

March Regular Meeting

Monday, March 10, 2025 7:00 PM

District Office, 301 Neosho Street , Burlington, Kansas 66839

1. Opening Items

1.A. Call to Order

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

1.C. Additions to the Agenda

2. Consent Agenda

2.A. Approval of Agenda

2.B. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes

BURLINGTON U.S.D. NO. 244 BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
February 10, 2025

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the 2024-2025 Board of Education of Burlington USD 244 was held at the District Administrative Office at 7:00 p.m. on February 10, 2025. The following board members were present James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, and Johnny Hernandez (7:20). Also in attendance were Superintendent Craig Marshall, Clerk of the Board Christy Hess, Director of Technology Craig Kuhlmann, Director of Special Education Lindsey Graf, BES Principal Darla Long, BHS Principal Jodi Grover, BHS Asst. Principal/Activities Director Taylor Wilson, BMS Principal Matt Spring, BMS PE Teacher/Athletic Director Charlie Whitworth, Jay Hale, Coffey County Republican's Katie McMurray, Coffey County Housing Authority Executive Director Rhonda Gilbert, Coffey County Authority Board Member for District 5 Bill Parker, LifeWise Representatives Julie and Michael Luthi, Jeff and Brandee Clark, and Parents as Teachers Parent Educator Lori Johnson.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

1. Opening Items

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion, Information: C. Additions to the Agenda

2. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): A. Approval of the Agenda

Resolution: Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent), Minutes: B. Approval of the Linkage Minutes

Resolution: Motion to approve the linkage minutes as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent), Minutes: C. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes

Resolution: Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess
Action (Consent), Minutes: D. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes
Resolution: Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent): E. Approval of the Bills and Financial Reports
Resolution: Motion to approve the bills and financial reports.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent): F. Approval of Personnel Items
Resolution: Motion to approve personnel items as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent): G. Approval of Donations
Resolution: Motion to approve donations as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

Action (Consent): H. Approval of Consent Agenda
Resolution: Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess

3. Public Comment

Information: A. Concerns of Burlington USD 244 Patrons – LifeWise Representative Julie Luthi provided information regarding LifeWise.

Information: B. Housing Authority - Coffey County Housing Authority Executive Director Rhonda Gilbert provided information regarding the land currently owned by the school district to the west of the recreation center and potential ideas regarding the sale and development of the property.

4. Communications

Information: A. Written Items – *None*

5. Administrative Reports

Information: A. BES February 2025 Report

Information: B. BMS February 2025 Report

Information: C. BHS February 2025 Report

Information: D. Special Education Report February 2025

Information: E. Technology February 2025 Report

Information: F. Superintendent's February 2025 Report

6. Board Member Items

Information: A. Board Reports – Monique Hart discussed the benefits of organizing an Education Foundation for USD #244. An education foundation is a fund for the receipt and distribution of charitable funds given to the district by individuals, families, groups, organizations, and businesses. She sought support from Board Members to see if any of them would be interested in the idea and helping to organize the project. Selena King and James Higgins volunteered to assist.

7. Contracts/Approvals/Appointments

Action: A. Curriculum Leadership Institute (CLI) Contract Renewal

Motion to approve the CLI contract for the 2025/26 school year in the amount of \$19,975.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Lucas Allen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

Action, Information, Procedural: B. KN Complaint Investigation Report

Motion to accept the investigation report from the KASB investigating officer in regard to a KN complaint.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

Action, Information: C. BHS Gymnasium Score Boards – To be paid for by sponsors over a 10-year period.

Motion to approve the quote from Daktronics in the amount of \$108,106.00 for new BHS gym scoreboard/video boards.

Motion by Monique Hart, second by Selena King.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

Action, Procedural: D. Consideration of Bond Election Resolution

Motion to adopt Resolution No. BES-02102025 as presented.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Lucas Allen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

8. Results Monitoring Report

Action: A. Results Reports

Motion to accept the results monitoring report concerning Science and Social Studies as a Reasonable Interpretation of the Board of Education's Results Policy.

Motion by Bob Plummer, second by Ron Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

9. Board Policy

Action: A. KASB Policy Updates

Motion to approve KASB Policy Updates as presented.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Lucas Allen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

10. Negotiations

Action, Discussion: A. Executive Session Regarding Negotiations - None

Action: B. 2025-2026 Calendar

Motion to approve the 2025-2026 Calendar Draft #2 subject to final ratification of the employment contract with BUTA.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Johnny Hernandez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

11. Personnel

Action: A. Executive Session Regarding Personnel

At 8:55 p.m., Motion to recess into executive session for 45 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and to return to open session in this room at the end of that time, to include Craig Marshall, Matt Spring, and Charlie Whitworth.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

At 9:41 p.m., return to open session.

At 9:42 p.m., Motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and to return to open session in this room at the end of that time, to include Craig Marshall, Matt Spring, and Charlie Whitworth.

Motion by Selena King, second by Monique Hart.

Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

At 9:47 p.m., return to open session.

Action, Information: B. Executive Session Regarding Personnel

At 9:49 p.m., Motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and to return to open session in this room at the end of that time, to include Craig Marshall.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Bob Plummer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

At 9:59 p.m., return to open session.

