

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026, 5:30 PM

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

A. OPENING ITEMS.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Presented by Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer

The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Sadie Orrick, a 5th -grade student from Cottonwood Point Elementary.

2. Awards.

Presented by Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer

Distinguished Service Award Recipient:

Kathy Hundley is the Food Service Manager at Blue Valley West High School.

Excellence in Education Recipient:

Kathy Brox is a 1st-grade teacher at Cottonwood Point Elementary School.

B. REGULAR AGENDA.

1. Call the Meeting to Order.

Board President Jan Kessinger called the March 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

2. Approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Agenda.

I move that the Board of Education approve the March 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda as published. 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

3. Legislative Update.

Presented by Patty Markley of Markley Strategies, LLC.

4. Public Comments.

Presented by Board President, Jan Kessinger

Nine patrons addressed the Board of Education:

Mari-Lynn Poskin Discuss 5th grade strings

Clay Shafer Speak about 5th grade music

Sheri Cain Speak on the 5th Grade Strings program

Carter Vleisides My experience with the music program, and not cut funding

Jennifer Jarrell Addressing upcoming budget cuts

Nathan Shyver 5th Grade Strings--positive impact on BV families

Ella Ballek Speak about the importance to not eliminate the 5th grade strings

Cindy Holscher School funding issues

Adele Van Lieshout My experience with and the importance of orchestra program

C. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Approve the Consent Agenda.

Board President, Jan Kessinger

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.

The Board President called for a 5-minute break for the closed captioner at 6:53 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

I move that the Board of Education approve the March 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting consent agenda as published with minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Gina Knapp, 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.

Meeting minutes shall be considered draft until formally approved by the Board of Education.

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.

Bids and contracts may not be available until the day of the Board meeting. All agreements and contracts are subject to the final approval by the Board of Education's attorney.

The Board of Education approved the Bids and Contracts.

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

The Human Resources Personnel Report and Addendum may not be available until the day of the Board meeting.

The Board of Education approved the Human Resources Report and HR Addendum.

Dr. Chapman announced Dr. Emily Gill as the new principal of Valley Park Elementary and Jenny Hayes as the new principal of Leawood Elementary for the 2026-27 school year.

6. Approve the Claims Report, the Disbursement Report, and the Special Fund Transfers.

The Board of Education approved the Claims Report, the Distribution Report, and the Special Transfers.

7. Adopt the Blue Valley Recreation Center Refunding COPS Resolution.

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 resolution authorizing the amended lease will be presented to the Board of Education for final approval at the March 9 board meeting.

The Board of Education adopted the Blue Valley Recreation Center Refunding COPS Resolution.

8. Appoint Board Liaison for the Kansas Association of School Boards' Region 11 Legislative Committee.

The Board of Education will appoint Jan Kessinger as the Board Liaison for the Kansas Association of School Boards' Region 11 Legislative Committee.

The Board of Education approved the appointment of Jan Kessinger as the Board Liaison for the Kansas Association of School Boards' Region 11 Legislative Committee.

D. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS.

1. Superintendent's Report.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools Recognition of 3rd and 4th Year Members of KMEA.

2. Board of Education Reports.

Board Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

3. Bond Committee Conversations Update.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer

4. Finance and Operations Committee Proposed Fee Update.

Presented by Jeremy McFadden, CFO
Informational only. To be voted on at the April 13, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

5. Review the 2027-28 District Calendar Draft.

Presented by Dr. Collier, Deputy Superintendent of Learning
Informational only. To be voted on at the April 13, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

6. Policy Update.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools
Policy Indexes A - M were presented for the first reading at the Regular Board of Education Meeting on February 9, 2026, with the intention of providing 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.

1. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index A.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index A: School District Organization policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index A as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Dr. Sonya Evans, 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 Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index B.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index B: School Board Operations policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index B as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Dr. Sonya Evans, 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

3. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index C.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index C: General School policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index C as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Dr David Benson and seconded by Dr. Sonya Evans, 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

4. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index D.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index D: Fiscal Management policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index D as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Patrick Hurley, 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

5. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index E.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index E: Business Management policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index E as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Dr. Sonya Evans, 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

6. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index F.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index F: Facility Expansion Program policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policy Index F, with the exception of FC, as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Patrick Hurley 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

7. Approve the Kansas Association of School Board Policies in Index H.

Presented by Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

Index H: Negotiations policies recommended for adoption effective July 1, 2026.

The Executive Summary identifies the KASB policies within each index recommended for adoption, outlines any substantive revisions, and notes the policies that are not recommended for approval.

