Unified School District 237

216 South Jefferson • Smith Center, Kansas 66967 • Telephone 785-282-6665
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USD 237 Board of Education Regular Meeting
Board Minutes for Monday, October 12, 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, Libby McDonald, Sara Pruden and Wyatt Rhoades, Superintendent Dustin McEwen, Board Clerk Susan Panter, and Principals Travis Elliott and Michelle Stamm.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda - Add/Delete

Wyatt Rhoades made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item e. to the consensus items, Kansas Homeland Security Region F Hazard Mitigation Plan. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 3. Approval of Consensus Items

a. September 14, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
b. October 12, 2026 Statements
c. Approval of Donations
d. Review of Financial Statements/Activity Fund Report (July-September 2026)
e. Kansas Homeland Security Region F Hazard Mitigation Plan

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve the Consensus Items. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 4. Public Forum

None

Item 5. Approval of New Chart of Accounts for High School

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve a new chart of account for the Class of 2032 and Smith County Drug and Alcohol Youth Council at the high school. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 6. Approval of Head Lice Policy

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the head lice policy recommended by Smith County Family Practice. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 7. Presentation on the At-Risk Accountability Plan Requirements from the Legislature

Mr. McEwen reviewed the regulations from the state regarding the at-risk accountability plan. He has been working with Mrs. Stamm to get this plan submitted by the October 31st deadline.

Item 8. Reports

a. Libby McDonald, NCKSEC Interlocal #636 Report
- Nothing to Report

b. Travis Elliott, Principal's Report
- October 12th is the last week of the first quarter. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for October 27th.
- Juniors attended a college fair at Osborne on September 29th.
- The ACT WorkKeys is next week for juniors.
- Homecoming week went well. The students had an attempted bonfire, pep rally, painted windows and had good school spirit.
- The high school students had an assembly on September 29th with a reading of the US Constitution with the Daughters of the American Revolution.
- We enrolled in the Seatbelts Are For Everyone (SAFE) program for this year.
- On September 30th, all junior high students and interested high school students had a presentation about this year's YEC competition.
- New locker room signs have been installed in the high school.
- The wiring has been completed for the new shot clocks.
- All Hudl equipment has arrived.
- The display case has been updated with additional items and display materials.

c. Michelle Stamm, Principal's Report
- We distributed 501 donuts this year at our Donuts with Grownups event. We are grateful for support from Brooks Flooring, Allen & McDowell Law, Central Community Church, Gene's Heartland Foods and Smith County Bank. Jodi Frydendall, Judy Schmidt and Shelli Younger provided exceptional support with organizing, cleaning and managing donuts and juice this year.

- Our Book Fair week turned out to be another thriving and successful week that generated substantial funds for both our classrooms and our school library.
- 6th grade students have been completing their Hunter Safety curriculum with Mr. Allen and Mr. Lambert. They participated in their outdoor field day on October 6th alongside community law enforcement personnel at Sasse Farms. I appreciate that our students have access to this program and am thankful for our educators and law enforcement partners who make the safety instruction possible.
- Our playground committee is actively engaged in both fundraising initiatives and grant writing efforts. We are steadily progressing toward achieving our initial financial goal of $10,000.
- During the past nine weeks, our students have experienced numerous learning opportunities beyond the classroom, including the following: 4th grade Ag Day, 6th grade WACKY day, 2nd grade to the Apple Depot, 5th grade to the Pawnee Indian Museum and 3rd grade to Sun Porch.

d. Dustin McEwen, Superintendent's Report

- The KESA DLT team met on October 12th. Discussion included quality instruction, professional collaboration and tiered systems of support.

Item 9. Discussion of the Current Conditions of the USD 237 Track and Possible Solutions

Mr. McEwen discussed the condition of the track at the high school. There was a meeting with Mammoth on some possible options which include removing the existing track surface and replacing it with a new surface or starting over and rebuilding the track. Mr. McEwen located the blueprints from the track when it was built in 2009. He sent these blueprints to Mammoth to review. Mammoth recommended having core samples done to determine what base was used for the existing track.

Joe Wiehl arrived at 7:51 p.m.

Item 10. Discussion on Procedure for Adding Graphics to the Activity Bus

Mr. McEwen reached out to a company regarding graphics for the new activity bus. They provided some examples of graphics. Mr. McEwen will reach out to some other companies to get estimates.

Item 11. Review of the Current BOE Goals

Mr. McEwen reviewed the current board of education goals. He would like to have the board make their own goals. He gave some suggestions on five areas that he would like to see the board expand on.

Michellle Stamm left at 8:28 p.m.

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

Joe Wiehl made a motion that the Board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into executive session - personnel - to protect the interest of the 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 **8:46 PM**. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:31 PM**

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **8:31 PM**

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

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **8:46 PM**

Joe Wiehl made a motion that the Board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into executive session - personnel - to protect the interest of the 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 **8:56 PM**. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:46 PM**

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **8:46 PM**

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

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **8:56 PM**

Joe Wiehl made a motion that the Board members, Mr. McEwen and Travis Elliott move into executive session - personnel - to protect the interest of the 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 **9:06 PM**. Wyatt Rhoades seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **8:56 PM**

Susan Panter left the closed meeting. **8:56 PM**

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

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting. **9:06 PM**

Jodi Frydendall made a motion to terminate the high school cheerleading sponsor for the 2026-2027 school year effective immediately. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote.

Item 13. Board Comments

None

Item 14. Adjourn

Sara Pruden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jodi Frydendall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **9:08 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

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