

**SANTA FE TRAIL USD 434 BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
September 10, 2025**

Santa Fe Trail District Administrative Center

Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing – 6 pm call to order

The district presented information.

No questions or comments from patrons regarding revenue neutral rate.

Roll call vote by Clerk Amy Hill indicated the resolution to exceed was approved 7-0.

Hearing adjourned at 6:04 pm

District Budget Hearing – 6:10 pm call to order

The district presented information.

No questions or comments from patrons regarding the district budget.

With no further questions, hearing concluded at 6:16 pm

Call to Order

Tanner Black called the regular meeting to order at 6:16 pm

Board Members Present

Tanner Black, Michelle Schmale, Amy Huizenga, Stephenie Ganger, Kylie Hastings, Justin Ramsdell, and Jamie Sowers.

Board Members Absent

None

Administrators & Others present

Amy Hill, Faith Flory, Kaylee Boyd, Lorle Bolt, Austin Hersherberger, Andy Lohmeyer, Mike Maloun, Robby Madden, SRO Burrell, Tosha Smith, Kyle Ellis, Gary Rush, Elizabeth Olorunfemi, and several high school students.

Agenda Approval

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to approve the amended agenda including adding to item 4.5 Resignation Morris, jr. high cheer; and item 5.1 Employment Heder, jr. class sponsor. Motion carried 7-0.

Budget Proceedings

Review and Approval of Building Needs Assessments & District State Assessment Summary

Motion by Kylie Hastings, second by Michelle Schmale, that the board approve the presented building needs assessments and district state assessment summary. Motion carried 7-0.

Local Option Budget Percentage

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Amy Huizenga, to

Adoption

adopt the local option percentage of 33% for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried 7-0

District 25-26 Budget Adoption

Michelle Schmale stated that with consideration of the presented building needs assessments and district state assessment information that were used in the budget development process, I motion that the 2025-26 USD 434 budget be adopted as presented. Second by Kylie Hastings. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to approve the amended consent agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

- Approved the minutes of the August 13, 2025 meeting.
- Approved the July & August 2025 treasurer's reports.
- Approved the OAC June and July reports; HS July reports; CAC August reports.
- Approved the presented check journal.
- Accepted the resignation of Brian Boyle, HS asst football coach; Angie Portlock, JH track; Emily Morris, JH asst cheer coach; and Kim Dayhoff's retirement notice.
- Approved the fundraisers of HS wrestling; HS dance; and JH KAY club.
- Accepted the donations from the Lawrence Art Guild; Black Excavating; Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Personnel Report

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to enter executive session for 15 minutes to discuss personnel employment pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 6:38 pm, with Faith Flory present. Motion carried 7-0.

Executive Session

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Jamie Sowers, to approve the personnel report. Motion carried 7-0.

Employed: Andrew Berckefeldt, HS asst football coach; Randy Whittaker, HS custodian, Leslie Heder, jr. class sponsor.

Administrators

Administrators spoke of back to school events; homecoming; new staff settling in; students finishing up

testing; OAC student drop off changes; and PK starting breakfast.

New Items for Discussion and Consideration

Mobilizing Literacy Grant

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to accept the grant. Motion carried 7-0.

Transportation Update

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Jamie Sowers, to extend the three year lease on seven buses, return three buses, and buy a new twenty-nine passenger bus. Motion carried 7-0. Consideration should be made to return four buses.

BOE Goals – assessment tool

Supt. Flory previewed the online assessment tool for board members and principals to complete rating progress made on adopted board goals. Assessment completion by Oct. 1

Steering Committee Update

Reviewed last committee meeting. Future meetings Sept 18th at OAC; Oct 16th at SAC with a recommendation settled for BOE presentation; and a special board meeting on Oct. 29th at 6 pm at SAC presenting the steering committee recommendation to the board of education.

Snow Removal Bids

Two bids received for consideration. Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to accept the bid of Year Round Lawn Care for 25/26 district snow removal services. Motion carried 7-0.

Items Added to the Agenda

None

Superintendent's Report

Jamie Sowers provided a special education co-op update including Kathy Mickelson has been named interim director and the negotiations process continues.

Next Regular Board Meeting

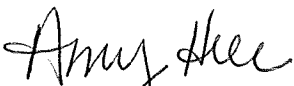
Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Special Meeting

Steering committee recommendation – Wed., Oct. 29th at 6 pm at SAC

Adjournment

President Tanner Black adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.



Amy Hill, Clerk



Tanner Black, President