Action, Procedural: C. Retirement

Motion to accept the retirement request of Janet Reppert as Gifted Facilitator, with regret, at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion by Lucas Allen, second by Johnny Hernandez.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: James Higgins, Lucas Allen, Bob Plummer, Monique Hart, Selena King, Ron Hess, Johnny Hernandez

Action, Procedural: D. Retirement

Motion to accept the retirement request of Diane O'Malley as Burlington Elementary School Teacher, with regret, at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion by James Higgins, second by Ron Hess.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

2.C. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes

2.D. Approval of the Bills and Financial Reports

2.E. Approval of Personnel Items

2.F. Approval of Donations

2.G. Approval of Consent Agenda

3. **Public Comment**

3.A. Concerns of Burlington USD 244 Patrons

THE BOARD

The Constitution of the State of Kansas delegates many responsibilities for the governance and operation of school districts to locally elected Boards of Education. Among these duties and responsibilities are: establishment of general policies for the school systems, employment of school personnel upon recommendation of the superintendent, adoption and revision of the annual operating budget, informing the public of the needs and the progress of the educational systems, exercise of the legal powers conferred or implied by the legislature in administering school functions, and selection of the superintendent of schools.

The board is comprised of seven members elected to four-year terms. The members are elected from six geographic districts and one is elected at large. The president and vice-president are elected each year at the first meeting in July. Board members receive no pay for their service.

BOARD OF EDUCATION BURLINGTON USD 244

James Higgins - President
Lucas Allen - Vice President
Johnny Hernandez
Monique Hart
Ron Hess
Selena King
Bob Plummer

Please direct comments or questions to the district administration office.

Superintendent, Craig Marshall
Clerk of the Board, Christy Hess

USD 244 Central Office
301 Neosho Street
Burlington, KS 66839
620-364-8478

Thank you for attending. Your continued interest in our district's schools will guarantee their excellence.

MISSION STATEMENT

All students will be responsible citizens prepared to succeed in life and careers, contribute to the global community, and be lifelong learners.



WELCOME!

TO A
BURLINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. 244
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING



THE MEETING

The regular meetings of the USD 244 Board of Education are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. The meetings are held at the District Administration Building located at 301 Neosho Street, Burlington, Kansas. In addition, the board may hold special meetings at times and locations as announced to accomplish specific purposes.

All regular and special meetings are open to the public and all actions authorized or required by law are taken at these meetings. The board may, however, meet in closed (executive) session to discuss matters dealing with personnel, acquisition of property, consultation with the board attorney, matters relating to action adversely or favorably affecting students or personnel, confidential data relating to financial affairs, and consultation regarding employee negotiations. Any voting board action dealing with these items will be taken in public. At any meeting of the board, a majority of the membership of four members constitutes a quorum for the purpose of conducting business. Minutes of the Board of Education meetings are available at the District Administration Building.

THE AGENDA

Unless there are unusual or special circumstances, board meetings proceed in the order prescribed on the agenda:

- ☉ Call to Order
- ☉ Approval of Agenda, Minutes of prior meetings, Bills, Financial and Administrative Reports, and other items requiring board approval that may be submitted on the consent agenda
- ☉ Recognition of visitors and requests by visitors to address the board
- ☉ Discussion and Action Items (if executive session is necessary, it will be at this time)
- ☉ Adjournment

The agenda for each board meeting is prepared by the superintendent. Meetings are conducted by the board president in the prescribed order. The superintendent provides a packet of informational and background materials to board members concerning items to be presented on the meeting agenda. This is delivered to board members at least three days prior to the meeting so that they may come to the meeting prepared to question, discuss, and take action on each item. An extra copy of this information will be available for public examination at the administration office.

PLACING AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Any patron wishing to speak to the board regarding a specific concern requiring board action should discuss his/her request with the superintendent at least seven days prior to the scheduled board meeting. This request may be made by phone or in writing. Following this discussion, the superintendent will determine whether the request can be solved by staff or will place the item on the next regular board meeting agenda. If the superintendent refuses to place an item on the agenda, the patron may place his/her request in writing and submit it to the clerk of the board. Any such requests shall state the specific action requested of the board of education. The clerk shall include any statement with the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. (Such items must be received by the clerk not later than Tuesday of the week preceding the regular board meeting) In the event the board wishes to discuss the patron's request, the board may modify its agenda to do so or may direct the superintendent to place the item on a future regular or special meeting agenda.

CONDUCT AND ORDER

These guidelines have been adopted to give patrons an opportunity to address the board in an orderly and constructive manner. The board's function is decision -- time spent answering routine questions or criticisms takes away from other important board business. If a patron has a question about the operation of the schools, he/she is encouraged to contact the teacher or administrator closest to the situation.

Undue interruptions or other interference with the orderly conduct of Board of Education meetings cannot be allowed. The board president may terminate a speaker's privilege to speak if, after being called to order, he/she persists in improper conduct or remarks. As stated earlier, at a board meeting no person shall orally indicate charges or complaints against individual employees of the district or challenge instructional material used in the district. All such charges, complaints, or challenges shall be presented to the superintendent and/or board clerk in accordance with established board practice.

MAKING A PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Education wishes to be responsive to the community and welcomes patrons at all meetings. If a visitor wishes to make a brief statement, express his/her viewpoint, or ask a question regarding matters related to the school system he/she needs to be present at the beginning of the board meeting. Requests to speak may be made when the board president asks if any visitors have items to bring to the attention of the board. Speakers are asked to limit their remarks to five (5) minutes or less and groups with the same special interest may be asked to appoint a spokesperson. The board president may impose different time limits on presentations if other circumstances dictate doing so.

While there is no legal requirement that the public be given an opportunity to speak at each board meeting, it is the practice of the present board to make this time available to residents of the district. If pressure of business or other circumstances dictate, the board president may decide to curtail this practice.

The purpose of hearing public comment is to enable patrons to address the board concerning matters that do not require immediate board action. Charges or complaints against individual employees of the district or challenges to the instructional material used in the district are not allowed during the public comment portion of the meeting. Requests for board action shall be presented to the superintendent and charges, complaints, or challenges against staff or the curriculum shall be presented to the clerk of the board in accordance with procedures outlined below.

