

SANTA FE TRAIL USD 434 BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting

October 8, 2025 at 6 pm
District Administrative Center

Call to Order	Tanner Black called the meeting to order at 6 pm
Board Members Present	Tanner Black, Michelle Schmale, Kylie Hastings, Justin Ramsdell, Amy Huizenga, Stephenie Ganger, and Jamie Sowers
Board Members Absent	None
Administrators & Others Present	Amy Hill, Faith Flory, Lorle Bolt, Kyle Ellis, Mike Maloun, Carrie Mugridge, Andy Lohmeyer, Austin Hershberger, Robby Madden, Jessica Nicholson, McKenzie Rice, Carol Flechsig, Ellie Sowers and district patrons.
Agenda Approval	Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to approve the amended agenda adding to item 5.2 Employment Jenkins, Reynolds, and Banister; moving Eric Staab to 6.1 Motion carried 7-0.
Board of Education Presentation	
Jessica Nicholson	Ms. Nicholson requested permission for a student trip to Japan in 2027 through EF Tours. Motion by Kylie Hastings, second by Michelle Schmale, to approve the request to travel, fundraise, and use of school vehicle for travel to/from airport. Motion carried 7-0.
High School Yearbook	Ellie Sowers presented the 2025 yearbook to the district office and inquired about the BOE buying an ad this year. Motion by Kylie Hastings, second by Amy Huizenga, to buy a full page ad in the Charger yearbook. Motion carried 7-0.
McKenzie Rice	Ms. Rice requested permission to use a school vehicle for the 2026 spring break band trip due to being a few students over the capacity of two tour buses. Motion by Tanner Black, second by Justin Ramsdell, to approve permission to use a school vehicle for out of state travel with a school employee driving. Motion carried 7-0.
Carol Flechsig	Ms. Flechsig appeared with a concern that her daycare center students are no longer transported by district buses

due to her business moving inside the city limits. No action taken.

More analysis of the concern provided at the November meeting.

Consent Agenda Items

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

- Approved the minutes of September 10, 2025.
- Approved the August 2025 financial reports from HS and OAC; September 2025 HS & CAC financial reports.
- Approved the September 2025 treasurer's report.
- Approved the presented check journal.
- Accepted the donations to high school cheer team.

Personnel Report

Executive Session

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

Kylie Hastings, Tanner Black, Jamie Sowers, and Justin Ramsdell returned to open session at 7:15 pm. Motion by Tanner Black, second by Justin Ramsdell, to extend executive session for personnel until 7:30 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

Tanner Black, Jamie Sowers, Amy Huizenga, and Michelle Schmale returned to open session at 7:30 pm. Motion by Tanner Black, second by Michelle Schmale, to extend executive session for personnel until 7:40 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

The board returned to open session at 7:40 pm.

Employment

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

Resignations/Termination/Retirement of Personnel:
Randy Whittaker, HS custodian; Bryttney Thompson,

CAC para; Trent Nix, OAC custodian termination; Kris Henry, HS asst principal/activities director; Tynel Tipping, district mechanic.

Employed: Garrett Staten, JH head track; Parker Roberts, JH asst track; Jim Vawter, shuttle bus driver; Alex Dahl, asst baseball coach; Andrew Berckefeldt, .5 fte asst baseball coach; Natosha Jenkins, asst. JH FBLA sponsor; Megan Reynolds, transfer to accounting clerk; Stephanie Banister, transfer to OAC office manager.

Administrators

Building administrators spoke of chargers of the month, homecoming and the great participation; PK family night; the possibility of CAC having a part-time therapy dog; Halloween activities; successful sports seasons.

Mr. Ellis presented a senior class proposal to paint parking spaces. Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Amy Huizenga, approving the student parking spot painting contract. Motion carried 7-0.

Eric Staab

Mr. Staab requested permission to continue the community clean up projects as in years past. Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to approve funding up to \$1800 for the high school government class to work on community clean up projects. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Staab also requested permission for out of state travel.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to approve the out of state trip to Oklahoma City, OK and use of district transportation. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Michelle Schmale, second by Kylie Hastings, to approve the out of state trip to St. Louis, MO and the use of district transportation. Motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Mugridge reviewed the results of the spring state assessments and fall FastBridge testing.

Items from the Past for Consideration

None

New Items for Discussion & Consideration

Donations to HS FFA from Eric Lang Memorial

The Lang Family was thanked for their designation of the HS FFA to receive memorial donations and the impact it will make on the program.

Motion by Michelle Schmale, second by Justin Ramsdell, to accept the donation to the HS FFA from the Eric Lang Memorial Fund. Motion carried 7-0.

District Enrollment Update

Enrollment information provided by Kaitlyn Ball was reviewed by Supt. Flory.

Steering Committee Meeting Update – Ramsdell, Schmale, Huizenga

Information reviewed from the September meeting held at OAC.

Superintendent's Report

Three Lakes will hold a meeting next week, so the only information provided was that negotiations are ongoing.

Next Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Adjournment

President Tanner Black adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm

Amy Hill, Clerk

Tanner Black, President