

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 467
WICHITA COUNTY
LEOTI, KANSAS

Meeting Time and Place

1. The Board of Education of Unified School District #467, Wichita County, Kansas met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2026 at the Board of Education office in Leoti, Kansas.

People Present

2. Members present were: Maegan Berry, Bruce Loy, Adam Marcotte, James Myers, Matt Price, and Farrin Watt.

The following new board members took their oath of office with Lanna Kreutzer, Wichita County Clerk and Election Officer, prior to the Board of Education meeting: Adam Marcotte, James Myers, and Matt Price. Lanna Kreutzer and Sheriff Casper exited prior to the start of the meeting.

Also present were: Superintendent, Lori Maxwell; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCES Principal, Misty Gardner; WCJSHS Principal, Brant Douglas; and Guests: Andrea Bauck, Sara Brown, Nate Brown, Hannah Nickelson, and Chasity Farr of Kennedy McKee & Company LLP.

Approved Consent Agenda

3. The Board agreed that Bruce Loy would run the meeting until officers were elected. Bruce Loy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Matt Price motioned and Maegan Berry seconded to approve the consent agenda, with an additional resignation on item D and move the financial audit prior to audiences with groups or individuals, consisting of:
 - A. Approval of the agenda for the meeting.
 - B. Minutes for December 8, 2025.
 - C. Payment of bills and payroll.
 - D. Accept the resignation of Jayme Bishop, grade school music teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-26 contract year. Accept the resignation of Elaine Anthony, high school math teacher, effective at the end of the 2025-26 contract year.
 - E. Approve the request to use one of the school gyms for the 2026 elections if the Wichita County Community Building is unavailable on August 4,

2026, and November 3, 2026, as requested by Lanna Kreutzer, Wichita County Clerk and Election Officer.

- F. Approve the request to use six classrooms and common areas of WCJSHS for Regional 4-H Club Day on February 21, 2026, along with a request to waive the fees for building use since it is for Wichita County youth.
- G. Approve the disposition of the following broken items presented by Buck Bishop: desk, standing desk converter, computer desk, 3 blue grade school chairs, maroon high school chair, a grade school desk, an i-pad cover and a two drawer filing cabinet.
- H. Gifts and Grants
 - 1. Accept a donation of \$100 from Rebecca Carter for books for WCES students as a memorial to her mother, Billie Biel.
 - 2. Accept a donation of \$203 from Wichita County Outdoorsmen, Inc. for negative student breakfast and lunch balances.
 - 3. Accept a grant of \$1,986.94 from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas Foundation for the student Healthy Habits for Life program.

Motion passed 6-0.

Financial Audit for 2024-2025

- 4. Chasity Farr, Kennedy McKee & Company LLP, presented the 2024-2025 independent auditor's report. There were no discrepancies or significant findings, other than a bonus was authorized that did not have a Board motion. All state and federal accounting guidelines were followed. The district ended the school year in good financial standing. Discussion was held. Mrs. Farr left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.
- 5. Farrin Watt motioned and Maegan Berry seconded to approve the 2024-2025 financial audit as presented from Kennedy McKee & Company LLP. Motion passed 6-0.

Grade School Support Staff

- 6. Hannah Nickelson, Wichita County Elementary Student Support, discussed her part time position with the Board. She and Sara Brown work together with students on social and emotional development

and learning activities. Discussion was held. Mrs. Nickelson exited the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Organization of the Board

7. Farrin Watt motioned and James Myers seconded to nominate Eryka Smith for Board President for 2026. Motion passed 4-2 with Maegan Berry and Bruce Loy voting no.
8. James Myers motioned and Matt Price seconded to nominate Farrin Watt for Board Vice President for 2026. Motion passed 5-1 with Bruce Loy voting no.
9. Farrin Watt will preside over the remainder of the meeting as vice president since the president is not in attendance.