In the event that a speaker fails to observe the board's rules for public comment, any board member may request the individual cease speaking until the board president determines if the speaker should be allowed to complete his/her remarks.

DISCUSSION OF AN AGENDA ITEM

At meetings, the Board of Education spends its time reviewing and making decisions regarding information concerning student learning and other board concerns. While the meetings are conducted in public, public participation in the discussion of agenda items is not solicited unless the board requests a member of the public comment on that item. If a member of the public wishes to comment on an agenda item, that comment should occur during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

4. **Communications**

4.A. Written Communication

USD 244 -

Thank you so much
for the monetary donation
to the Ronald McDonald
house in memory of my
mother, Gloria Long. Our
family is grateful for your
kindness.

Sincerely,
Jen Plummer & Family
& Long Family

During a time
like this
we realize how much
our friends and relatives
really mean
to us....
Your expression
of sympathy will always
be remembered

5. **Administrative Reports**

5.A. Food Service March 2025 Report

- 1) We have started making more cookies at all buildings, example, snickerdoodles, chocolate chip and we made valentines day sugar cookies at elementary with red sprinkles. We are asked daily if we are having cookies today.
- 2) On February 20th we had Picnic in the park at elementary it consist with decorating walls with picnic ants, butterflies and thing spring themed, we decorate tables with tablecloths and the put different decorations the kids make at 21st century over the year , The menu we served was a Hot dog on a bun, or Chicken Nuggets, baby carrots, celery sticks, apple slices, frozen juice cup, assorted chips, cookie and milk, we don't use trays this day the are handed a bigger paper boat that the kids put all food items in. We heard a lot of student remark that they remember this from last year.
- 3) At Bes we are planning to do Green Jell-O with pears for lunch on Mar 13 for St. Patrick's Day, we are also planning on serving white cake with green Jell-O poke cake with green sprinkles at all 3 buildings.
- 4) Bes will be doing breakfast with parents in April, On the 4th we will have muffins with misses, offering a variety of muffins, pumpkin chocolate chip, blueberry, and apple cinnamon. We will be doing Biscuits and Gravy with the boys (Dads) on April 25.

Thank you for all that you do for the kitchen staff.

Amy Nelson

5.B. Grounds and Transportation March 2025 Report

March 2025 Transportation and Grounds Report

It is a pleasure to report that the Transportation and Grounds department is running smoothly. We had a challenging start this year with an almost entirely new staff in the bus barn. Now that we are almost fully staffed, it is my belief we will continue to run smoothly.

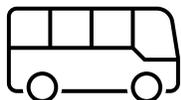
Our new mechanic, CJ Chambers, is doing an excellent job of getting our vehicles and equipment up to date and running in outstanding condition. He has also been available and willing to jump in as spare driver and to help with grounds whenever he is needed.

Our new groundskeeper, Austin Chambers, is doing an outstanding job of keeping the grounds in great shape. He has been extremely polite and professional with staff around the district to help find what is the best time for him to work in their areas without disturbing their work. He has also jumped in to help drive, help with mechanical work, and assist with custodial duties whenever he is needed.

We are still a couple CDL drivers short. However, with the crew of drivers we do have, we are able to cover and handle all obstacles we face. They are very quick to help each other whenever in need.



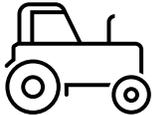
At the moment, we have a couple busses sent off to get some repairs done. When they get back, we will have a strong running fleet.



We are currently setting up a better record system for vehicle and equipment repairs and upkeep. The goal is to establish a system that is easier for us to use now and for after we are gone for the next crew.



We have completed several safety meetings, including a meeting with the emergency plan evacuation service.



We are working on all of grounds equipment that we have. The goal is to make sure that we have all the proper “tools for the job” needed.



We are also trying to get some classes and training to learn our duties and responsibilities better.

As I close this report, I would like to say thank you for your time. If you would like to come out and put eyes on the work that we are currently or will be doing, please let me know. I would also like to say that I welcome any advice or ideals that you may have. Again, Thank you for your time.

Chris Neff

Director of Transportation & Grounds

USD 244

(620)364-8478 ext. 3210

5.C. Maintenance March 2025 Report

Maintenance Leadership: Successes/Challenges 2024-2025

Successes:

- HVAC control of temperatures continues to improve district-wide
- Assisted in the installation of chiller BHS
- Additional installation of water bottle stations BMS
- Updated GCFI and 20 Amp tamper resistant receptacles on all drinking fountains district-wide
- Addition of Shot-clocks BMS and BHS; electrical for buildings
- Updated electrical for Vo Ag and Automotive shops
- Replaced overhead supply air fan motors in classrooms BES
- Training maintenance assistant
- Updated electrical in BHS kitchen

Challenges:

- Short-staffed

Burlington Elementary School
February Board Report
Submitted: March 3, 2025

- Class Parties for Valentine’s Day were held on the afternoon of February 14th. We had several parents and visitors joining us at BES for the holiday fun. Students were able to enjoy friends and party activities. It was an exciting afternoon!
- Under the direction of BES music teacher Kim Dunaway, the 1st Grade students presented their annual music program on the evening on February 17th. This program was designed to showcase several of the musical numbers that the students have worked on throughout the year. Students helped introduce the numbers by telling facts or history about them prior to the performance. The program was well received by the community and family members in attendance.
- The Food Service Program sponsored “Picnic in the Park” on February 20th. After a couple of snow days and cold temperatures that have been hanging on for weeks, this “outdoor experience” was a great boost for our kids. Picnic in the park is described as “the best day ever” in the cafeteria!
- On February 21, Burlington Elementary School’s 2nd grade teacher, Makayla Gray, was recognized as a 2025 Kansas Horizon Award, a program sponsored by Kansas State Department of Education, that recognizes the outstanding teaching skills of new educators. Ms. Gray is one of 32 educators that were chosen for this prestigious award. To be eligible, teachers must have successfully completed their first year of teaching and have performed in such a way as to distinguish themselves as outstanding.

