

**USD 237 Board of Education Regular Meeting
Board Minutes for Monday, April 13, 2026
216 S. Jefferson St., Smith Center, KS 66967
Smith Center Board of Education Meeting Room**

Item 1. Call to Order

President Marty Hanson called the meeting to order.

7:00 PM

Present for the call to order were Board Members Adam Rentschler, Jodi Frydendall, Joe Wiehl, Libby McDonald, Sara Pruden and Wyatt Rhoades, Superintendent Dustin McEwen, Board Clerk Susan Panter, Principals Michelle Stamm and Greg Koelsch, teachers Travis Elliott and Miranda Attwood and board attorney Kyle Allen.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda - Add/Delete

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of adding to item 13, approval of vo-ag teacher. Joe Wiehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 3. Approval of Consensus Items

- a. Approval of Minutes from March 9, 2026 Regular Meeting
- b. Approval of Minutes Special Meeting March 24, 2026
- c. April 13, 2026 Statements
- d. Approval of Donations
- e. Approval of Summer Food Service Contract - Megan Ord
- f. Approval of Maintenance/Custodial Summer Help Contract - Parker Hutchinson
- g. Approval of Maintenance/Custodial Summer Help Contract - Karson Sasse
- h. Review of Financial Statements/Activity Fund Reports (January-March 2026)
- i. Approval of Request for Personal Leave/Heather Sasse
- j. Approval of Request for Personal Leave/Darren Sasse

Joe Wiehl made a motion to approve the Consensus Items. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 4. Public Forum

Board attorney, Kyle Allen introduced herself to the board. She expressed appreciation for the board.

Item 5. KESA Review - Six Month Check In

Miranda Attwood discussed the KESA six-month check-in that was on Thursday, April 9th. The KESA team met with Dr. Amber Miller with KSDE for the review. The district has met their six-month target goals.

Miranda Attwood left the meeting at 7:16 P.M.

Item 6. Discussion and Possible Approval of Summer Maintenance Wages

Mr. McEwen discussed wages for the summer maintenance positions.

Wyatt Rhoades made a motion to approve the wages for summer maintenance staff at \$12.00 per hour. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 7. Approval of Grant from Srader Foundation for Smith Center Elementary

Mrs. Stamm discussed a grant that was awarded to Smith Center Elementary from the Srader Foundation. The grant would cover concrete work, 3 bike racks and lettering on the front of the building. Mrs. Stamm also discussed some possibilities for the windows on the front of the gym. The board agreed to covering the inside of the windows and painting trim on the outside black to match the window trim on the building.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the grant from the Srader Foundation. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 8. Approval of KASB - Membership Renewal & Legal Assistance Fees

Mr. McEwen discussed the renewal and legal assistance fees for KASB.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the KASB Membership Renewal and Legal Assistance Fees as presented. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 9. Approval of Capacity Numbers for Open Enrollment

Mr. McEwen gave projected capacity numbers for open enrollment.

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve the Capacity Numbers for Open Enrollment as presented. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 10. First Reading and Review of Curriculum Handbooks, Coaches Handbooks, Teachers Handbooks and Student/Parent Handbooks - 2026-2027

Mr. McEwen reviewed changes in the handbooks for the 2026-2027 school year.

Jodi Frydendall left at 7:50

Jodi Frydendall returned at 7:52

Item 11. Reports

- a. Libby McDonald, NCKSEC Interlocal #636 Report
 - Approval of additional assessment monies from districts
- b. Greg Koelsch, Jr-Sr. High Principal Report
 - State assessments started on March 30th and will conclude on April 21st
 - We have hosted many events including FFA livestock competition on March 24th, forensics on March 26th, jr high track meet on April 7th, and varsity golf meet on April 7th. We appreciate all of the community members and staff that helped with these events.
 - Mr. Schlaefli took some students to the cadaver lab in Concordia.
 - On March 30th, the freshmen went to Beloit to visit the vo-tech and the sophomores went to Cloud County to visit the jr. college. The junior class will be visiting FHSU toward the end of April.
 - Congratulations to our 8th grade scholar's bowl team for winning the league championship at the end of March in Oakley.
 - Tryouts have started for next year for both jr. high and high school cheer and high school dance. Chansonaire tryouts will be soon.

- The Do Good Friday community service day was a success again this year. There were 70 kids that showed up. A special thank you to the Smith County Drug and Alcohol Council for paying for lunch and for the Community Central Church for making the food and serving.
- The FFA labor auction was held on Friday, April 9th.
- Trooper Ben will be here to speak with the students on April 15th at 2:00 p.m. The public is welcome to come.
- As we finish up the semester, we will be having end of the year awards, programs, concerts and art and woods shows.

Michelle Stamm, Elementary Principal Report

- Pre School screening will be on April 24th.
- Kansas assessments are currently underway at SCE. Testing began with 5th grade science exams just prior to Easter break. Last week, students completed their English Language Arts assessments. This week, we will conclude the testing cycle with the mathematic assessments.
- Mrs. Roth and Mr. Hackler, together with our students, have begun preparing for this year's spring concerts. The K-3 program will be held on April 21st and the 4th-6th grade program will take place on April 28th.
- We have completed this year's RTLL (Redmen Teachers Love Learning) book study. I appreciate the board's ongoing support for this professional development opportunity.
- Our 2026 Family Literacy Night was a wonderful success. I am thankful that our teachers consistently volunteer their time and energy to foster strong, positive family engagement in our school community.
- Third grade students had a lemonade stand for their economic section in social studies. They will choose a charity to donate some of the proceeds.
- SCE playground - have been talking to representatives about options for equipment. Looking for different avenues to fund the project.

d. Dustin McEwen, Superintendent Report

- We are looking forward to having the summer lunch program back for students and families. More details will be shared soon.
- Open positions - nurse and bus drivers
- Governor Laura Kelly has signed a bill that bans the use of cell phones and personal electronic devices during the school day. The district is looking at different options to be in compliance.
- There are several legislative bills being discussed that could impact school districts.
- There was 6 million added to special ed funding. With this money being split to all school districts, it will not make much of an impact.
- Summer projects - new carpet in jr/sr high office and installing LED lights in one classroom at the grade school.
- NCKSEC shared information regarding next year's local assessments. They are looking at a 20% increase from the total assessment the district sent this year.

