

USD 263
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
August 10, 2026
7:00 P.M.
DISTRICT OFFICES-628 E. MULVANE
unofficial draft
MINUTES

****Please be respectful-No cell phone use or texting during the meeting. Mute or turn off phones.***

1.0 MEETING OPENING

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jeff Ellis with the following members present: Destiny Myers, Fred Heersche, Crystal Smith, Chris Heersche, Stacy Gear, and Steve Fry.

Also present: Dr. Jay Ensley, Doug Hatfield, Trista Cuthbertson, Colin Cathey, Kasahra Cotton, Chantel Johnson, Erica Mize, Heather Parrott, and Clerk Schifferdecker.

1.2 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

1.2.1 KASB Board Member Lunch and Learn-Superintendent Evaluation, August 18, 2026, 11:30 am -1:00 pm (online)

1.2.2 KASB Board Leaders Table Talk, August 12, 2026, noon-1:00 pm (online)

1.3 “GOOD NEWS” BY BOE MEMBERS

*Crystal Smith stated that the kids are excited about the turf field.

1.4 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1.4.1 Chantel Johnson, Munson Primary Principal, reported that teachers are in the building preparing their classrooms. New teachers and mentors met last week. Munson staff are a great bunch. Open House will be on the 13th.

1.4.2. Erica Mize, Mulvane Grade School Principal, thanked the maintenance crew for their work in preparing the building and grounds for the school year. Staff is getting ready to welcome students. Boogie on the Blacktop is scheduled for August 25th.

1.4.3 Colin Cathey, Mulvane Middle School Principal, noted that the custodial staff has worked hard and the building looks amazing. It’s exciting to have staff back. They are looking forward to Open House.

1.4.4 Jeromy Swearingen, Mulvane High School Principal, thanked the custodial crew for their work over the summer. He appreciated the updates from Mr. Canfield and Mr. Ellis on the turf and roof projects. Thanks to Trista Cuthbertson and Glenda Cowell for the great job on New Teacher Welcome and Orientation. Band, choir, and music camps are taking place. STUCO had their lock-in. Welcome to Kasahra Cotton, our new MHS Asst Principal.

1.4.5 Heather Parrott, Mulvane Middle School Asst Principal, reported that they are prepping for fall athletics and excited for Thursday’s Fall Sports Parent Meeting.

- 1.4.6 Trista Cuthbertson, Asst Superintendent, reported that we will welcome all staff tomorrow with choiceboard sessions slated for the morning. Back-to-School Night is Thursday.
- 1.4.7 Dr. Jay Ensley, Superintendent, noted that the summer crews did a fantastic job. Tomorrow is Kick-off Day. Thanks to the Mulvane Chamber for their sponsorship and Carson Bank for the staff breakfast. Open House is Thursday evening.

1.5 MEA REPORT-no report

2.0 APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA

Motion made by Fred Heersche to approve the agenda and to move *Executive Session 8.1 Non-Elected Personnel* up to the first item on the agenda, and move *Discussion/Report Item 7.1 Building Needs Assessment and State Assessment Review* up in the agenda ahead of *Discussion/Action Item 6.1 Budget Option and Set Budget Hearing*. Second by Chris Heersche. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Stacy Gear to add *Executive Session 8.2 Non-Elected Personnel* to the agenda. Second by Crystal Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Destiny Myers to approve the amendments to the agenda. Second by Stacy Gear. Motion carried 7-0.

ADD: CONSENT ITEMS:

3.3.1 Resignations:

Wendy Thomas-MP At-Risk Aide (eff 8-6-26)

3.3.2 New Hires:

Amber Love-MMS P/T Cook (eff 8-11-26)

Sofia Gandara-MHS Cook (eff 8-11-26)

Allison Peiffer-MMS HN ParaEducator (eff 8-11-26)

Malea McGraw-MMS Library Aide (eff 8-11-26)

Kirstie Marten-Sub Teacher (Secondary Position)(eff 8-11-26)

3.6 Bills:

Add'l Bills for August-ck #21747-21772 in the amt of \$753,674.59

3.9 Donation:

Mulvane PTO-Mulvane Grade School \$2,958.87

ADD: EXECUTIVE SESSION:

8.2 Non-Elected Personnel

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.2 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Clerk & Treasurer Report
Bank Reconciliation
Activity Funds Financial Statements

3.3 ROUTINE PERSONNEL

3.3.1 Resignations:

Shay Stout	MHS ParaEducator (eff 8-5-26)
Vanessa Ballard	Sub Teacher (eff 5-22-26)
Michelle Mize	MMS Library Aide (eff 5-22-26)
Ashlee LaRue	MHS At-Risk Aide (eff 7-27-26)
Wendy Thomas	MP At-Risk Aide (eff 8-6-26)

