

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
October 12, 2026

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2026, at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Brooke Brooks, Jennifer McConville, Derek Meyers, Jason Neseth, Superintendent Drew Billeter, Principal Mike Tines and Krista Kennedy.

Absent: Duane Teter and John O'Dea

Visitors: Cris Charley, Sasha Burton, Mindy Haag, Hillery Kennedy and Jason Kloepping.

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by McConville, to excuse absent board members. Ayes: Meyers, Brooks, McConville, and Neseth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Meyers, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Meyers, Brooks, McConville, and Neseth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, the Stockmen's Bank in Bartley, Post Offices in Bartley and Indianola, Southwest Elementary School in Indianola, Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley, and published in the Valley Voice newspaper and on the school website. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2026, the September 24, 2026 and the October 5, 2026, board meeting. Ayes: Meyers, Brooks, McConville and Neseth. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board

John O'Dea arrived to the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: McConville, Meyers, O'Dea, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board discussed snow removal at the Elementary location. Superintendent Billeter advertised for snow removal and currently has no bids. This topic will be discussed at a later board meeting.

Moved by Brooke, seconded by McConville, to approve the adoption of the Option Enrollment Capacity policy. The policy will state K-3rd, 20 students per grade, 4th-5th, 25 students per grade, and 6th-12th, 30 students per grade. Ayes: McConville, Meyers, O'Dea, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Meyers, to approve the selling of surplus items. Ayes: McConville, Meyers, O'Dea, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the EHA Health Insurance Rates that will be released later this month. Rates could potentially increase 10-12%. The teacher's negotiation meeting will be held before November 1st. Several items were purchased with the CTE Grant for use in the shop classroom. Billeter also reported on the Perkins Grant, which provided funds to purchase Briggs and Stratton small engine kits.

Principal Tines reported on the MTSS conference held in Kearney last week, several teachers attended. Tines commented on the HAL Program and how this is incorporated at our school. Students who achieve 95% or higher through MAPS and other testing, then have additional opportunities through honors.

programs.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Meyers, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, McConville, Meyers, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.