At the ceremony, Ms. Gray also received the Ken Ogden/OFG Financial Services Inc. Scholarship of \$500 for being scored the highest Region 2 Horizon nominee on the application rubric. Congratulations to Ms. Makayla Gray on this outstanding achievement!

- KELPA State Assessments were completed during the last week of February with our identified English Language Learners (ELL). Mrs. Amy Ditto and our ELL Aide, Christy Monasmith were responsible for administering the assessments. Scores should be released later this Spring. Students have to achieve a score of proficient to be released from ELL services.
- Parent Teacher Conferences were held on Friday, February 21st and Wednesday, February 26th. Participation for each grade level is listed below.

Grade	Participation	Attendance %
Pre-K	61/63	96.8%
Kindergarten	40/44	90.9%
1 st Grade	42/46	91.3%
2 nd Grade	46/56	82.1%
3 rd Grade	51/62	82.3%
4 th Grade	43/49	87.8%
Others (sped, special, Title)	59 conferences	
Building Wide	283/620	88.4%

- The following students were named as the Wildcats of the Month for February. Students are recognized for being safe, respectful, and responsible. They receive a certificate, bulletin board recognition and are announced over the intercom as the nominees. Congratulations to these students!

Nominated By	Nominee
Mrs. Garland	Jesse Beyer
Mrs. Griffith	Scarlet Hanson
Mrs. O'Malley	Hadlee Ellington
Mrs. Barnhart	Amelia Kuhlmann
Mrs. Lawrence	Jayden Hegwald
Mrs. Mowry	Zoey Grandstaff
Mrs. Ditto	Reid Wilson
Ms. Gray	Abby Williams
Mrs. Stukey	Lia Cummings
Mrs. Gonzales	River Lem
Mrs. McVey	Avery O'Brien
Mrs. Rice	Kyndal Winters
Mrs. Allen	Elena Mota
Mrs. Bazil	Hendrix Martinez
Mrs. Kuhlmann	Corienna Craft
Mrs. Freeman	Genesis Carrasco Gil
Mrs. Dunaway	Kolbie Watts
Mrs. Tempelmeyer	Chet Clark
Mrs. Stewart	Hunter Combes
Mrs. Long	Della Krueger

- In cooperation with the BES food service department, we are excited to be bringing back a couple of family engagement events this spring. We will be hosting Muffins with the Misses and Biscuit and Gravy with the Boys in April. Students will have the opportunity to bring family or friends to join them for these events.

First Grade Music Program



Picnic in the Park



Horizon Award Ceremony





5.E. BMS March 2025 Report



Burlington Middle School

Unified School District #244

720 Cross Street, Burlington, KS 66839

P (620) 364-2156 F (620) 364-8560

Dear Board of Education and Superintendent Marshall,

We had a very successful third nine weeks at Burlington Middle School, both in the classroom and in our extracurricular activities. At our Spring Parent Teacher Conferences, we had excellent participation with 85% of our parents participating.

Burlington Middle School Boys basketball wrapped up their season on February 20 at Osawatomie with a two-game sweep. Both the 7th and 8th grade varsity teams finished 12-1. The 7th grade were out right Pioneer League Champions and 8th Grade shared the Pioneer League Championship with Wellsville. Both of our 7th and 8th grade teams finished 11-0. Coach Ecton and her staff did a great job throughout the season, and the team and individual growth was excellent.

Debby Schmidt and Charlie Whitworth have submitted information for the Kansas State High School Activities Association Scholastic awards for the first semester. There are two categories for the scholastic awards; Distinguished requires a collective team GPA from 3.25- 4.0 and Outstanding requires a collective team GPA of 3.00-3.24. I am happy to share all 4 of our teams have earned the Distinguished Scholastic Award from this fall. We continue to see those that are involved in extra curriculars continue to perform well. The overall fall GPA was a 3.82.

Activity/Team	Number of Participants	Collective Team GPA
Football	37	3.60
Volleyball	31	3.83
Cross Country, Girls	2	4.00
Cross Country, Boys	3	3.85
TOTALS	73	3.82

The chart above demonstrates the more students are involved, the better they will perform academically. This is also a direct reflection of our entire learning community and the work that happens daily with students and athletes.

On our last staff development day, on February 21st, we continued with our focus on LETRS Training. The last unit was very beneficial as it focused on reading comprehension, which is an area some of our students struggle. LETRS Training continues to be a benefit for our staff as it relates to the Science of Reading.

8th graders Marshall Wright, Max Ecton, and Grace Redding went to the capital to be pages for the day. They did a great job of representing Burlington Middle School and USD #244. Thank you to Mr. Over for taking the kids!



On Monday, March 3, we had our annual Dodgeball for Heart Tournament for the students. We had great participation with about 12 teams this year and raised \$6,554.11. On Thursday, March 6th, the staff played against the teams that won their grade level tournaments. This is always a fun event for both students and staff. Thank you to Mrs. Kehres for organizing this great event!

Track began on March 5th, with our first meet being set for April 8th, we will travel to Prairie View for our first quad. We will have our Burlington Invitational on Friday, May 2nd. We currently have 69 students signed up for track with 32-7th graders- 14 girls and 18 boys, 35th graders- 15 girls and 20 boys, and two managers.