Appointment of Elected Personnel to Advisory Board

10. **High Plains Educational Cooperative**-Bruce Loy, Adam Marcotte as alternative
11. **Wichita County Recreation**- Eryka Smith
12. **USD 467 Professional Development Council**- Farrin Watt, Maegan Berry as alternative
13. **Northwest Kansas Technical College**- Board appoints Carol Laws.
14. **Wichita County Economic Development** – Matt Price
15. **Negotiations Committee**- Bruce Loy and Matt Price
16. **Calendar Committee**- Farrin Watt and James Myers
17. **Curriculum Committee** – Eryka Smith
18. **Grown & Learn Childcare Center Board** – Maegan Berry

Bruce Loy motioned and Adam Marcotte seconded to approve the appointments as listed. Motion passed 6-0.

Consideration of Elkhart's
Request to Leave HPEC

19. Elkhart is requesting to leave the High Plains Educational Cooperative Interlocal Agreement which requires a motion from each school district participating in the cooperative. The districts would be required to pay more money to High Plains Educational Cooperative to allow HPEC to cover their costs. Discussion was held. A decision will be tabled until the next Board meeting to allow further discussion.

WCES Principal's Report

20. WCES Principal, Misty Gardner, presented the following updates;
- A. Knights of Columbus donated coats, hats, and gloves for students that are in need.
 - B. Christmas parties were finished up in January due to school not being in session the last student day of December.
 - C. January 29th is the Spelling Bee.
 - D. January 29th is Kansas Day and the school will have a "Western" dress up day to celebrate.
 - E. There will be "Math Facts" events for students.
 - F. Friday will have a "Corn Stem" presentation for students.
 - G. Mrs. Gardner is looking into having an architect draw plans for a new playground. This will need to be done to financially plan for a new playground or do upgrades to the existing one.

WCJSHS Principal's Report

21. WCJSHS Principal, Brant Douglas, presented the following updates:
- A. I-Ready testing for second semester will be starting soon.
 - B. Tribe Time is being organized for second semester.
 - C. KELPA testing will begin in February for ESOL students.
 - D. The high school HPL tournament is next week.
 - E. The Junior High Math competition is January 28th.
 - F. Junior High HPL basketball tournaments are January 31st and February 2nd.

G. Wrestling will be in Scott City this Saturday and home on February 5th.

FFA Trip

22. Mrs. Sheppard is asking for Board approval to attend an FFA event in Colorado this Sunday that was canceled last weekend due to weather.

23. Bruce Loy motioned and Matt Price seconded to approve the FFA event on a Sunday due to being canceled the previous week. Motion passed 6-0.

Superintendent's Report

24. Superintendent Maxwell presented the following district updates:

- A. Six certified staff members and one classified staff member qualified for the attendance bonus for the first semester.
- B. Math Curriculum Coordinating Council will meet on January 22 and 23.
- C. Thatcher, Weathercraft, reported that the grade school music room 99 % completed.
- D. There have been some weather events recently and the district will continue to do what is in the best interest of students and staff with the information available at the time of the weather event.

Practice on Sundays

25. Matt Price discussed allowing basketball practice on Sundays when there is a Monday game scheduled. Discussion was held. Matt Price motioned to allow a non mandatory practice on Sunday as long as there is a corresponding event on Monday. No second, motion failed.

Executive Session for Personnel

26. Matt Price motioned and Bruce Loy seconded to enter into executive session with Ms. Maxwell present, to discuss matters adversely or favorably affecting non-elected personnel exception under KOMA. The matters affecting the non-elected certified and classified staff members is their performance and employment. The Board will return to open session in the board room at 8:40 p.m. Motion passed 6-0. Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Douglas, and Mrs. Bauck exited the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

27. The meeting returned to open session at 8:40 p.m.
No action was taken.

28. The Board will call a special meeting on Wednesday,
January 14, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

29. Farrin Watt officially adjourned the meeting at 8:40
p.m.

Farrin Watt, Vice President

Tammy Mason, Board Clerk