

HCS School Board Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2025

1. Roll: Nathan Tindell, John Freerksen, Jason Dunderdale, Keith Seashols, MRS Lischke

a. Guests: Abby Pipkin, Mr. and Mrs. Robbins

2. Call to order 7:01

3. Devotion and Prayer: Jason – Matthew 5:28 – Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you. – Stay focused on loving God.

(action: assign next month's person)

4. Amend or approve agenda: (today) – Motion by John, 2nd by Keith – approved.

a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting: September 2025 – Motion by John, 2nd by Keith – approved.

5. New Business

a. Mrs. Pipkin – to discuss promoting HCS at Churches.

i. The Pipkins are seeking board approval to attend area churches and to share prepared remarks during their community announcements. They have some scripted remarks and would like to distribute literature and then socialize with congregants afterwards to discuss the school and its benefits. Mrs. Lischke will provide them with some literature. The Pipkins will update us at the next PTF.

b. Policy review: Staff Policies: Students: Sections 9.14 – 9.18

i. All reviewed and approved as is.

c. Teacher Survey prepared and sent if applicable

i. Not ready yet – Mrs. Lischke will prepare teacher surveys in the spring.

6. Administrator's Report

a. Grandparent's Day was a success with the elementary students and secondary students presenting a program. There were approximately 300 grandparents. The students spent the second half of the day with their grandparents. Many students made cards and crafts.

b. Teacher Conferences will be held next Thursday and Friday Report Cards will be handed out to parents at that time. Teachers will discuss student progress both academically and spiritually as we review our school goals with parents. We will also be handing out the packets for Fund to Serve (the letter writing campaign). The Fund To Serve packets were discussed in the teacher meeting yesterday and will be discussed in an all-school assembly on October 27th.

c. Boiler Inspection. The Boiler is being inspected on Tuesday October 21st. Both the boiler and the chiller are showing alarms. Could you (Nathan) check on the boiler to see if you know why it's showing the alarm before the inspector comes? If you can't fix it, I'll ask Marty to come in..

d. Washburn Tech Meeting I have scheduled a Washburn Tech meeting for interested Sophomores and Juniors on November 18" at 5:00.

e. Math Scholars Contest Math Scholars Contest Mrs. Fanning is taking the following students to Washburn Math Day on Tuesday, November 18, from 8:00-2:00: Teddy McCormick, Logan King, Cale Banker, and Chace Perry. High school students from all over northeast Kansas will go to Washburn to compete in a 40-question competitive mathematics exam. Teachers accompanying the students have a discussion of current issues of importance to mathematics educators and/or participate in activities ready for the mathematics classroom. After lunch is served, students from each schoolwork as a team to try to win the "Mathnificent Race". This competition, introduced at the 2013 Math Day, includes a scavenger hunt on the Washburn University campus for information required to solve a sequence of problems as quickly as possible. The first team to finish wins a plaque, but every team that completes all of the problems correctly wins a small prize In the afternoon, there is an awards ceremony honoring the students' achievements. The top three individual scorers in the senior and non-senior categories all receive medals, and the top three scorers from each school receive ribbons, Plaques are awarded to top teams and to the top overall scorer. To add to the fun, there are also door prize drawings for both the students and the teachers, with mathematically-oriented prizes.

f. Shawnee County Scholars Four of our students were honored for being Shawnee County Honor Scholars at Washburn University on October 6th. The students honored were Peter Stirtz, Kara Strahm, Violet Tindell, and Teddy McCormick.

g. First Quarter Report Cards were entered by the teachers. They will be going out next week at parent/teacher conferences. Teachers put in end of the quarter grades, comments, and citizenship onto the report cards.

h. Mission Day Our teachers are planning to serve at many different locations on mission day. The veterans hospital still will not let us go there. Some classes are going to Alpha Children's Home and God's Store House, and Let's Help, Salvation Army, Combat Air Museum, Helping Hands, and maybe some other places - they are leaving at between 8- 9:00 am. The other classes are working in our neighborhood, making care packages for veterans and emergency workers and police and then delivering them. Some elementary classes will have morning classes and lunch on their own before working.

i. Senior Parent Meeting There was a senior parent meeting on Tuesday at 4:30. Items discussed were the Senior Mission Trip to Texas working with Beautiful Feet, FAFSA filing, scholarship opportunities, graduation announcements, graduation caps and gowns, graduation pictures, senior pictures. The notes are available. Graduation will be held at Topeka Baptist Church on Saturday, May 16, at 2:00pm

j. Field Trips We are taking some classes on fields trips - Preschool will go to the farm, and kindergarten through 4th grade will go to the Pumpkin patch. All 9th-12th grade students will be attending the Student Leadership conference on November 13th. GPACS puts this on each year, and our students went the last four years. The event is held at Mid America University. This year's speaker is Alissa Childers. Today, our juniors and seniors went on a college visit to Manhattan Christian College.