Ms. Spangenberg entered middle school student's artwork in the Junior American Contest: Daughter's of the American Revolution Art Competition this year. The following students placed first in the state of Kansas with their pieces of work and will move on to the South-Central Division. Depending on how their artwork does there, their individual pieces could move on to Nationals. Our 1 place state winners for the Four Winds Chapter are: 7th grade Jaylee Wilson, Elise Matney, and Samantha Meyer and 8th grade winners are: Helena Wang, Easton Melton, and Gabriella Mota. Congratulations to our young artist and Ms. Spangenberg!

Yours in Education,

Matt Spring

Click on the links below to see what is happening at BHS.

- [BHS Master Calendar](#) (Daily activities, club meetings, and more)
- [Newsletters](#)

Current Enrollment (as of 2/28/2025)

BHS ROSTER COUNT					
	9TH	10TH	11TH	12TH	TOTAL
BOYS	34	26	32	27	119
GIRLS	29	35	30	27	121
TOTAL	63	61	62	54	240

BHS STAFF: Spotlight

Susie Becker

Burlington High School is fortunate to have Susie Becker as its low-incident special education teacher. Susie's passion for helping students is truly inspiring. She excels in managing one-on-one student and para support, addressing student medical needs, and personalizing each student's day to ensure success. Her classroom is a warm, uplifting space where students thrive—and visitors can't help but leave with a smile. Stop by and see the incredible work she's doing!

GUIDANCE AND CAREER

- Rudd Scholarship winner – Brody Anderson was awarded an \$80,000 scholarship on Friday, March 1, 2025, from the Rudd Scholarship committee and Emporia State University. Over 1,700 students across Kansas started the application process with only 700 completing the application. Brody was one of fifty seniors across Kansas who received a scholarship.
- ACT, ASVAB testing completed!
- We have over 50 students taking the District ACT on April 8, 2025. ACT offers this for any student at a discounted price. We have 9th-12th grade students signed up.
- Twenty-two Burlington Alumni scholarships were given to the seniors to start completing. Mrs. Bolen visited the seniors during their English class to walk them through the process.

Student-Led Conferences

- We had 85% of our parents/students attend conferences. We are in the process of having the students who missed presenting, pick an adult in the building and present their Individual Plan of Study.

Enrollment

- At this time, we have all students in the system and reviewing preliminary numbers.

College Courses

- Cierra Harrison will be teaching ACC College Algebra, ACC College Statistics, and ACC Calculus in the 2025-2026 school year.
- Courtney Sleezer currently teaches ACC English Composition and will add ACC Speech course for 2025-2026.
- These courses are for concurrent credit (BHS & College credit)

BHS ACTIVITIES

Athletics

- BHS Girls Wrestling competed at the KSHSAA State Championships. Six wrestlers competed, tied for the most girls BHS has ever qualified, and all six advanced to Day #2 of the tournament, meaning they had to win at least one match on Day #1. Haylei Potter, at 135-lbs, finished 2nd overall, and is tied for the highest ever finisher in BHS girls wrestling history. Olivia Lyons was the first 4x state qualifier in BHS history and finished 3rd overall, tied for the second best finish ever for a BHS girls wrestler. This was also the most points ever scored by a BHS Girls wrestling team, and they finished 10th overall.
- BHS Basketball girls and boys both advanced to the Substate Semi-Finals (as of 3/3/25) and will play home games with chances to advance to the championship games and then to State.
- Spring sports are underway! Golf, baseball, softball, and track have started! Practices started on Monday 3/3/25 and events start with the baseball and softball jamboree on Friday, March 21.

Activities

- Forensics continues to qualify more students for State! They have 7 qualifiers so far: Mallory Over, Jule Rolf, Cohen Hazen, Korryn Bolen, Zalie Allen, Lane Griffith, and Sage Bell.
- The Spring Play is coming up soon! You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown will be performed at BHS April 4-6.
- Band competed at the Pioneer League Championships on March 3.
- KidWind advanced to State once again! Kasten Payer, Gavin Jenkins, Tate Sowder, Logan Ferrara, and Owen McCarty won the KidWind competition at BHS on February 28 and advanced to the state championships to be held in Salina on Saturday, April 5.
- Scholars Bowl qualified and competed at the State Championships for the first time since 2021. Mallory Over, Chloe Gosney, Brandon Hazlett, Everett Krueger, Matthew Dekat, and Isaac Rinker competed at Southeast of Saline High School and finished 2-3 at the state tournament.

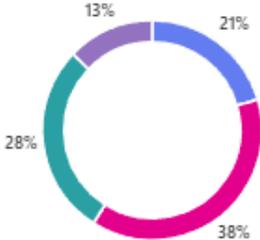
SENIOR EXPERIENCE SURVEY

All seniors were given two weeks to complete a senior experience survey. Results are below. Information will be covered during the next staff meeting.