I move that the Board of Education approve the KASB Policies in Index H as listed, to take effect on July 1, 2026, pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Patrick Hurley 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

8. Approve the contract with Apple, Inc.

Presented by Kent Corser, Director of Technology Operations

Purchase of Apple iMacs and MacBook Pros to replace/refresh the older iMacs and MacBook Pros currently in MS and/or HS Art, Journalism, Broadcast and Computer Science classrooms for student instructional use.

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

9. Approve the contract with Circadia Construction.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer
BVNW SPED Improvements.

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with Circadia Construction pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Patrick Hurley 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

10. Approve the contract with Universal Construction Company Inc.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer

Foundation repair at OMS, LVE, and OTM

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with Universal Construction Company Inc pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Patrick Hurley, 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

11. Approve the contract with Mike Dusselier Concrete Flatwork Company.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer

Blue Valley will continue our partnership with Dusselier Concrete for the District's concrete and flatwork needs after a 5-year RFP expires.

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with the Mike Dusselier Concrete Flatwork Company pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Patrick Hurley, 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

12. Approve the contract with Circadia.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer
OMS & HMS Flooring Replacements

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with Circadia Construction pending 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

13. Approve the contract with EF Commercial Flooring LLC.

Presented by Jake Slobodnik, Chief Operations Officer
MTE & HRT Flooring Replacements.

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with EF Commercial Flooring LLC pending minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Gina Knapp 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

14. Approve the contract with BSN Sports.

Presented by Matt Ortman, Director of School Administration

I move that the Board of Education approve the contract with BSN Sports. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Patrick Hurley, 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. Other Matters Before the Board.

Presented by Board President, Jan Kessinger

None.

2. Board Comments.

Presented by the Board of Education

Board Member Dietz recognized International Women's Day and expressed appreciation for her fellow board members, Dr. Chapman, district administration, legal staff, and the board clerks. She noted it is an honor to serve alongside dedicated and accomplished women throughout the organization.

oard Member Benson expressed appreciation for the music supporters who presented at the meeting, noting that their prepared and focused comments added credibility to their message. He also shared that he recently read to a group of second-grade students and described it as a very positive experience.

Board Member Norkey thanked Representative Poskin and Senator Holscher, as well as several community members, teachers, students, and parents who spoke during Open Forum. He noted that their comments were helpful to the Board discussion. He also remarked on the challenges the district is facing during the current legislative session and highlighted concerns raised during public comment about the impact of proposed state legislative actions on schools and students. He encouraged community members to stay informed and engage with their legislators.

Board Member Knapp added that not one Board member wishes to cut performing arts or other district programs, noting that current discussions stem from budgetary constraints. She explained that information is being shared now because there is still time for the public to engage with state legislators regarding school funding. She referenced concerns about how certain legislative actions and voting patterns may impact K-12 education. Legislators who have not voted in favor of K-12 are Senator Warren, Representative Tarwater, Representative Croft, and Representative Turner, here in Blue Valley. Those are the folks that need to be contacted because they are continuously voting against the best interest of K through 12 education, and at times, Senator Rose. Knapp emphasized that the Board's challenge lies in making the budget work while protecting valued programs.

Board Member Evans echoed the comments of her colleagues, noting the district's exceptional students and the strong programs that support their success. She highlighted recent visits to student performances and events, such as musicals, plays, art fairs, and science fairs, and expressed pride in the high-quality work students produce. Evans emphasized the importance of continued support from district patrons and the community, stating that the Board, staff, and families all share a commitment to doing what is best for students.

Board Member Hurley encouraged continued engagement with state legislators, noting the importance of understanding how legislative actions may affect district programs and long-term educational quality. He invited legislators to attend meetings and share how they plan to support and protect educational opportunities for current and future students. Hurley also highlighted the role of KSHSAA in overseeing athletics and activities and encouraged parents to review related rules and policies, providing feedback if they believe any are unfair or overly restrictive. He emphasized the district's commitment to ensuring equitable opportunities for all students and maintaining a safe and supportive

environment.

Board Member Kessinger commented that the public forum demonstrated strong community support for education, noting the thoughtful input provided by students, parents, and other attendees. He observed that quality schools are a key factor families and businesses consider when choosing to locate in the area, based on his past experience working in economic development. Kessinger emphasized that a strong education system is essential to attracting investment and supporting the state's future.

3. Adjournment.

Presented by Board President, Jan Kessinger

Board President Jan Kessinger adjourned the March 9, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting at 8:27 p.m.