

SANTA FE TRAIL USD 434 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

January 14, 2026

6 p.m.

District Administrative Center

Call to Order	Tanner Black called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.
Board Members Present	Tanner Black, Michelle Schmale, Stephenie Ganger, Kylie Hastings, Justin Ramsdell, Amy Huizenga, and Jamie Sowers
Board Members Absent	None
Administrators & Others present	Amy Hill, Faith Flory, Kaylee Boyd, Gary Rush, Kyle Ellis, Andy Lohmeyer, Kris Henry, Lorle Bolt, Carrie Mugridge, Mike Maloun, Stacie Stine, Tosha Smith, Mary Burgett, Ashley Swanson, Robby Madden
Agenda Approval	Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to approve the presented agenda. Motion carried 7-0.
Resolution Adoption	Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to adopt the resolution of election of school board officers and the resolution of regular meeting dates. Motion carried 7-0. Regular board meetings will be at 6 pm on the second Wednesday of the month at the Santa Fe Trail District Admin Center, 104 S Burlingame Ave., Scranton, KS.
Election of Officers	Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to nominate Tanner Black for president. Motion carried 6-1 with Tanner Black abstaining Motion by Kylie Hastings, second by Tanner Black, to nominate Justin Ramsdell for vice-president. Motion carried 6-1 with Justin Ramsdell abstaining. Motion by Tanner Black, second by Michelle Schmale, to nominate Justin Ramsdell, Kylie Hastings, & Amy Huizenga to the board's negotiations team. Motion 7-0. Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Stephenie Ganger, to appoint Jamie Sowers to the Three Lakes board of directors. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Michelle Schmale, to appoint Tanner Black as 1st alternate to the Three Lakes board of directors. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Stephenie Ganger, to appoint Michelle Schmale to the Government Relations Network. Motion carried 6-1 with Schmale abstaining.

Motion by Tanner Black, second by Justin Ramsdell, to appoint Stephenie Ganger to the district tech committee. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Jamie Sowers, to appoint building site council representatives Santa Fe Trail Jr. High, Michelle Schmale; Santa Fe Trail Elementary, Kylie Hastings; HS – Stephenie Ganger. Motion carried 7-0.

Board of Education Presentation

Board of Education and Board Clerk Appreciation Month

Supt. Flory thanked Kaylee Boyd for providing a dinner to board members. Supt. Flory thanked the board members for their many ways of volunteered service to the school district and community. Supt. Flory recognized Amy Hill as the district's long-standing board clerk.

OPAA! Update – Stacie Stine & Tosha Smith

Stacie Stine provided a business review of the district's Opaa! services for the school year 25-26. Informational item.

Horizon Award Winner

Principal Mike Maloun spoke of Ashley Swanson's classroom teaching accomplishments and her being chosen as a Kansas Horizon Award winner.

Consent Agenda Items

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

- Approved the minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting.
- Approved the December 2025 treasurer's report.
- Approved the presented check journal.
- Accepted the resignations of Cheryl Florance, high school lunch clerk; McKenzie Austin, OAC intervention teacher; Will Herren, high school asst. track coach.

- Accepted the donation from Kansas State Bank and First Security Bank to the high school Reality U event.
- Accepted the grant funds from the Bovay Foundation - \$25,000

Personnel Report

Executive Session

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to enter executive session for 20 minutes to discuss personnel pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 6:45 pm with Faith Flory present. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to open session at 6:45 pm

Employment

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, to approve the presented employment of personnel. Motion carried 7-0.

Roslind Finlay, OAC para coach; Kaitlyn Ball, transfer to CAC office manager and a wage adjustment for duties; Megan Reynolds, interim SAC office manager and wage adjustment for duties.

Administrators

Winter FastBridge data was reviewed. Principals spoke of the recruitment and retention goal, winter activities, thanked local banks for their donation to the high school, Shrine Bowl selecting USD 434 coach and player; and several articles of good news about USD 434.

Items from the Past for Consideration

None

New Items for Discussion & Consideration

Mid-Year Budget Review and Presentation

Kaylee Boyd and Supt. Flory reviewed the budgeting process and expenses for the current fiscal year including a jump in special education expenses while keeping the total mill rate at an even level

KASB Policy Updates

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings, approving the presented policies, excluding the AI policy. Motion carried 7-0.

Policies adopted: BCBK, Executive Session; BG Membership; IHF Graduation Requirements; IKB Controversial Issues; IKCA Human Sexuality Education; IKD Religion in Curricular or School Sponsored Activities; IKDA Religious Objections to Activities; JBCC Enrollment of Nonresident Students; JCAC Interrogation and Investigation; JDDC Bullying Plan form; JQI Adult Students; KM Visitors to the School.

Technology Department Updates & Device Requisition

Andy Lohmeyer presented info regarding a security camera update cycle; Parent Square update; document management digitizing; board study books conversion to a digital format was tabled.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Kylie Hastings to approve the purchase of laptops for staff at \$66772.04. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Jamie Sowers, to approve the purchase of 100 student chromebooks at \$26509. Motion carried 7-0.

Reconfiguration Discussion

Discussion around the building reconfiguration plans. More info needed on three campus option, cost to make major repairs at the HS and CAC. Process to begin closure of SAC with hearing at the regular February 2026 meeting.

Consideration to Call an Election

No discussion.

Capital Outlay Projects

List of proposed projects presented.

**Executive Session
Personnel – Supt Evaluation**

Motion by Justin Ramsdell, second by Stephenie Ganger, to enter executive session for seven minutes to discuss personnel pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 9:26 pm without Faith Flory. Motion carried 7-0.

The board returned to open session at 9:26 pm. No action taken.

Superintendent’s Report

Three Lakes meeting recap provided by Jamie Sowers included search for a new director continues.

Next Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Adjournment

President Tanner Black adjourned the meeting at 9:29 pm

Amy Hill, Clerk

Tanner Black, President