

March Regular Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026 7:00 PM

District Office, 301 Neosho Street , Burlington, Kansas 66839

1. Opening Items

1.A. Call to Order

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Consent Agenda

2.A. Approval of the Agenda

2.B. Approval of the February 9, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

2.C. Approval of the Bills and Financial Reports

2.D. Approval of Personnel Items

2.E. Approval of Donations

2.F. Approval of Consent Agenda

3. Public Comment

3.A. Concerns of Burlington USD 244 Patrons

4. Administrative Reports

4.A. BES March 2026 Report

4.B. BMS March 2026 Report

4.C. BHS March 2026 Report

4.D. CCSEC March 2026 Report

Board of Education Report
Coffey County Special Education Cooperative, CCSEC
Lindsey Graf, Director
March 2026

State Reports/Data

- MOE Met
 - Tidbit of Information
 - If the state funded Special Education at 92% that would equate out to an additional \$436,700 in our general fund. Currently we are being funded at 67%.
- Private School Application Accepted: None

Staffing Updates

- 26-27 school year Certified Openings: 1 Middle Special Ed. Teaching positions at BMS, 1 Half/Time Gifted Facilitator
- Current Para Educator: 1 at BMS and 1 at 243

Director's Focus

- Updating Personnel Systems with Whitnie to ensure appropriate FTE's claimed to gain maximum reimbursement.
- Preparing for Spring Tour with Employees
- Preparing Newsletters and all Staff Meeting Agendas
- Collaborating with the state department to ensure staff is appropriately licensed in all content areas.
- Preparing professional development schedule for fall 2026
- Collecting and Reviewing Para evaluations
- Attending state and regional SPED Director Meetings (KASEA and State)
- Participating in monthly SPED administrators Webinars
- Interviews/Hiring/Transfers – continuing to replace paras that leave and on board para sub applications as they are submitted
- Student programming/needs – attending meetings; communicating with parents
- Corresponding with Legal Services regarding programming
- Collaborating with Administration
- Visits to buildings in the COOP

4.E. Technology March 2026 Report

4.F. Superintendent's March 2026 Report

Burlington USD 244
Board of Education Meeting
March 9, 2026
Superintendent's Report

- I would like to share three short videos from CLI regarding the process we use for curriculum in USD 244. After you view these on your own, please let me know if you have any questions.
 - [Why Use Common Assessments](#)
 - [How Do We Assess](#)
 - [The Four Parts of an Assessment](#)

- I would like to review Recruitment and Retention information from our USD 244 Strategic Plan. We have tried to grow our own teachers with a Tuition Reimbursement Plan that the board of education has allowed us to implement in 2018. This program has produced two teachers currently in USD 244. Licensed teacher salaries have improved over the past 10 years from a base of \$34,850 to \$45,000. We have added veteran salary incentives to the negotiated agreement. Para-professional starting salaries increased from \$8.25/hr. to \$15.25/hr. Other employee salaries and benefits have improved like leave, 403B retirement plans, and health insurance. We will continue to improve salaries and benefit packages in the years to come. Facility improvements are so important to recruit and retain employees. Over the past ten years, all buildings have seen major improvements. Libraries at BES, BMS, and BHS have all been renovated. Science rooms at BHS and BMS have been renovated. The BMS FACS room has been renovated. The BHS theater and main competition gym have been renovated. The BES 1st grade wing was completely renovated in 2020. The BHS and BMS locker rooms have been renovated. The BHS Vo-ag shop addition/renovation was completed the summer of 2025. We are continuing to discuss the BES facility needs. We now have the Burlington Early Learning Center which helps recruit employees and patrons to our district with affordable daycare. Currently, we have 7 staff members that use the BELC. We will continue to look for ways to help with recruitment and retention of staff. If board members have any suggestions, please let me know. Thank you for working with me to help make Burlington a terrific school district!

