

School Board Meeting Recap

School Board Members:

Teresa Binkley – President
Debra DeBates – Vice President
Keli Books
Wesley Tschetter
Teri Johnson



Superintendent:

Dr. Summer Schultz

Director of Business Services:

Stacey VanBeek

October 15, 2024

Electronic School Board

• Find the link on the Brookings School District homepage or click [HERE](#) for agendas, school board packets, minutes, and policies. On the calendar in the upper right corner, any date highlighted in yellow indicates there is an agenda and board packet ready for viewing. Just click on the date to open the information. Use the search engine link on the right side to search agendas, minutes, and policies.

Watch the School Board Meeting

• Click [HERE](#) to watch a recording of the School Board Meeting from October 15th.

COMMUNICATION ITEMS:

B.E.S.T. Award Recipients

Dawn McCarthy, Central Kitchen Manager at MMS, and Brandon Sandoval, Special Education Teacher at MMS, were presented with the B.E.S.T. Award.

Rebate Presentation from Brookings Municipal Utilities and Missouri River Energy Services

BMU presented the school district with a Bright Energy Solutions rebate check. During the construction of Medary and Hillcrest, BMU assisted the district in navigating options within the Bright Energy Solutions rebate program.

Brookings School Board Recognition for being awarded ASBSD's Gold Level Award for the 2023-24 School Year

Board members were presented with the ALL Award, which is ASBSD's School Board Recognition Program designed to recognize school boards for their dedicated service to the students of South Dakota, for the 2023-24 school year.

Presentation from Hillcrest Elementary

Shannon Smith, Hillcrest Elementary Principal, provided an overview of enrollment, staffing, facility use, programs, schedules, and attendance.

Comments from the Board

• **Performance Oversight Committee** – Teri mentioned that the Performance Oversight Committee met last month and intends to meet every other month, with the next meeting set for November. This approach will help them stay current and prevent a backlog of items to review.

●**Facilities and Construction Committee** – The primary focus of the September 30th Facilities meeting was the 5th Street Gym facility. The board had previously approved moving forward with an appraisal and designated the property as surplus. After the appraiser assessed the building, it became evident that the required level of appraisal was extensive, and the building's condition was worse than initially anticipated. This led the facilities committee to recommend conducting an air quality study with Intek. Wes and Keli suggested that demolition might be the best course of action moving forward, and Stacey is investigating demolition costs. The gym, constructed in 1987 for approximately \$925,000 (including bleacher costs), has served its purpose well over the past 37 years. However, its necessity has diminished, particularly with two competitive gyms now available at Hillcrest and Medary. We are reviewing existing agreements with partners using the facility to ensure they are informed and to develop an exit strategy. We will have more clarity on that exit strategy once we receive the air quality assessments from Intek.

●**Policy and Governance Committee** – Teresa mentioned that the committee is remaining vigilant, with one first reading and two second readings scheduled for discussion tonight. Deb added that they met again on October 22nd, and any concerns or questions regarding the policies should be submitted by that date.

●**School Finance Committee** – Wes noted that the check received from BMU tonight was already included in the cash flow projection for the schools and is not additional unaccounted money; it was projected as part of the revenue stream for the new schools. Teresa added that with the final student count and other incoming information, they plan to meet before the workshop meeting to prepare additional details.

●**Reports from Ad. Hoc Committees** – Deb announced that the Mental Health Coalition will meet tomorrow at noon. As the liaison for the School District Foundation, she informed the group that the Founder's Drive is being discussed and will launch soon, with media assistance. Deb will distribute a brochure outlining the giving levels for board members to consider participating in the drive, possibly discussing it further at the workshop meeting. Additionally, applications for the first Teacher Innovation Grants are being reviewed, with announcements expected in November; there were 11 applicants, and plans for an event to celebrate the grants are in the works. Teresa reported that Tanna brought the licensing plaques to Dakota Prairie, marking a significant achievement for our Early Childhood spaces. Keli emphasized the importance of being an officially licensed care center and highlighted Tanna's hard work, which deserves recognition.

