

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Blue Valley Unified School District No. 229

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, January 12, 2026, 5:30 PM

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

A. OPENING ITEMS.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Speaker: Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer

Olivia Rowe, a 3rd-grade student from Blue River Elementary, will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Administer the Oath of Office.

Speaker: Anna Sweeney, Board Clerk

Dr. Sonya Evans will be sworn in for a four-year term as Member 4, representing the Northeast Area on the Board of Education. Dr. Evans was originally appointed by the Board of Education in 2023 to fill a vacant seat.

Gina Knapp will be sworn in for her second four-year term as Member 5, representing the Northwest Area on the Board of Education. She was first elected in 2021.

Dr. David Benson will be sworn in for his first four-year term as Member 6, representing the South Area on the Board of Education.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

3. Awards and Recognitions.

Speaker: Kaci Brutto, Chief Communications Officer

Distinguished Service Award:

- Paul Burgi is the Maintenance Technician for the District.

Excellence in Education Recipient:

- Angela Guinn is a Library Media Specialist at Indian Valley Elementary.

Special Recognitions:

- Blue Valley Southwest Senior Glitter Girls
- Students who received perfect ACT scores:
 - Andrew Golden - BVNW
 - Zayna Ahmed - BVSW
 - Melody Xue - BVH
 - William Golden - BVNW
 - Ananya Agrawal - BVW
- School Board Appreciation Month

4. Public Comments.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

One patron addressed the Board of Education:
Steve Roberts - the importance of diversity

B. REGULAR AGENDA.

1. Call the Meeting to Order.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

Board President Jan Kessinger called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. Approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Agenda.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

I move that the Board of Education approve the January 12, 2026, Regular Board of Education meeting agenda as published. 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

C. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Approve the Consent Agenda.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

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.

Vice President Clay Norkey requested that contracts with Apple, CDW Government, Imagine Learning, and McCown Gordon be removed from the Consent Agenda item C.4, Bids and Contracts, and be voted on separately by creating a new section, labeled as Action Item E, re-lettering the Closing Items section to F.

2. Approve the Meeting Minutes.

The Board of Education approved the Meeting Minutes.

I move that the Board of Education approve the January 12, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting consent agenda as published with minor edits deemed necessary by legal counsel. This motion, made by Clay Norkey 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 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. The following contracts were pulled to be voted on separately in Section E. Action Items: Apple, Imagine Learning, CDW Government, and McCown Gordon.

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 Personnel Report and Addendum.

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

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

7. Approve Middle School Programming Guide 2026-27.

The Board of Education approved the Middle School Programming Guide.

8. Adopt the Resolution to Establish Election of School Board Officers.

The Board of Education adopted the Resolution to Establish Election of School Board Officers.

9. Adopt the Resolution to Establish the 2026-2027 Regular Board of Education Meeting Dates.

The Board of Education adopted the Resolution to Establish the 2026-2027 Regular Board of Education Meeting Dates.

10. Adopt a Resolution Approving a ground sublease between Blue Valley Recreation Commission and Youth Scoreboards, LLC.

For the installation of scoreboards at Blue Valley Recreation Center ball fields.

The Board of Education adopted the Resolution Approving a ground sublease between Blue Valley Recreation Commission and Youth Scoreboards, LLC.

D. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS.

1. Board of Education Reports.

Speaker: Jodie Dietz, Board Member
12.15.25 Community Meeting Minutes

2. Superintendent's Report.

Speaker: Dr. Gillian Chapman, Superintendent of Schools

3. Budget Outlook.

Speaker: Jeremy McFadden, CFO

The Board President requested a 5-minute break for the closed captioner at 6:56 p.m. The meeting resumed at 7:01 p.m.

The contracts below were pulled from the Consent Agenda Item C.4. Bids and Contracts to be voted on separately. Section E was automatically added to the agenda for these items.

E. Action Items:

1. Approve the Apple Inc. contract. DESCRIPTION: The Apple Inc. contract is for the annual purchase of Apple MacBook Airs for the 2026-27 9th-grade class, as part of our 1:1 program for an estimated \$1,953,291.

I move that the Board of Education approve the Apple In. contract. This motion, made by Jodie Dietz and seconded by Patrick Hurley, Carried.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- Benson: *Yea*
- Dietz: *Yea*
- Kessinger: *Yea*
- Evans: *Yea*
- Hurley: *Yea*
- Knapp: *Yea*
- Norkey: *Yea*

2. Approve the CDW Government Inc. contract. DESCRIPTION:

The CDW Government Inc. contract is for the annual purchase of Acer Chromebooks for the 2026-27 6th-grade class, as part of our 1:1 program for an estimated \$961,500.