5. **Board Member Items**

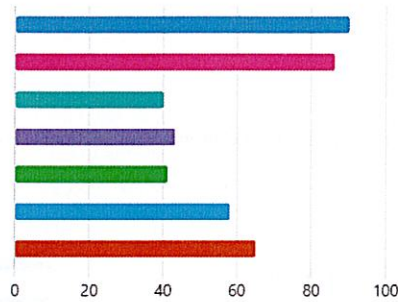
5.A. Board Reports

Responses Overview Active

Responses 222	Average Time 06:37	Duration 21 Days
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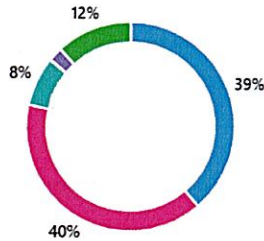
1. What are your connections with USD 244? (Select all that apply.)

- Parent/guardian of current elementary student(s) 90
- Parent/guardian of current middle/high school student(s) 86
- Parent/guardian of future student(s) 40
- Resident with no children currently in school 43
- District staff/teacher 41
- Community member/business owner 58
- Alumni 65



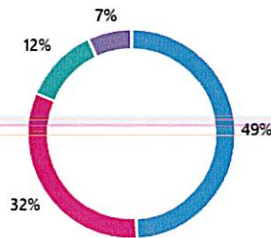
2. How well do you feel you understand the current condition of Burlington Elementary School?

- Very well 86
- Somewhat 88
- Not well 17
- Not at all 5
- I would like the district to share more information 26



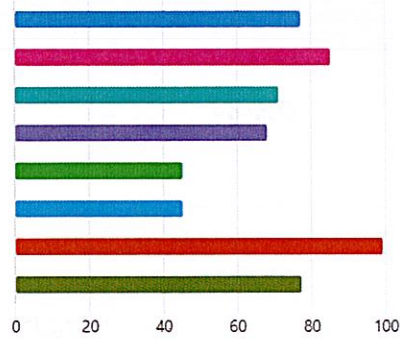
3. How important is it to you that the district invests in long-term, future-ready buildings (designed for 30+ years of use)?

- Very important 108
- Somewhat important 71
- Not important 26
- Unsure 15



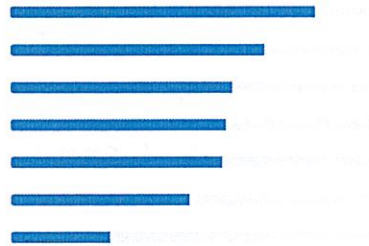
4. What concerns you most about the current Burlington Elementary School? (Select all that apply.)

● Safety/security	77
● Age/condition of the building	85
● Maintenance costs	71
● Classroom space/layout	68
● Location	45
● Lack of modern educational spaces	45
● Traffic/parking	99
● No major concerns	77



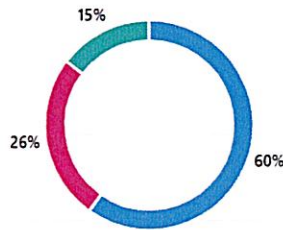
5. Please rank order your priorities for improving Burlington Elementary School from highest to lowest priority?

- 1 Safety and security upgrades
- 2 Classroom modernization (technology, flexible learning spaces, restrooms, etc.)
- 3 Improved accessibility (ADA, parking, entrances, restrooms, etc.)
- 4 Energy efficiency/operational cost savings
- 5 Improved traffic flow, parking, and student drop off/pick-up areas
- 6 Enhanced early childhood or special education spaces
- 7 Including the BELC within the same building as BES



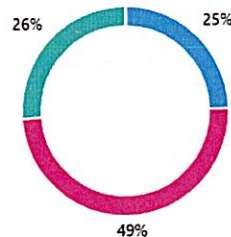
6. Do you feel there is a need to improve Burlington Elementary School?

