All agreements and contracts are subject to the final approval by the Board of Education's attorney.

The Board of Education approved the Bids and Contracts.

5. Approve the Human Resources Personnel Report and the Addendum.

The Human Resources Personnel Report and Addendum may not be available until the day of the Board meeting.

The Board of Education approved the Human Resources Personnel Report and Addendum.

6. Approve the Claims Report, the Disbursement Report, and the Special Fund Transfers.

The Board of Education approved the Claims Report, the Disbursement Report, and the Special Fund Transfers.

7. Approve Secondary Course Proposals.

The Board of Education approved the Secondary Course Proposals.

8. Approve Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, FYE June 30, 2025.

The 2025 ACFR and Single Audit (Draft) were presented to the Finance Committee on Dec 4, 2025, by Jon Nibarger, Senior Vice President, Assurance - Allen, Gibbs & Houlik, L.C.

The Board of Education approved the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, FYE June 30, 2025.

9. Approve Policy 6335 Employees Who Operate District Owned Vehicles.

The Board of Education approved Policy 6335 Employees Who Operate District Owned Vehicles.

D. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS.

1. Board of Education Reports.

Presented by Board members.

2. Annual Enrollment Report.

Presented by Erik Pollom, Assistant Director of Planning & Operations.

3. Superintendent's Report.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools.

E. ACTION ITEMS.

1. Approve the Series 2025-A and Series 2025-B Bond Sale Resolutions.

Board President Jan Kessinger asked the Board of Education for a motion to approve the Series 2025-A and Series 2025-B Bond Resolutions, authorizing the issuance of the Series 2025-AB Bonds.

I move that the Board of Education approve the Series 2025-A and Series 2025-B Bond Resolutions, authorizing the issuance of the Series 2025-AB Bonds. This motion, made by Jim McMullen and seconded by Clay Norkey, Carried.

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Jim McMullen: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2. Approve Long-Standing Legislative Priorities.

Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

I move to approve the Blue Valley school's longstanding legislative priorities as presented this evening. This motion, made by Clay Norkey and seconded by Jodie Dietz, Carried.

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Jim McMullen: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

3. Consideration of Termination of Personnel Contract.

The Board of Education motioned to amend the December 8, 2025, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda to remove Action Item E.3.

This agenda item was removed from the agenda per motion to amend.

F. CLOSING ITEMS.

1. Board Comments.

Patrick Hurley wished Jim McMullen the best and stated he appreciated the opportunity to serve with him.

Dr. Sonya Evans wished Jim a wonderful life and much success. She also expressed her respect and appreciation for him.

Gina Knapp shared that she had learned so much from Jim over the last four years. She has great respect for him and his family. She will continue to push everyone to read great books in his honor, including her kids.

Jodie Dietz echoed her cohorts' statements regarding Jim's service. She enjoys the dialogue they have and hearing the different perspectives. She appreciated his presence on the Board and thanked him for his service.

Clay Norkey thanked Ms. Weaver for speaking at the open forum. He also acknowledged the AP Government students in the audience, working on their Mustang civics project. Clay shared that he had learned a lot from Jim, and although they do not often see eye to eye on some things, they could always sit down and have a civil discussion and find common ground.

Jan Kessinger told Jim he has always admired the questions he asks to get information to make smarter decisions. He appreciates Jim and feels he has challenged them to be different. He also admires how earnest Jim is in his commitment to raising the performance of our students.

Jim McMullen began by sharing that his father taught him to leave words of encouragement when he walked out the door. He shared reflections and words of

appreciation to fellow board members:

Jim recognized Clay for being consistently thoughtful, well-prepared, and dedicated.

Jim commended Sonya for being professional, respectful, and dignified. He also noted her instrumental role in the successful removal of cell phones from schools.

Jim praised Jodie for her willingness to venture into any environment and advocate strongly for what she believes in.

Jim highlighted that over the years of service, he and Jan have discovered they have more common ground than differences, a sentiment Jim feels applies to the entire Board. He admires Jan's approach of comedy and practicality.

Jim told Patrick his first impression of him was similar to his impression of Dr. Benson. That he has some really good ideas and thinks outside the box, which he values.

Jim commended Gina's willingness to listen and engage in dialogue respectfully. He highlighted her ability to maintain professionalism and respect during disagreements, describing this as an important quality for public bodies. Jim praised her leadership as Board President and Vice President, as well as her approach during contentious periods. He expressed appreciation for their ongoing friendship and recognized Gina as a strong advocate for Special Education, citing their shared service on the SPED board and insights he gained from her expertise.

He emphasized that all the members share the same ultimate goals, even if their methods differ, and expressed appreciation for the collegiality and dedication of the board.

Jim expressed that even though it had only been six months, he was so pleased with Dr. Chapman. He described her as thoughtful and genuine. He expressed confidence in her leadership as she faces the challenges ahead due to rapid technological change and artificial intelligence.

Jim also made a few recommendations regarding the bond issue, technology use, educational approach, and curriculum for the Board to consider. He concluded by thanking the Board and expressing optimism for the District's future.

2. Adjournment.

The December 8, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.