Teresa mentioned that the preschool playgrounds are almost complete, and Keli noted that a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Early Childhood spaces could take place in early November, provided the turf installation is finished.

●**General Board Member Communications** – Deb expressed gratitude to Chris and Shannon for organizing the ribbon-cutting ceremonies, which she found enjoyable, and thanked the teachers who assisted with the open houses. Teresa extended thanks to the PTAs and others who helped. Teri shared her experience at the Medary Open House, noting the steady traffic and the participation of various generations. She also thanked the bond committee for their efforts.

Teresa highlighted the success of Bobcat Homecoming week, thanking the student council and their advisors for their hard work. She praised the board reports, specifically mentioning the JAG Program (Jobs for America's Graduates), which supports students in overcoming personal challenges and involves employer engagement, aligning with the strategic plan. She noted the grant received to support a staff member for this program.

Deb added that she and Teri judged the homecoming doors at the high school and emphasized the excellent collaboration with South Dakota State University. She appreciated the middle school's decision to use their science classrooms for SDSU's methods class, highlighting the valuable experience this provides for students.

Hyperlinked Administrative Reports:

[Superintendent Report](#)

[High School Report](#)

[Middle School Report](#)

[Camelot Report](#)

[Dakota Prairie Report](#)

[Hillcrest Report](#)

[Medary Report](#)

[PK-5 Director of Curriculum & Instruction Administrative Report](#)

[6-12 Director of Curriculum & Instruction Administrative Report](#)

[Director of Special Services Report](#)

[Director of Activities Report](#)

[Director of Child Nutrition Report](#)

[Director of Instructional Technology & Knowledge Management Report](#)

[Director of Transportation & Buildings/Grounds Report](#)

[Director of Business Services Report](#)

[Director of Facilities Report](#)

Other Communication/Discussion Items

- Notification of adoption of new Policy AH "Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Authorization"
- Notification of review of Policy BBFA "Board Member Conflict of Interest"
- Notification of adoption of new Policy GBG "Staff Participation in Political Activities"
- Notification of review of Policy IGCB-R "Virtual/Online Course Policy"
- Notification of review of Policy JECB "Open Enrollment"
- Notification of review of Policy JFCH "Alcohol and Other Drug Use by Learners"
- Notification of review of Policy JGD "Learner Suspension and Expulsion"
- Notification of review of Policy JHCDA-E(1) "Learner Self-Administration of Asthma or Anaphylaxis Medication Authorization Form"
- Notification of review of Policy JO "Learner Records" and JO-E(1) "Learner Records Notice of Rights"
- Notification of review of Policy JOA "Learner Directory Information" and JOA-E(1) "Learner Directory Information Notice"
- 1st Reading of revisions made to Policy JJBA "District Recognition of Non-School Sports"
- 2nd Reading of revisions made to Policy JFC-R(1) "Learner Conduct – Learner Activities"
- 2nd Reading of revisions made to Policy JHFA "Learner Travel"

ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Agenda

- Approved the September 9, 2024 Minutes
- Approved the Financial Report
- Approved the Bills
- Approved the Personnel Report – click [HERE](#) for listing
- Approved the revisions made to Policy JFC-R(1) "Learner Conduct – Learner Activities"
- Approved revisions made to Policy JHFA "Learner Travel"

Other Action Items:

- Approved the Donated Items
- Approved the Listed Items as Surplus
- Approved a Transfer in the 2024-2025 Budget
- Approved the Nursing Education Affiliation Agreement between South Dakota State University College of Nursing and the Brookings School District
- Approved the 2024-2025 Preschool Student Meal & Snack Prices
- Approved Waiving the Reduced Priced Fee for Preschool Students at Morning Snack, Lunch, and Afternoon Snack for Reduced Priced Eligibility Based Upon the Federal Income Guidelines
- Approved the Johnson Controls High School Boiler Replacement Project

ADJOURNMENT