1. How would you describe your overall academic experience throughout your four years at BHS?

[More details](#)

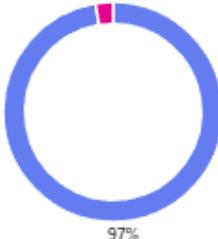
● Excellent	8
● Very good	15
● Good	11
● Fair	5
● Poor	0



2. Did you build a trusting relationship with at least one teacher or staff member during your time at BHS?

[More details](#)

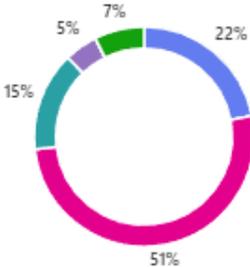
● Yes	38
● No	1



3. Do you feel that your voice was heard and valued in shaping the school environment?

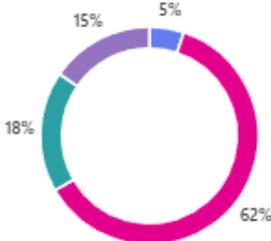
[More details](#)

● Always	9
● Sometimes	21
● Rarely	6
● Never	2
● Other	3



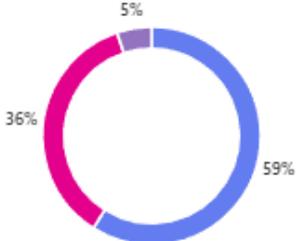
4. Do you feel that the academic materials and curriculum prepared you for real-life experiences after high school (college, career, life skills)? [More details](#)

Strongly Agree	2
Agree	24
Neutral	7
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	0



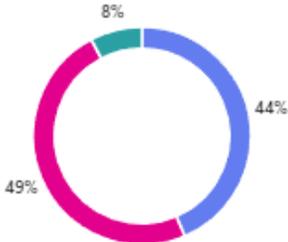
5. Did you feel you had ample opportunities to participate in activities, clubs, and athletic programs throughout your four years? [More details](#)

Yes, I participated in multiple activities	23
Yes, but I wish there were more options	14
No, I didn't feel there were enough opportunities	0
No, I wasn't interested in participating	2



6. Do you feel supported by the administration at BHS? [More details](#)

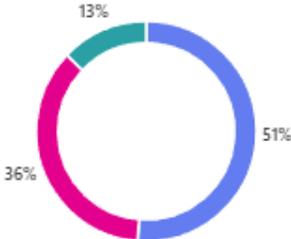
Yes, Always	17
Sometimes	19
Rarely	3
No, not at all	0



7. Did you feel you received the academic support needed to be successful?

[More details](#)

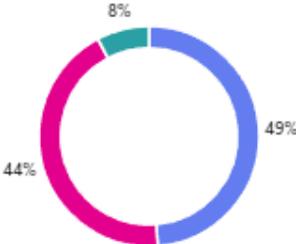
- Yes, Always 20
- Sometimes 14
- Rarely 5
- No, not at all 0



8. Do you feel you had a variety of course options that aligned with your career and college goals?

[More details](#)

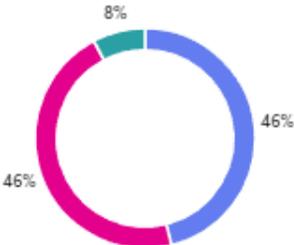
- Yes, plenty of options 19
- Somewhat, but I wish there were more 17
- No, I did not feel I had enough choices 3



9. Do you feel that BHS addressed students' emotional and mental health needs?

[More details](#)

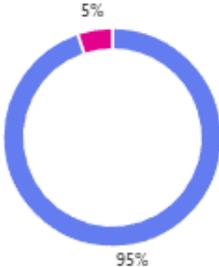
- Yes, very well 18
- Somewhat, but could improve 18
- No, not effectively 3



10. Did you participate in a club, activity or sport during your four years?

[More details](#)

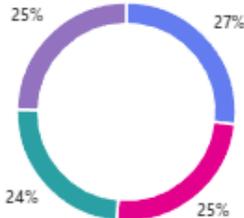
- Yes 37
- No 2



11. If you answered yes, mark the years you participated. (mark all that apply)

[More details](#)

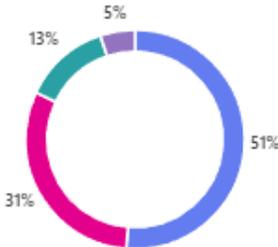
- 9th 37
- 10th 34
- 11th 33
- 12th 34



12. As a student at Burlington High School, did you feel you were a part of the student community?

[More details](#)

- Yes, Always 20
- Sometimes 12
- Rarely 5
- No, not at all 2



13.

What was the best thing about your experience at Burlington High School?

Probably all the clubs I did in high school

The football games and prom. These are times I really took in the environment of the school and had the most fun.

Forensics

Sports and friends

The friendships and relationships I have made from sports, clubs, and classes.

The teachers who supported me through everything.

Band and steam

I loved a lot about being at BHS. I really enjoy my time here and I look forward to going to school every day. Everything was great.

Getting the chance to be involved in so much. I also formed connections with almost all my teachers.

FFA

my classes with the teachers I like

I love that it is a close knit environment where there are not a bunch of people but there are still enough people that every one has a place and people who care about them.

Meeting my friends, and having amazing teachers

Building a second family on the track team with the coaches and athletes.

My friends.

I love all the diverse clubs from Art Club to Wellness. I like government trips and that has to be my favorite part of this year. Plus, we have taken all of the club trips. I really like the government trips that we have taken especially to the capital and the World War 1 museum. Also, I love the mental health resources that have been given my senior year.

The teachers

Having chances to do things that help with your future career.

Winning a playoff game.

making friends

Being able to have fun with my grade for several of the activities held throughout the years.

the fun

Going to competitions and meeting new people

being a manager for everyone on the basketball team

Being close with my friends.

The sports

That the teachers are pretty relaxed when it comes to teaching but they still get you the information you need to learn Prom and football games. These were both times where I felt the environment of BHS and could say I truly enjoyed myself at both of these

Going to kid wind nationals with the friends I made and skills I learned through STEAM club.

The support is always there from teachers and staff.

Football

Cheerleading

Being able to make friends and friends with some teachers

getting to have Mrs. Cox, and Mrs. Humlechek as my teacher's

My favorite experience was being involved in sports and KidWind.

14.

