

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACADEMICS & ACTIVITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 17, 2026 • 7:30–9:00 a.m.

Blue Valley District Office

FACILITATOR(S): Kelly June & Matt Ortman

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Lauren Dreher, Brittany Verrette, Brooke Davids, Philon Barr-Manning, Sean Burrell, Adrienne Newlin, Amy Hill, Scott Wright, Stefanie Anderson, Setareh Applebaum, Chaithanya Etikala, Matt Wachel, Dr. Sonya Evans, Patrick Hurley, Jodie Dietz, Devin Splittorff, Aryah Vyas, Lucia Noll, Brock Johnson, Owen Filing, Anna Scheibel, Nova Rule, Kyler Rose, Livia Viall, Houston Duckworth, Hannah Lacroix

Strategic Plan Connection(s):

Advancing Academic Excellence & Exceptional Student Experiences

- Implement enhancements to programming that expand student access in high-interest, high-demand pathways that emphasize career readiness and co- and extra-curricular opportunities.
- Implement district screen time guidelines that promote purposeful, balanced and developmentally appropriate technology use.
- Publish and maintain a community-facing webpage that communicates Blue Valley's approach to screen time, technology use data, instructional resources and commitment to balanced digital and analog learning.
- Evaluate and enhance the district's digital citizenship curriculum to include artificial intelligence(AI), AI literacy and responsible AI use.
- Provide professional learning that builds staff capacity to use AI to improve efficiency, support instructional planning and design AI-aware learning

experiences.

- Convene a teacher AI advisory team to develop recommendations for the ethical, effective and human-centered integration of AI into teaching and learning.

FLAG FOOTBALL & NEW ATHLETIC PASS FEES

An update was provided on the new girls flag football opportunity. Strong student interest resulted in approximately 80 students across the five high schools forming four teams. Funding is currently supported through Kansas City Chiefs grants, community fundraising, SCHEELS, USA Football, and gate receipts. The committee discussed the program's long-term sustainability and clarified that it is not intended to be a pilot program. The Blue Valley tournament is October 3, with a state competition planned for October. Additional promotion of games through social media was suggested.

An update was provided on changes to the athletic pass. The pass now provides students access to all Blue Valley athletic events, including away events, rather than only home events. The change supports student participation and extra-duty costs and is projected to generate approximately \$100,000 in additional revenue this year. The possibility of including activities in the pass remains a future discussion; the attending students currently prefer keeping activities separate.

SCREEN TIME

An update was provided on the district's K-12 screen time guidelines, which will be implemented this fall, along with a new family-facing webpage highlighting district-approved, vetted digital tools. The committee discussed how to communicate the information to families in smaller, more accessible pieces, particularly for elementary families. Students shared that they are using computers less and completing more work on paper, while also noting some challenges resulting from the electronic device restrictions. The potential budget impact of increased paper use was discussed. Feedback was also shared on the Digital Literacy & Well-Being resources, and the committee will have an opportunity to review the new webpage.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The committee discussed how AI intersects with teaching and learning. All teachers will receive AI professional learning this fall. Discussion centered on preparing students to use emerging technology appropriately while maintaining opportunities for authentic

learning, problem-solving, and productive mistakes. Students and community members noted that AI is increasingly common in professional settings, while parents expressed interest in embracing the technology in moderation. The discussion also highlighted the need to clearly define what learning students are expected to demonstrate independently and what role AI may appropriately play.

COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY & TALKING POINTS

The committee received updates on girls flag football, the athletic pass, screen time, and artificial intelligence. Strong student interest in girls flag football resulted in four teams across the high schools. The committee discussed current funding and the need to identify sustainable funding to continue the opportunity long term. The athletic pass has expanded to include all Blue Valley athletic events and is projected to generate approximately \$100,000 in additional revenue, while activities remain separate from the pass for now.

The committee also discussed the district's K–12 screen time guidelines, which will be implemented this fall, and an upcoming family webpage highlighting approved digital tools. Members discussed how to communicate this information effectively to families and shared student feedback about device restrictions and increased use of paper-based activities.

Finally, the committee discussed AI and its role in teaching and learning. Teachers will receive AI professional learning this fall, supported by a teacher advisory team. Discussion focused on preparing students to use emerging technology appropriately while maintaining opportunities for authentic learning, problem-solving, and independent demonstration of learning.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on October 15, 2026. The meeting adjourned at 8:55.