3.3.2 New Hires:

Tonya Shrubshall	Sub Teacher (Secondary Position)(eff 8-11-26)
Monika Simonis	Sub Teacher (Secondary Position)(eff 8-11-26)
Amber Love	MMS P/T Cook (eff 8-11-26)
Sofia Gandara	MHS Cook (eff 8-11-26)
Allison Peiffer	MMS HN ParaEducator (eff 8-11-26)
Malea McGraw	MMS Library Aide (eff 8-11-26)
Kirstie Marten	Sub Teacher (Secondary Position)(eff 8-11-26)

3.3.3 Change of Status/Transfer:

Shelby Claycomb	MP ParaEducator (Wage Change Only)(eff 8-11-26)
Linda Hendrix	Van Driver (Wage Change Only)(eff 8-11-26)

3.4 PDC TRANSCRIPTS

Teina Jarrell
Nic Slayton

3.5 PURCHASE ORDERS OVER LIMIT: None

3.6 BILLS

\$371,106.63

Add'l Bills for August-ck #21747-21772 in the amt of \$753,674.59

3.7 PAYROLL

\$282,119.11

3.8 TRANSFERS

None

3.9 DONATION

Mulvane PTO	Munson Primary \$2,958.87
Mulvane PTO	Mulvane Grade School \$2,958.87

3.10 OTHER

Resolution for Destruction of Records-Mulvane
Middle School

Motion made by Crystal Smith to approve the consent agenda. Second by Fred Heersche.
Motion carried 7-0.

4.0 PATRON TIME

No patrons were present to speak.

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION (was held at this time)

8.1 Non-Elected Personnel

At 7:07 p.m., Steve Fry moved that the board recess into executive session regarding an employment issue to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to protect the privacy interests of the individual, to include Dr. Ensley, Trista Cuthbertson, Erica Mize, and the Board. The board will return to open session in the board meeting room at 7:27 p.m. with possible action to follow. Second by Stacy Gear. Motion carried 7-0.

The BOE returned to open meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Mr. Ellis stated that no action was taken in executive session.

8.1 EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION

Motion made by Steve Fry to approve the resignation from Nicole Yarnell from USD 263. Second by Destiny Myers. Motion carried 7-0.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items.

6.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Budget Option(s) and Set Budget and Revenue Neutral Rate Hearings (*held later in the meeting)

6.2 Second Reading of KASB Policy Recommendations: IIBF, IIBGC, and JCDC (*held later in the meeting)

7.0 DISCUSSION/REPORT ITEMS

7.1 Building Needs Assessment and State Assessment Review (* held before Discussion/Action Item 6.1 Budget Option(s) and Set Budget and Revenue Neutral Rate Hearings)

Prior to budget approval, districts must have a building needs assessment and state assessment review. Building administrators shared information and results focusing on chronically absent students, at-risk students, Math and ELA state assessment data, and iReady data, along with ways to work toward closing these deficiencies, then shared budget considerations by building. This information will be posted on the website.

6.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Budget Option(s) and Set Budget and Revenue Neutral Rate Hearings

Dr. Ensley went over the proposed budget. It has been reviewed by Randy Ford, the district's auditor.

Motion made by Stacy Gear to approve publication of the proposed 2026-27 budget and set the revenue neutral rate hearing for August 24, 2026, at 6:45 p.m. and the budget hearing for August 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the BOE room. Second by Steve Fry. Motion carried 7-0.

6.2 Second Reading of KASB Policy Recommendations: IIBF, IIBGC, and JCDC

Motion made by Destiny Myers to approve policies IIBF, IIBGC, and JCDC as presented. Second by Fred Heersche. Motion carried 7-0.

8.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

8.1 Non-Elected Personnel (*moved up after 4.0 Patron Time)

8.2 Non-Elected Personnel

At 7:57 p.m., Steve Fry moved that the board recess into executive session regarding an employment issue to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to protect the privacy interests of the individual, to include Dr. Ensley, Trista Cuthbertson, Erica Mize, and the Board. The board will return to open session in the board meeting room at 8:12 p.m. with possible action to follow. Second by Chris Heersche. Motion carried 7-0.

The BOE came out of executive session at 8:10 p.m.

The Board took a break from 8:10 p.m.-8:12 p.m.

The BOE returned to open meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Mr. Ellis stated that no action was taken in executive session.

8.2 EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION

Motion made by Steve Fry to recommend John Meyers as a 5th grade teacher for USD 263 for the 2026-27 school year. Second by Stacy Gear. Motion carried 7-0.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Fred Heersche to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Second by Destiny Myers. Motion carried 7-0.
