BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACADEMICS & ACTIVITIES ADIVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

October 15, 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

DISTRICT BUDGET UPDATE

An update was provided on recent and upcoming budget reductions. Kelly June reviewed previously implemented reductions totaling $6.5 million. Board of Education members also discussed the ongoing funding shortfall resulting from chronic underfunding of special education. The committee was informed that a broader community communication would be shared Friday afternoon outlining measures the district will take to address its budget challenges.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAPS PROJECT

Chris Legleiter and Shelly Nielsen briefed the committee on the district's efforts to further develop durable skills among middle school students. They clarified that the

initiative does not involve establishing a separate middle school facility; rather, it would expand elements of the CAPS experience to all middle schools. During the current school year, Aubry Bend Middle School and Wolf Springs Middle School are partnering with district leaders to develop the approach, with plans to expand the initiative to all 10 middle schools in the following school year. Discussion focused primarily on committee members' input regarding the identification of key durable skills, the courses that provide the strongest opportunities to develop those skills, and ideas for future implementation.

REVIEW OF 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Matt Ortman presented highlights of recent accomplishments by district athletic teams and performing arts events. He provided an update on the implementation of the five-year strategic plan for athletics and activities, noting that one component involves identifying sustainable sources of additional funding. Committee members were invited to share ideas and suggestions regarding potential funding opportunities.

COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY & TALKING POINTS

The committee met on Thursday, October 15th and received updates on district budget reductions, including $6.5 million in reductions already implemented and ongoing special education funding challenges. Members also discussed plans to expand the CAPS experience to all 10 middle schools, with two schools helping develop the approach this year. Finally, Matt Ortman shared athletic and performing arts accomplishments and gathered ideas for additional funding as part of the five-year strategic plan for athletics and activities. The next meeting is November 19th.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on November 19, 2026. The meeting adjourned at 9:00.