

**USD 237 Board of Education Regular Meeting
Board Minutes for Wednesday, December 10, 2025
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 Jodi Frydendall, Adam Rentschler, Libby McDonald and Sara Pruden, Superintendent Dustin McEwen, Board Clerk Susan Panter, and Principals Michelle Stamm and Greg Koelsch, Patrons Joe Wiehl and Wyatt Rhoades. Board members Theron Haresnape and Steve Overmiller were not present.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda - Add/Delete

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item 18 executive session - discuss confidential student information - the exception relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a student under KOMA and moving board comments to item 19 and adjourn to item 20. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 3. Approval of Consensus Items

- a. November 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- b. December 10, 2025 Statements
- c. Approval of Leave Requests per Negotiated Agreement
- d. Approval of Donations
- e. Approval of Bus Driver Contract - Pam Gobble

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve the Consensus Items. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 4. Public Forum

None

Item 5. Approval of Buy Board Purchasing Agreement

Mr. McEwen presented information to join the BuyBoard purchasing cooperative. Districts can join to help with compliance, simplify purchasing and competitive pricing. Mr. McEwen stated that joining would be beneficial for the district with potential projects and purchases in the future.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the purchasing agreement with BuyBoard. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 6. Approval of Sale of Rock from Roof

Mr. McEwen discussed the large rock from the roof that the district could sell. Kelly Lyon was contacted to see if he would be interested in purchasing the rock. The district also has some trees that need to be removed north of the current football field and at the old football field. Kelly gave the district a quote of \$6,000.00 for the tree removal and would pay \$2,500.00 for the rock. The district would pay the difference of \$3,500.00.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the quote for the removal of trees and sale of rock to Kelly Lyon. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 7. Approval of New Fund for District Accounting - Freedom Claims

Mr. McEwen requested approval for a Fund 48 to the district's budget for Freedom Claims as a third party administrator for health benefits. Mapes and Miller suggested that the district make a separate fund for Freedom Claims.

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve Fund 48 to the district's budget for Freedom Claims. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 8. Approval of High School Chart of Accounts for Activity Fund

Mr. McEwen requested the approval of new activity accounts for the high school. These include Class of 2028, Class of 2029, Class of 2030, Class of 2031, JH Girls Volleyball, Coffee Cart and Band Fees.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the new activity accounts for the high school. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

Item 9. Discussion and Action of Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Osborne County

Mr. McEwen discussed the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Osborne County. The district has a small piece of land in Osborne County. Due to the process that the district would have to go through, Mr. McEwen does not think this would be beneficial.

Libby McDonald made a motion to not approve the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Osborne County. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 10. Approval of Roofmasters Final Payment

Mr. McEwen discussed the final payment to Roofmasters. The district received the 20 year warranty documentation. The architect has reached out to roofmasters about some repairs that need to be made. There was discussion on the repairs being finished before paying the final payment to Roofmasters.

Jodi Frydenall made a motion to approve the final payment to Roofmasters pending outstanding project requirements. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Item 11. Approval of Health Insurance Retirement Policy

Mr. McEwen discussed the district's health insurance retirement policy. The district has always followed the statute but Freedom Claims stated that the district needs a policy in place. Mr. McEwen contacted KASB attorneys and they suggested writing a policy stating the statute.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the district's health insurance retirement policy. Libby McDonald seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Theron Haresnape arrived at 7:36 p.m.

Item 12. Discussion and Approval of Seeking a Maintenance Truck

Mr. McEwen discussed the purchase of a maintenance truck. Mr. McEwen asked for approval from the board for a RFP to seek a ¾ ton truck and send it out to some dealerships. If we need to add something to the truck, we can do that at a later date.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the search for a maintenance truck up to \$30,000. Theron Haresnape seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 13. Discussion of Preliminary Legal Max Letter

Mr. McEwen went over numbers from the SO66 that go onto the Preliminary Legal Max Letter. He reviewed how the funding is calculated for the General and LOB funds. Mr. McEwen gave estimates of what he thought the final legal max would be.

Item 14. Discussion of Non-Resident Enrollment Procedures

Mr. McEwen discussed the district's procedures for non-resident students. He asked the board for guidance of students that enroll outside of the application window, which is January 1 through June 15. It was the consensus that the principals would make sure the student is in good standing and then the student would be able to start school before board approval.

Item 15. Discussion of Board Retreat

Mr. McEwen discussed having a board retreat. This would be beneficial for the district with two experienced board members leaving. It would provide outside help with facilitating discussion and provide insights into school governance. The nearest KASB field specialist to Smith Center is Bill Biermann. Mr. McEwen will check on dates in late February or early March.

Item 16. First Reading of KASB Board Policies December 2025

Mr. McEwen went over changes, additions and deletions of Board Policies.

Item 17. Reports

- a. Libby McDonald, NCKSEC Interlocal #636 Report
 - Changing the way progress notes are being done to be in compliance
 - Special ed funding was discussed
- b. Greg Kolesch, Jr-Sr. High Principal Report
 - High school choir and Chansonaires performed at league vocal event on November 10th
 - Mrs. Armknecht took 15 students to the FHSU Math Relays on November 13th. Overall the team placed 8th.
 - NHS hosted a blood drive on November 14th.
 - The high school football team ended their season on November 21st at Sterling. The team had a great season.
 - Mr. Hackler and the music students have been working hard for their concert on December 17th
- c. Michelle Stamm, SCE Principal Report
 - Christmas programs are Monday, December 8th and Tuesday, December 16th
 - Classroom teachers have been working on completing winter Fastbridge
 - Christmas dress up days will start on Monday, December 15th
 - Jingle walk is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th
 - Christmas parties will be Thursday, December 18th
 - Students will watch a movie on Friday, December 19th
 - SITE Council is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 17th

- d. Dustin McEwen, Superintendent Report
- Sub State basketball will be in Smith Center
 - Regional speech and drama in Claflin
 - KESA Action Plan - needed clarification on one area and was submitted on Tuesday, December 9th
 - Christmas concerts were well attended. Mrs. Roth did a great job.
 - NCKSEC open house December 12th
 - The district had a training provider audit for transportation on December 9th
 - Mrs. Panter and Mr. McEwen attending a KMAGG conference on December 12th in Colby
 - Mapes and Miller audit report will be in January or February
 - Mr. Wagenblast will be attending a new transportation director workshop on December 18th

Wyatt Rhoades, Joe Wiehl and Michelle Stamm left the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Item 18. Executive Session - Discuss Confidential Student Information - the Exception Relating to Actions Adversely or Favorably Affecting a Student Under KOMA

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and Mr. Koelsch move into executive session - discuss confidential student information - the exception relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a student under KOMA for ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **8:57 P.M.** Theron Haresnape seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

8:47 PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

8:47 PM

The Board Members, Mr. McEwen and Mr. Koelsch discussed student matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

8:57 PM

Adam Rentschler made a motion that the board members, Mr. McEwen and Mr. Koelsch move into executive session - discuss confidential student information - the exception relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a student under KOMA for five (5) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at **9:02 P.M.** Theron Haresnape seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

8:57 PM

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

8:57 PM

The Board Members, Mr. McEwen and Mr. Koelsch discussed student matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

9:02 PM

Item 19. Board Comments

A plaque was presented to Theron Haresnape for serving on the board.

Item 20. Adjourn

Adam Rentschler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

9:07 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