I move that the Board of Education approve the CDW Government Inc. contract. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Dr David Benson, Carried.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- Benson: *Yea*
- Dietz: *Yea*
- Kessinger: *Yea*
- Evans: *Yea*
- Hurley: *Yea*
- Knapp: *Yea*
- Norkey: *Yea*

3. Approve the Imagine Learning LLC contract. DESCRIPTION: The Imagine Learning LLC contract for the purchase of the Imagine Learning Math package as our curricular resource for our high school AGA courses (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and associated courses) for an estimated \$1,382,266.

I move that the Board of Education approve the Imagine Learning LLC contract. This motion, made by Clay Norkey and seconded by Jodie Dietz, Carried.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- Benson: *Yea*

- Dietz: *Yea*
- Kessinger: *Yea*
- Evans: *Yea*
- Hurley: *Yea*
- Knapp: *Yea*
- Norkey: *Yea*

4. Approve the McCown Gordon Construction contract. DESCRIPTION: Stillwell Elementary Exterior Improvement Project will provide new insulation and bring the building up to today's energy standards for an estimated \$7,287,236.

I move that the Board of Education approve the McCown Gordon Construction contract. This motion, made by Gina Knapp and seconded by Dr Sonya Evans, Carried. MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- Benson: *Yea*
- Dietz: *Yea*
- Kessinger: *Yea*
- Evans: *Yea*
- Hurley: *Yea*
- Knapp: *Yea*
- Norkey: *Yea*

E. ~~CLOSING ITEMS.~~ Section E. Closing Items is now section F.

F. CLOSING ITEMS.

F.1. Board Member Comments.

Speaker(s): Board of Education

Agenda item E.1. is now F.1.

Jodie Dietz thanked the Blue Valley community for the notes of appreciation for board member appreciation month. She enjoyed the Blue Valley Northwest music group.

Dr. David Benson expressed his appreciation to the Board for bringing him and orientating the processes of the district. He looks forward to serving the community and thanked the community for their trust.

Clay Norkey welcomed Dr. Benson and expressed enthusiasm for working with her over the next two years. Clay also thanked Mr. Roberts for his participation in the open forum

and for his book recommendation. He praised the BV Northwest Choir's performance, noting it was exceptionally impressive and worth attending future events. He also acknowledged the first meeting of the calendar year and its overlap with the opening of the Kansas Legislative Session and highlighted concerns discussed during the meeting regarding inadequate special education funding and issues related to maintaining local control. He noted emerging legislative proposals that could override district-level decisions, specifically mentioning bills affecting the district's cell phone policy. He encouraged community members to stay informed about legislation that impacts the district and to communicate with lawmakers and emphasized the value of local decision-making and expressed concerns about "one size fits all" state mandates that may not serve individual communities well.

Gina Knapp also encouraged community members to actively communicate with state legislators by urging the legislature to fully fund Special Education services, respect local control, and include the district's cell phone policy. As well as focus on issues that directly impact student safety, particularly gun safety measures that only the legislature has the authority to enact. Gina also enjoyed BV Northwest Choir and thanked Director Beth Richey Sullivan, noting her outstanding leadership and the exceptional talent of the choir students. She expressed gratitude for the choir's performance and agreed to attend an upcoming concert.

Dr. Sonya Evans also welcomed Dr. Benson and expressed enthusiasm for him joining the Board. She felt the student musical performance was moving and gave her "chills" and "goose bumps." Dr. Evans expressed feeling energized, passionate, and ready to advocate for Blue Valley.

Patrick Hurley expressed appreciation for all individuals involved in Board Appreciation activities, including messages and emails received throughout the month. He welcomed Dr. Benson as a new member of the Board and congratulated the two recently reelected members on their successful campaigns. He emphasized the importance of community engagement and awareness regarding district and legislative matters. He also encouraged patrons to communicate with Board members and to stay in contact with their legislators. He urged community members to expect strong representation and values-aligned decision-making from elected officials, noting that actions taken in Topeka have direct impact on local schools and families.

Jan Kessinger echoed previous board member comments regarding the choir performance and the appreciation shown to the Board. He also expressed gratitude for the thoughtful "Board Appreciation" gestures, noting it is meaningful to feel valued by staff, teachers, students, and the administration. Jan thanked Jeremy for his consistent work providing data that helps the Board anticipate challenges and make informed decisions proactively rather than reactively.

F2. Adjournment.

Speaker: Jan Kessinger, Board President

Agenda item E.2. is now **F.2.**

The January 12, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.