k. CLT The 7/8th grade students took the CLT7 and CLT& last week. The juniors and seniors will be taking the CLT on October 22. They practiced logging in and started a practice test.

l. ACSI Principal's Meeting ACSI Principal's Meeting I went last Wednesday to Wichita to the ACSI Principals' District Meeting School Choice meeting in January was discussed at the capitol as well as federal school choice which will be for states that opt in. Kansas has not opted in yet, but it may be the new governor who does this. I will be investigating more on this topic.

m. Student Council Student council will be sponsoring a volleyball game on Friday, October 20th between the junior high and high school volleyball and soccer teams. Student Council is hosting a Bon Fire this Saturday at the Kessler's home They also sponsored See You at the Pole in September.

n. PTF Nite Out on October 14th we had a Nite Out Event at Texas Roadhouse; November Nite Out is still be planned.

o. Emergency Drills The Topeka Police department Sargent Dixon and one other officer came to assist in our intruder drill. They helped to release students to the gym. He also talked with the students before we dismissed them back to their classrooms. A text message was sent to the parents after the completed drill. The students did a great job.

p. Kitchen Inspection The kitchen had an annual fire suppression inspection as well as the fire extinguishers. Several were sent in for repair and are now all back in place.

q. Career Assessment We are in the process of giving a career assessment to all of our secondary students. We will give it first to juniors and seniors and will continue going down the grades. They are also completing an information sheet for me regarding their accomplishments so that we can better write recommendation letters for the students as needed.

r. Operation Christmas Child The elementary classes and secondary family groups are beginning to collect items for boxes to send to needy children. The boxes will be packed and prayed over in chapel in November.

s. Enrollment Total enrollment is 133 full-time students including 11 preschool students. We are in the process of adding another 3-year-old preschool student. She will start in November.

t. Thanksgiving Lunch We will have a special lunch for students for Thanksgiving. The students will eat with their buddy. The last Friday of the month is a buddy get to know you event. The buddies complete a sheet together and talk about it with their buddies.

u. Christmas Program We are preparing our Christmas program. It will be performed in December. We are splitting the program and having one night for elementary and a different night for secondary due to room in the gym. The elementary students had tryouts on Monday for the program.

v. Sports We will start basketball in November. We will practice at Northland and in our gym on a rotating basis.

w. Technology Due to a donation, we have been able to get 4 touch screen for elementary classrooms to use. They were have difficulty with the Interwrite boards so these can be used in place of those. Two of them are Promethian Boards - they allow more than one person to write on them at a time which is very helpful. The teachers are loving these! We may be able to get some more - the company will let us know, We got these for very reduced prices with the help of one of our kindergarten fathers. We have \$1,000 left if more of them become available.

x. Maintenance We will be having root killer put down into the main drains and to the street in November.

We had to have Nathan Sterling work on the walk-in freezer he added coolant, looked for a leak and changed out a capacitor. It is working well now

Mr. Hughes has picked up the new part to replace the broken part of the slide

7. Committee Reports

a. PTF

b. Technology – Windows 10 is no longer supported – Only the laptops on the carts are running Windows 10 but all the labs are updated as are most of the elementary computers. John will double check with Deanna's computer to ensure that her files are properly backed up and research some kind of cloud-based secure storage.

c. Fundraising/Publicity – The shotgun shoot and the fall festival were both done and raised approximately \$4000 together.

The 5K will be on April 18th but the sponsors will need to be secured before Spring Break so that the t-shirt can be designed.

d. Academic

e. Spiritual – John would like to have a Saturday men's group to gather, have a devotional, breakfast, and then do some work around the school.

f. Building Maintenance – Nathan will check on the boiler and chiller alarms. Mr. Hughes and Nathan will work together to install the new slide piece on the playground. The floor mounts for the volleyball net are bent and need to be repaired; they were taped down.

g. Financial – Ace scholarship money came in. We project being over-budget on payroll as well as others. John suggests the best solution continues to be improving enrollment – hiring a recruiter may be the answer. Fundraising is hopefully also going to help.

h. Admissions

8. Old Business

9. Open Forum – We need to talk to the church about scheduling the floor resurfacing for the winter. Follow up on church bringing in more floor mats to try to keep the gym floor clean.

10. Executive Session 8:06 – 8:35

11. Motion to Adjourn By Jason, 2nd by John – Adjourned 8:36.