● Yes	131
● No	56
● Unsure	32



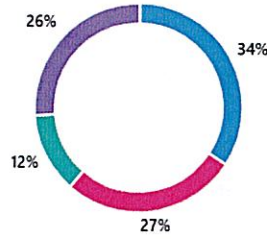
7. If yes, which option do you support

● Renovate the existing Burlington Elementary School	46
● Build a new elementary school near BHS and BMS	92
● Unsure and need more information	49



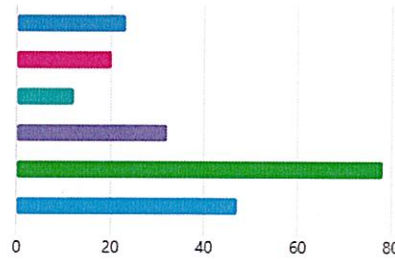
8. When would you like to see either a new or renovated Burlington Elementary School project begin?

● As soon as possible (1-2 years)	74
● Within the next 3-5 years	59
● 5+ years	27
● Not in favor of changes	57



9. Based on the projected mill levy increase, what bond length would you support for a RENOVATION to Burlington Elementary School?

● 15-year bond (\$128.80/yr. tax increase on a \$200,000 home)	23
● 20-year bond (\$103.50/yr. tax increase on a \$200,000 home)	20
● 25-year bond (\$87.40/yr. tax increase on a \$200,000 home)	12
● 30-year bond (\$80.50/yr. tax increase on a \$200,000 home)	32
● Unsure	78
● I do not support a renovation to BES. I support a new BES.	47



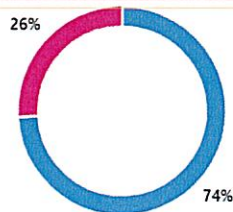
10. Which option do you support more?

● \$34 million renovation of the current BES based on a 2026 estimate	18
● \$45 million construction of a revised plan for a new BES near BHS and BMS based on a 2026 estimate	92
● Neither option	82
● Unsure--need more information	30



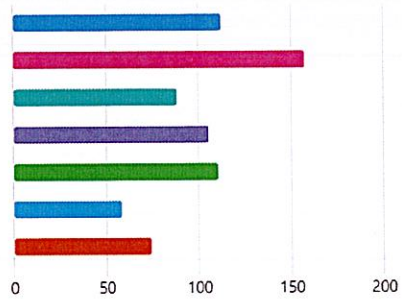
11. Are you aware that USD 244 currently has the 2nd lowest school tax rate in the entire state of Kansas?

● Yes	162
● No	57



12. How would you prefer the district communicate information about facility planning? (Select all that apply.)

● E-mail	112
● Social media	157
● Mailers or printed materials	88
● School website	105
● Community meetings/forums	110
● Text alerts	58
● Newspaper/radio	74



Burlington Elementary Renovations - Budget Cost Breakdown

Roof Replacement & Exterior Upgrades	\$3,176,880
Whole Building Upgrades to Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing	\$2,960,400
Interior Remodel Improvements	\$16,041,517
New Additions (8,000 SF) Admin Office/Entry, Music & Multi-Purpose Strom Shelter	\$3,680,220
New Parking lot, Drives, Playground Equipment and Surfacing	\$1,890,000
Total Construction Cost	\$27,749,017
Design Fees & Soft Costs Associated with Construction Phase	\$2,237,931
Furnishing / Fixtures / Equipment	\$1,985,632
Contingency / Market Escalation / Bond Fees	\$2,024,098
Total Bond	\$33,996,678

6. **Negotiations**

6.A. Executive Session Regarding Negotiations

7. **Contracts/Approvals/Appointments**

7.A. Burlington Early Learning Center Staff Pay Increase

7.B. Curriculum Leadership Institute (CLI) Contract Renewal

7.C. KASB Dues

7.D. KASB Legal Assistance Fund

7.E. Approval of Listing Agreements

7.F. Approval of Utility Easement

7.G. Approval of Hay Bid

8. **Personnel**

8.A. Executive Session Regarding Personnel

9. **Student Issue**

9.A. Executive Session Regarding A Student Issue

10. **Closing Items**

10.A. Debriefing

10.B. Adjournment