

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2026, 5:30 PM

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

Technical Note: The meeting experienced recurring audio issues.

Staff have reviewed the cause and taken corrective measures for future meetings.

A. OPENING ITEMS.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presented by Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wyatt Watkins, a 5th -grade student from Aspen Grove Elementary.

2. Awards.

Presented by Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer:

Distinguished Service Award Recipient:

Kelsey McKinnell is a para at Indian Valley Elementary.

Excellence in Education Recipient:

Sybil Ramstad is a 7th grade teacher at Lakewood Middle School.

3. Public Comments.

Presented by Board President, Jan Kessinger:

Patron Erin Schepmann addressed the Board of Education about special teachers' schedule changes.

B. REGULAR AGENDA.

1. Call the February 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting to Order.

Board President Jan Kessinger called the February 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

2. Approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Agenda.

I move that the Board of Education approve the February 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda as published. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Clay Norkey, Carried.

Dr David Benson: Yea

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: 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 February 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting consent agenda as published with minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Jodie Dietz, Carried.

Dr David Benson: Yea

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2. Approve the Meeting Minutes.

The Board of Education approved the prior meeting minutes.

3. Approve the Cash Summary Report.

The Board of Education approved the Cash Summary Report.

4. Approve the Bids and Contracts.

The Board of Education approved the Bids and Contracts.

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

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.

D. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS.

1. Board of Education Reports.

Board member Jodie Dietz read the Academic & Activities Board Advisory Committee meeting minutes.

Board member Clay Norkey read the Finance & Operations Board Advisory Committee meeting minutes.

2. Superintendent's Report.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

3. Bond Presentation.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer.

4. Blue Valley Recreation Center Refunding Certificates of Participation.

Presented by David Arteberry of STIFEL, NICOLAUS & COMPANY, INCORPORATED, Shane DeWald, Executive Director of Blue Valley Recreation Center, and Jeremy McFadden, Blue Valley CFO.

Due to favorable interest rates, the Blue Valley Recreation Commission is considering refinancing the Series 2015 Certificates of Participation (COPs). In order to issue refunding COPs for the Recreation Center at Hilltop, the Blue Valley Board of Education will be asked to approve a resolution to amend the existing lease agreement at Hilltop. The COP refunding analysis will be reviewed by Dave Arteberry at the February 9th board meeting,

with no action necessary. The resolution authorizing the amended lease will be presented to the Board of Education for final approval at the March 9th board meeting.

5. Policy Introduction.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools:

The Blue Valley School District will transition to the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) policy framework effective July 1. Throughout the coming months, the community will be provided opportunities to review the proposed policies and submit feedback as part of the district's policy adoption process.

6. First Reading of Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) Policy Indexes A through M.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools:

[Policy Indexes A - M](#)

The first reading is intended to provide the community with an opportunity to review and submit feedback prior to subsequent Board action.

POLICY REVIEW

Policy Indexes will be considered for Board approval at the scheduled Regular Board of Education Meetings listed below and are subject to change:

March 9, 2026: A, B, C, D, E, F, and H

April 13, 2026: G

May 11, 2026: I and J

June 8, 2026: K, L, and M

All substantive revisions will be clearly identified.

All policies are anticipated to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending any minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel.

E. ACTION ITEMS.

Kent Corser, Director of Technology Operations

1. Approve the Apple Inc. Contract.

Presented by Kent Corser, Director of Technology Operations

I move that the Board of Education approve the Apple Inc. contract with minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Dr David Benson and seconded by Jodie Dietz, Carried.

Dr David Benson: Yea

Jodie Dietz: Yea

Dr. Sonya Evans: Yea

Patrick Hurley: Yea

Jan Kessinger: Yea

Gina Knapp: Yea

Clay Norkey: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

F. CLOSING ITEMS.

1. Board Comments.

Technical Note Reminder: The meeting experienced recurring audio issues. Staff have reviewed the cause and taken corrective measures for future meetings.

Board Member Dr. Evans reported that she recently visited three elementary schools with Dr. Chapman and Board Member Norkey. As a former educator, she expressed appreciation for the faculty and staff, noting she was highly impressed with the instructional activities taking place. She highlighted the effective use of interactive whiteboard technology and commended the overall quality of teaching observed during the visits.

Board Member Gina Knapp wished Board Member Clay Norkey a happy birthday.

Board Member Dietz recognized Board Clerk Anna Sweeney in honor of Kansas Board Clerk Appreciation Day on January 28, expressing appreciation for her work as well as for Alicia Graham's support. She noted that both play an important role in keeping the board organized. She highlighted several positive events happening in the community, including strong theater and music programs. She reported that students and staff were well represented at the Prairie Wind Festival in Lawrence over the weekend. Dietz also attended The Little Mermaid at North on Friday and commended the cast, giving special recognition to the student who performed as Ursula for an exceptional performance.

Board Member Norkey thanked Ms. Shettman for sharing her concerns regarding elementary school changes and noted that her input will be considered.

He recognized the district's award winners, with special mention of Mrs. Ramstad, and congratulated Blue Valley West High alumna Swetha Newcomb, noting her restaurant, Of Course Kitchen & Company, in BluHawk. He remarked that the country is experiencing unusual times but emphasized the district's continued commitment to student safety and to providing high-quality education so that all students can reach their full potential, regardless of external conditions.

2. Adjournment.

The February 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.