If you could change one thing about Burlington High School, what would it be?

Don't have any good ones

Less emphasis on sports. Not everyone wants to do sports or is good at sports and there are so many other ways to be involved and successful.

Maybe more hands on opportunities to learn

I think Burlington High School would benefit from an athletic trainer.

It wouldn't matter who is popular.

more high level classes in person, most of the classes I needed to prepare me for college were either unavailable or online only. Also the curriculum feels watered down in most of the gen-ed classes, teachers shouldn't be afraid to fail people in order to challenge those who actually want to be there to learn.

All of the teachers in the school are great. However, some of the teachers seem to not "teach" as much. I feel like there are a lot of kids struggling with learning because of their teachers. I'm not sure how to fix this, I just know that it's a problem that might need to be addressed. Personally, I never had any problems, but I know a lot of smart underclassmen that have struggled.

Expand the health science classes. There are a lot of agricultural/business classes but I feel like the health careers are getting snipped.

More personable activities and better ways to get help from teachers one on one.

Give more support for those taking online classes. They are difficult and extremely hard to learn from

I would put a button to let people in on the activity entrance.

More communication to students

Not be so strict all the time. Like at lunch let people sit with their friends even if it is past a certain number. As well as for some janitor to do their job and not tell kids what to do/ listen in on conversations that don't involve him.

Make it be cleaner.

Crack down on vaping in bathrooms. It was bad in the beginning, but I think it has improved a little.

Have more options that help students with their future.

The food is bad.

The way activities and things are handled. I feel like this year I was really limited on what I was allowed to do

put salt in school

Make it more inclined for inclusion in sports

nothing

Have all teacher who will help students not just some teachers helping certain students.

I don't think I would change anything

More college credit courses, and more sports/clubs.

Having a block schedule instead of 8 classes a day.

4 day week

have more activities/clubs

be involved more in students life

i would not change a thing

seniors should be able to have a free lunch to go wherever they want.

5.G. Special Education March 2025 Report

Board of Education Report
Coffey County Special Education Cooperative, CCSEC
Lindsey Graf, Director
March 2025

State Reports/Data

- MOE Submitted waiting on KSDE
- Private School Application Accepted: None

Staffing Updates

- 24-25 school year Certified Openings: 1 Middle Special Ed. Teaching positions at BMS, 1 Half/Time Gifted Facilitator,
- Current Para Educator: 3 at BHS, 1 at 245, 1 at 243

Director's Focus

- Planning March 7th inservice
- Updating Personnel Systems with Whitnie to ensure appropriate FTE's claimed to gain maximum reimbursement.
- Preparing for Spring Tour with Employees
- Preparing Newsletters and all Staff Meeting Agendas
- Collaborating with the state department to ensure staff is appropriately licensed in all content areas.
- Preparing professional development schedule for fall 2025
- Collecting and Reviewing Para evaluations
- Attending state and regional SPED Director Meetings (KASEA and State)
- Participating in monthly SPED administrators Webinars
- Interviews/Hiring/Transfers – continuing to replace paras that leave and on board para sub applications as they are submitted
- Student programming/needs – attending meetings; communicating with parents
- Corresponding with Legal Services regarding programming
- Collaborating with Administration
- Visits to buildings in the COOP

Board Report
Technology Department
March 2025

The Skyward SMS to Qmlativ transition is going well. We will get access to our Qmlativ Business training database on March 17th. Nickole and Jen from District Office, and Courtney Finlayson and I attended the Skyward iCon Conference and learned a lot which will help us in the changeover. Thanks to the board and Mr. Marshall for supporting this trip. We were able to gain a lot of knowledge and make a number of good connections with other Kansas districts (as well as other states) going through the upgrade as well -- to pool knowledge and see how they operate different areas of the software withing their districts.

This report was completed on March 3rd, but we hope to be able to present our winning bid for Network Switch and Wireless Access Point replacement through the Federal E-Rate program at the March 10th board meeting. With the e-rate program, we will be able to recoup 70% of the cost of the project. Our 30% will come from our summer 2025 technology improvements budget. The project will replace the network switches and wireless access points in the elementary school, middle school, and high school and prepare us for the next 8-10 years of network connectivity in the district.

I am happy to say that all 14 of our CTE Pathways are officially approved for the 2025-2026 school year. We had been waiting on a couple of the approval to come through at the last board meeting.

From the buildings:

BES:

3rd Grade PowerPoint Project: Our 3rd graders have been coming to the lab to work on a PowerPoint project about different communities. They are making great progress and enjoying the learning process.

Jennifer Stukey: "I really like Typetastic compared to the previous typing programs we've used. Overall, my current class is more advanced in understanding finger placement than most, if not all, of my previous classes."

Fourth-grade students use IXL for 7-10 minutes daily during Mrs. Allen's math class to identify and address any learning gaps in math. This short daily practice on the adaptive platform allows students to work at their individualized levels, focus on the specific skills they need to improve, and support personalized learning.

BMS:

From the 5th grade team: These are some of the ways we are using technology:

- *Savvas for Reading and Math- Buddy practices to encourage peer-to-peer learning.
- *Canva for lessons and PowerPoints- Create visually engaging lessons and presentations.
- *Brain pop- Interactive videos, quizzes and games for various subjects.
- *Discovery Education/Mystery Science/Generation Genius- for Interactive Science lessons and activities.
- *IXL- Practicing Math skills with personalized learning
- *Pair Assess-Assessment tool
- *Vocab Class-Vocabulary building practice
- *99 math, Prodigy, Bottle, Happy Numbers – Additional free resources for students to practice math skills.

