

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

ACADEMICS & ACTIVITIES

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Board of Education Room | 15020 Metcalf Avenue | Overland Park, KS

FACILITATOR(S): Kelly June & Matt Ortman

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Philon Barr-Manning, Brenna Bidwell, Kaci Brutto, Sean Burrell, Dr. Katie Collier, Brooke Davids, Jodie Dietz, Lauren Dreher, Kim Grosdidier, Amy Hill, Ryan Hussey, Kelly June, Gina Knapp, Ayden McGibboney, Tvisha Nair, Adrienne Newlin, Lucia Noll, Ava Middleton, Clay Norkey, Matt Ortman, Nova Rule, Brittany Verrett, Matt Wachel, Scott Wright and Melody Xue

Guest: Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer

WELCOME & UPDATES

Kelly June welcomed committee members and provided an overview of the meeting agenda. Jodie Dietz shared an update on the current legislative session, including information about the effects on all students due to the underfunding of special education by the state legislature. Clay Norkey reviewed the ongoing special education funding shortfall from the state and explained how this gap affects the district's overall budget and impacts all students. Dr. Chapman highlighted legislative resources available on the district website, including district-submitted testimony and information on how community members can contact their legislators. She also outlined the district's thoughtful, three-phase approach to addressing the current budget deficit. Dr. Chapman reiterated that the Board of Education's top priorities remain maintaining reasonable class sizes and supporting competitive staff salaries. Jodie Dietz concluded

by emphasizing that Blue Valley is a destination district. She noted that being transparent with legislators and the broader community about current financial challenges not only supports Blue Valley, but also benefits surrounding districts.

BOND PROGRAMMING IDEATION

Jake Slobodnik presented on potential future bond projects, shared the history of the last three bonds, how a project list is determined, project considerations and what a bond is.

There was discussion about long-term planning in light of declining enrollment and aging facilities. Members asked whether the district may eventually need to consider closing or repurposing buildings if enrollment shifts continue.

While all proposed projects were seen as valuable, several members emphasized that maintaining and updating existing facilities should remain the top priority. Asset preservation—taking care of what the district currently owns—was viewed as more urgent than launching new construction projects.

Questions were raised about middle school multipurpose additions, including whether all middle schools need them. Oxford Middle School is a priority.

Members also discussed prioritization. If a CAPS expansion would impact a larger number of students compared to weight room renovations, some felt CAPS should take precedence. However, concerns were expressed about the current weight rooms, which are reportedly undersized and create safety challenges when accommodating large classes.

Overall, the group underscored the importance of balancing new opportunities with responsible stewardship of existing facilities.

ATHLETIC PASSES

Matt Ortman presented an overview of athletic activity passes and the district's current pricing structure. Funds support costs such as officials' fees, transportation, entry fees, and equipment purchases. For comparison, he shared that Shawnee Mission offers individual adult, K-12 student, and family-of-four passes, though tournament events are excluded. Olathe offers a similar structure with an all-district pass option for individual adults, K-12 students, and families of four; tournaments are also excluded.

Two proposals were discussed:

Proposal 1: Increase the price of each current pass level by \$10–\$25, depending on the category. These passes would continue to allow entry to home events only.

Proposal 2: Introduce an all-district pass, including a family pass option that would cover high school students and include entry to all Blue Valley athletic events, not just the home games.. An all-district pass would also simplify entry procedures for staff working events.

Committee members shared several perspectives and questions:

- An all-district pass could encourage greater attendance across the community.
- Is it possible to offer both a home-only pass and an all-district pass option?
- Could performing arts events (e.g., theater productions) be included in the pass? ...or could there be an option?
- Many families indicated they would be more interested in a districtwide pass if performing arts were included.
- If performing arts were included, would a portion of the revenue be allocated to support those programs?
- A student shared that having a single pass for both athletic and performing arts events would likely increase attendance and strengthen community connections.
- A parent noted that an all-district pass would be simpler and more convenient for families.

Overall, the discussion focused on balancing revenue generation, operational efficiency, and increased access for students and families.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 23, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.