

Board Briefs

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Education Beyond Expectations

January 10, 2022

Three new Board members sworn in

Three new Board of Education members were sworn into office including **Jim McMullen**, **Gina Knapp**, and **Kaety Bowers**. To learn more about these newly appointed Board members, please [visit the Board of Education member's page on the District's website](#).

Board designates 2022 officers

The board elected **Patrick Hurley** to serve as board president and **Jim McMullen** to serve as board vice president for the 2022 calendar year.

Board celebrates Mikey Pauley and Clint Rider

The Board congratulated all of Blue Valley Northwest for winning the 6A State Football Championship. Mikey Pauley was recognized at the meeting for winning the Simone Award, an honor presented to the most outstanding high school football player in the greater Kansas City area. Head coach Clint Rider was also recognized for winning the Eric Driskell Coach of the Year Award. This award recognizes and rewards one Kansas City area coach for superior performance while also shaping today's youth and tomorrow's leaders.

Board recognizes Casey Chambers and Sandy Ernst

The Board recognized Casey Chambers, Maintenance Coordinator, with the Distinguished Service Award and Sandy Ernst, Kindergarten teacher at Cottonwood Point Elementary, with the Excellence in Education Award.

January celebrated as National School Board Month

The month of January is recognized across the nation as School Board Recognition Month. This is a time to recognize and thank the Blue Valley Board of Education members for the countless hours they serve as volunteers in helping shape the lives of our youth through their leadership.

Board receives COVID-19 Update

The Board heard from Dr. Mark Schmidt, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, on various topics related to COVID-19 including testing options for students and staff, changes from the JCDHE, daily student attendance numbers, positive case data in Blue Valley and efforts to keep schools open. Dr. Schmidt also informed the board on the new COVID dashboard procedure, switching from weekly reporting of positives and close contacts reported to JCDHE to

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Daily Attendance Reporting. [This reporting will begin January 11, 2022 and can be viewed on the district website](#) every day at noon.

Board modifies COVID-19 procedure for grades 9 and above

The board voted in favor of modifying its COVID-19 procedure approved at the November 8 meeting, approving the modification of its policy extending the Johnson County Board of Health Order No. 001-21 to grades 9-12 and the 18-21 year old program to allow a mask optional environment in these programs effective November 29, 2021, unless the total percentage of students positive or identified for quarantine by the JCDHE exceeds 3% or absenteeism for illness exceeds 7% in any individual school building, and to allow masks to be optional in all High School buildings and 18-21 program outside of the regular school day. This procedure will go into effect January 12, 2022. [For more information please visit the COVID-19 Updates page on the District website.](#)

Board hears instructional materials selection process

Kelly Ott, Executive Director of Curriculum Instruction and Innovation, and Kristi Bolton, K-12 Library Media Coordinator, presented and overviewed Policy 4000 - Curriculum Development, Policy 4600 - Selection of Learning Resources, and Policy 4730 - Library Media Programs. For information on these policies please [visit the Board of Education policy page.](#)

Board receives calendar proposal

The Board heard from Dr. Katie Collier, Deputy Superintendent, about the already approved 2022-2023 calendar with new revisions. Dr. Collier also presented the 2023-2024 calendar, which the Board will vote on at the regularly scheduled meeting February 7, 2022. [To view the updated 2022-2023 revised calendar and the proposed 2023-2024 calendar, please visit the district website.](#) For staff and family feedback on the 2023-2024 proposed calendar, please email bvinfo@bluevalleyk12.org

Board hears proposed amendment to Policy 3430

The Board heard from Dr. Katie Collier, Deputy Superintendent, about a proposed amendment to policy 3430 - Graduation ceremonies. The proposed amendment states “A student must have completed all graduation requirements to be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. A student who has successfully completed 23 of the 24 required units for graduation shall be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies provided the student demonstrated an acceptable plan to complete the remaining unit by the end of that calendar year.” The Board will formally vote on this revision at the regularly scheduled February meeting.

A [video recording](#) of the live-streamed meeting is available for viewing on the [Blue Valley Board of Education YouTube channel.](#)

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Board Briefs is published by the Blue Valley School District Communications Department following each Board of Education meeting.