Parent Square was again very simple in making the parent-teacher conference process smooth and efficient. Rescheduling didn't cause any issues, easy process to update! Positive feedback from Parents and teachers.

6th Grade Teachers used DisplayNote to make parent teacher conferences more efficient and engaging for parents! By displaying student work, grades and notes on the Newline Board; teachers were able to provide a clear and concise overview of each student's progress.

Mrs. Reppert has a 6th grade student who is using her laptop to make creative and fun "How To" videos on using the Cricut Expression. These include- How to Setup, How to Make a Greeting Card, How to Make a Sign and How to Understand the Machine Keys!

Ms. Saulsberry had an opportunity to attend the Emporia State University's EYF Conference with a few students.

Enhancing Your Future is part of the STEM Outreach Program at ESU; programs centering around Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Each year women 6-8th grades are invited to take part in the Enhancing Your Future with Mathematics and Science Conference.

For the morning session, BMS students enjoyed exploring the different careers and learning about the various applications of STEM in real life scenarios. In the afternoon students developed a deeper understanding and interest in these subjects with hands on activities!



BHS:

- Gifted Facilitator Jason Bates shared: Here are a few ways I use technology.

I have used iPads in conjunction with scratch.mit.edu which allows users to create interactive projects and games using a visual block-based coding interface, essentially acting as an app building tool for beginners, especially students, to design simple applications without writing complex code.

I am starting to introduce Lego EV3 robotics for 4th quarter. This helps teach students basics robotics skills including engineering, programming, and problem-solving skills. Basic programming robots to complete task such as move and turn, detect objects, follow lines, grab and release objects, and navigate obstacle courses. (EV3's has been discontinued 2022)

My students use their computers for college and career exploration. On-line skills & interest surveys, career research and comparison, college degree research and comparison, scholarship research and applications.

There are a couple old drones in my room. Currently, my high school students have not shown interest in drones but most of them are working on college courses. To name a few areas in which drones can benefit students is that drones can provide a better understanding of the local geography, provide coding opportunities, and problem-solving skills.

- Special Education Teacher Susie Becker uses technology this way:

In my room we use the smartboard for student instruction (including allowing students to utilize the stylist for beginning writing skills). We use programs on the laptops, and ipads that are individualized for each student (such as IXL, Moby Max). We use the hovercam for instruction.

- Industrial Arts/Production Technology Teacher Dan Buck has this to say;

I use my computer daily for PPT, Illustration, Student Interaction, lesson videos, etc. I find the (Newline) boards to be a plus. I also use the Hovercam when we are manually drawing to show illustrations on how you create parts. The technology we have is stellar.

5.I. Superintendent's March 2025 Report

Burlington USD 244
Board of Education Meeting
March 10, 2025
Superintendent's Report

- I would like to review Recruitment and Retention information from our USD 244 Strategic Plan. We have tried to grow our own teachers with a Tuition Reimbursement Plan that the board of education has allowed us to implement in 2018. This program has produced one teacher currently in USD 244. We have one currently going through a program to become a teacher. Licensed teacher salaries have improved over the past 9 years from a base of \$34,850 to \$43,200. Para-professional starting salaries increased from \$8.25/hr. to \$14.25/hr. Other employee salaries and benefits have improved like leave, 403B retirement plans, and health insurance. We will continue to improve salaries and benefit packages in the years to come. Facility improvements are so important to recruit and retain employees. Over the past nine years, all buildings have seen major improvements. BHS is getting a much-needed welding shop addition/renovation. We are going to have the public vote on a new BES birth to grade 5 building. We now have the Burlington Early Learning Center which helps recruit employees to our district with affordable daycare. Currently, we have 12 staff members that use the BELC. We will continue to look for ways to help with recruitment and retention of staff. If board members have any suggestions, please let me know. Thank you for working with me to help make Burlington a terrific school district!

6. Board Member Items

6.A. Board Reports

7. Contracts, Approvals, and Appointments

7.A. Approval of BHS Vo-Ag Addition/Renovation Bids



301 S. 4TH ST, STE 210
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

BHSCONSTRUCTION.NET
785.537.2068

March 10, 2025

Guaranteed Maximum Price Proposal – USD 244 Burlington Vo-Ag Addition & Renovation

BHS Construction is pleased to submit the following scope, schedule, and guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for the USD 244 Burlington Vo-Ag Addition and Renovation project.

Scope of Work

The project includes a **2,500 SF addition**, site improvements, and interior renovations in accordance with the GMCN Architects' Vo-Ag Shop Addition plans and specifications.

Project Schedule

- **Start Date:** March 2025
- **Completion Date:** August 2025

Cost Summary

- **Base Bid:** \$1,460,879
- **Alternate 1:** \$58,530 – Adds air conditioning to the new HVAC system
- **Alternate 2:** \$6,895 – Replaces existing concrete pavement at the building
- **Alternate 3:** \$11,217 – Adds doors to opening between Welding Shop and Project Area
- **Total (Including All Alternates): \$1,537,521**

Local Subcontractor Participation

- **Sam Lingenfelter**
- **Cooks Plumbing**
- **UNI Floor**

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Crowl

Adam Crowl, Estimator
BHS Construction, Inc.

7.B. BES Project Contract Management At-Risk (CMAR)
Approval

7.C. KASB Dues

7.D. KASB Legal Assistance Fund

7.E. Approval of Bid for Upgrades to Network
Switches and Access Points

8. **Negotiations**

8.A. Executive Session Regarding Negotiations

9. **Personnel**

9.A. Executive Session Regarding Personnel

9.B. Retirement

10. **Student**

10.A. Executive Session Regarding Student Issue

11. **Closing Items**

11.A. Debriefing

11.B. Adjournment