Item 12. Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen, Greg Koelsch and Michelle Stamm move into Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **8:25 PM**. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:15 PM**

Susan Panter, Travis Elliott and Kyle Allen left the closed meeting

8:15 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen, Greg Koelsch and Michelle Stamm discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter and Travis Elliott returned to the open meeting.

8:25 PM

Item 13. Approval of Contract for Elementary Teacher and Vo-Ag Teacher

Wyatt Rhoades made a motion to approve Lynsey Stewart as an Elementary Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve Emma Meyer as Vo-Ag Teacher at the high school for the 2026-2027 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 14. Possible Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of the Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and possible KASB representative for consultation move into Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of twenty (20) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **8:48 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:28**

PM

Susan Panter, Greg Koelsch, Michelle Stamm and Travis Elliott left the closed meeting.

8:28 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen and a possible KASB representative discussed personnel matters.

Libby McDonald left the closed meeting at 8:38 PM.

Libby McDonald returned to the closed meeting at 8:40 PM

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

8:48 PM

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and possible KASB representative for consultation move into Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of twenty (20) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **9:08 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:48**

PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **8:48 PM**

The board members, Mr. McEwen and a possible KASB representative discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **9:08 PM**

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and possible KASB representative for consultation move into Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of twenty (20) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **9:28 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **9:08**

PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **9:08 PM**

The board members, Mr. McEwen and a possible KASB representative discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **9:28 PM**

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and possible KASB representative for consultation move into Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **9:38 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved

by a 7-0 vote.

9:28

PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

9:28 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen and a possible KASB representative discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter and Travis Elliott returned to the open meeting.

9:38 PM

Joe Wiehl, Sara Pruden and Mr. McEwen left the meeting at 9:40 PM

Joe Wiehl, Sara Pruden and Mr. McEwen returned to the meeting at 9:42 PM

Item 15. Executive Session - Personnel - Supplemental Contracts - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into Executive Session - Personnel - Supplemental Contracts - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of fifteen (15) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **9:58 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

9:43 PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

9:43 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

9:58 PM

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into Executive Session - Personnel - Supplemental Contracts - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of fifteen (15) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **10:13 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was

approved by a 7-0 vote.

9:58 PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

9:58 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

10:13 PM

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into Executive Session - Personnel - Supplemental Contracts - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for a period of ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **10:23 PM**. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

10:13 PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

10:13 PM

The board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott discussed personnel matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

10:23 PM

Item 16. Approval of Supplemental Hires

Sara Pruden made a motion to approve Avery Hawkins as head high school football coach, Alex Hobelmann as assistant high school football coach and Matt Haack as head jr high football coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Joe Wiehl made a motion to approve Ashley Breshears as junior class sponsor for the 2026-2027 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Wyatt Rhoades made a motion to approve Javenia Stansbury as high school spirit sponsor and Amber Davis as high school scarletts dance sponsor for the 2026-2027 school year. Joe Wiehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote.

Wyatt Rhoades made a motion to approve Greg Frank as head golf coach and Alex Hobelmann as assistant golf coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Joe Wiehl made a motion to approve Shareece Hileman as concessions director and Ashley Breshears as assistant concessions director for the 2026-2027 school year. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Sara Pruden made a motion to approve Avery Hawkins as high school wrestling coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Joe Wiehl made a motion to approve Brandon Hrabe as jr high head girls basketball coach and high school head girls basketball coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-2 vote.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve Denyse Kattenberg as head high school volleyball coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Item 17. Possible Approval of Contract Extensions

Joe Wiehl made a motion to approve the principal contract extension for Michelle Stamm for the 2027-2028 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the principal contract extension for Greg Koelsch for the 2027-2028 school year. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was not approved with a vote of 3-4.

Item 18. Executive Session - Negotiations - Preliminary Discussion of Letter Pursuant to Employer-Employee Negotiations Under KOMA

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members and Mr. McEwen move into Executive Session - Negotiations - Preliminary Discussion of Letter Pursuant to Employer-Employee Negotiations Under KOMA for a period of ten (10) minutes,

returning to the open meeting in this room at **10:44 PM**. Joe Wiehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Susan Panter and Travis Elliott left the closed meeting. **10:34 PM**

The board members and Mr. McEwen discussed negotiation matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **10:44 PM**

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members and Mr. McEwen move into Executive Session - Negotiations - Preliminary Discussion of Letter Pursuant to Employer-Employee Negotiations Under KOMA for a period of five (5) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **10:49 PM**. Joe Wiehl seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **10:44 PM**

The board members and Mr. McEwen discussed negotiation matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **10:49 PM**

Item 19. Board Comments

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at the old hospital on Friday, April 17th at 11:00.

Item 20. Adjourn

Adam Rentschler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **10:51 PM**

....."it shall be my constant endeavor to devote time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a school board member so that I may render effective and credible service....."

School Board Member Code of Ethics

Marty Hanson, President

Susan Panter, Clerk

USD #237 Smith Center does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicap, or age in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Any questions regarding the compliance with Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 may be directed to Mr. Dustin McEwen, Title IX Coordinator, who can be reached at (785)-282-6665, 216 South Jefferson, Smith Center, Kansas 66967