

USD 382 Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 13, 2026

7:00 pm

Board Members Present

Jeremy Demuth, President
Jennifer Hopkins

Seth Thibault, Vice President
Kimberly Staats

Chris Drake
Jenna Zimmerman

Michelle Ferbert

Administration Present

Steve Blankenship, Superintendent
David Swank, Principal PHS
Tony Helfrich

Joy Schmidt, Assistant Sup/PAC Principal
John Shriver, Maintenance Director

I. Call to Order

The Board of Education of Pratt Unified School District 382 met in regular session on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the BOE Meeting Room in the PAC Building, 401 S Hamilton, Pratt, KS. President Jeremy Demuth called the meeting to order.

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance - Moment of self-reflection

II. Board Organization for FY 2026-27(AI)

Action Item: Appointment of Lori Girard and Shelia Lunsford

Chris Drake moved and Michelle Ferbert seconded to appoint Lori Girard as board clerk and Shelia Lunsford as board treasurer. 7/0 Vote

Action Item: Appointment of deputy board clerk Meagan Householter

Jennifer Hopkins moved and Michelle Ferbert seconded to appoint Meagan Householter as deputy board clerk. 7/0 Vote

Action Item: Official Meeting date and time. (AI) (R 27-1)

Kimberly Staats moved, and Michelle Ferbert seconded, to approve Resolution R 27-1, setting the official meeting for the second Monday of each month, beginning with the August regular meeting at 6:30 pm at 401 S Hamilton, Pratt, KS. Chris Drake voted against 6/1 Vote

III. Recognition of Guests: Brandie Osenbaugh, Randy Oller

IV. Public Comment: A parent spoke about a student concern at SWE.

V. Executive Session - Personnel

I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 4 minutes at 7:07 to discuss personnel evaluations and personnel, pursuant to the negotiation exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 7:11. Steve Blankenship and Tony Helfrich were invited to stay, seconded by Michelle Ferbert. Resumed regular meeting at 7:11 7/0 Vote

VI. Executive Session - Personnel

I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 2 minutes at 7:11 to discuss personnel evaluations and personnel, pursuant to the negotiation exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 7:13. Steve Blankenship and Tony Helfrich were invited to stay, seconded by Michelle Ferbert. Resumed regular meeting at 7:13 7/0 Vote

VII. Approval of Agenda (AI)

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Chris Drake seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. 7/0 Vote

VIII. Approval of the minutes of the June 8, 2026

Kimberly Staats moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. 7/0 Vote

IX. Approval of the payment of bills, the treasurer's report, and financial reports. (AI)

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded the motion to approve payment of bills, the treasurer's reports, and financial reports. 7/0 Vote

X. Presentation/Student Outcomes: Joy Schmidt: preliminary state assessment results.

XI. Reports (IO)

SCKSEC Report – Chris Drake - The board met in June, approved the 26-27 assessments. Renewing a CD was tabled for next month. Moved to approve KASB workers' comp policy. Approved prek MOU's. Approved MOU for a shared teacher 332 Cunningham and hail-damaged rental cars from Enterprise, and are working with Enterprise on the repairs.

Governmental Relations – Jennifer Hopkins - no report

Maintenance/Facility Report- John Shriver - Food loss at PHS for summer meals; repair bid was \$5000.00. Integreen will replace the cooler at PHS. Kaitlyn Hennesse and Calle Arnold will be joining the custodial staff. Diamond Roofing will be repairing the roof due to improper installation. Parking lights took a lightning hit, and Integreen repaired the system for us.

Asst Superintendent/Curriculum Report—Joy Schmidt - Savvas Math materials have arrived. Working on purchasing items for the district.

Superintendent Report – Steve Blankenship

Summer Lunches - Met community needs, provided take-home breakfast meals. The lunch program served 4000 meals.

Revenue Neutral Rate, LOB rate & overall mill rate - Tony presented on how the state manages funds distributed to the schools. SPED funding, our part is 28%, and it should be 8%. The state should fund 92% of SPED; part of that funding should include Federal funds.

We need to let the County Clerk know that if we are going to exceed Revenue Neutral. LOB, Capital Outlay, and Bond & Interest can't exceed what you brought in last year. 1.5 to 1.7 mills increase to exceed revenue neutral to keep our finances in the same place. The LOB is at about 30% - we are at 32% is the standard in our local area.

Budget process & timeline - If we don't exceed Revenue Neutral, the budget could be approved in August since you don't need to put notices out.

PD for August - Keys to Literacy for K-5 and both admin and building level meetings are ongoing to plan PD for August.

Freezer Sensors - Freezer sensors: working on a quote to install those at PHS in the central cafeteria and at SWE's cafeteria.

XII. Appointments and Other Official Designations for 2026-27

Seth Thibault moved, and Chris Drake seconded to designate the official depositories for 2026-27 as listed. 7/0 Vote

Action Item: Designation of Depository

Legacy Bank

- General and all revolving
- Invested Funds
- Pratt USD, LMS and SW Activity Fund
- Bond and Interest
- Payroll

The Peoples Bank

- PHS Activity
- Pratt Elementary Memorial
- Invested Funds
- Freedom Savings
- McCaslin CD
- Payroll

Action Item: Designate Official Publication for General Circulation

Jennifer Hopkins moved and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to designate the Tri-County Tribune as the newspaper for all official publications. 7/0 Vote

Action Item: Other Appointments

Chris Drake moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded to make the following appointments as presented. 7/0 Vote

Food Service Representative - Heather Van Slyke
Hearing Officer for Free and Reduced Meals - Steve Blankenship
Hearing Officer for Suspension and Expulsion - Joy Schmidt
School Attorneys - The KASB Legal Team
District KPERS Agent - Meagan Householter
District Truancy Officers - Building Principals for their attendance center.
Freedom of Information Officer - Steve Blankenship
Title VI, VII, IX and 504 (ADA) Coordinator - Joy Schmidt
Title IX Decision Maker - Steve Blankenship
Title IX Investigator - Kirsten Blankenship
Homeless Coordinator - Joy Schmidt
Asbestos Manager - John Shriver

SCKSEC Representative

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Michelle Ferbert seconded, to appoint Chris Drake. Kimberly Staats moved to appoint herself, which was seconded by Jenna Zimmerman as the USD 382 representative to the Special Education Coop Board. Kim Staats was appointed. Chris Drake, Jennifer Hopkins and Michelle Ferbert voted no. There was discussion about having two representatives with only one person having voting rights. 4/3Vote

Government Relations:

Kimberly Staats moved, and Chris Drake seconded, to appoint Jennifer Hopkins and Jenna Zimmerman as the USD 382 government relations representatives. Jennifer and Jenna agreed to share the position after Jenna expressed interest. 7/0 Vote

XIII. Action Item: Rate Fees and Petty Cash

Mileage rate for Reimbursement & Petty Cash Funds

Seth Thibault moved and Kimberly Staats seconded to set the mileage reimbursement rate to match the state rate at \$0.725 per mile and to approve the resolutions establishing and setting limits to petty cash and activity funds as listed. 7/0 Vote

Southwest Elementary	\$500.00	R-2 & R-10
Pratt Academic Center	\$500.00	R-2 & R-13
Liberty Middle School	\$500.00	R-3
LMS Activity	\$1500.00	R-6 & R-11
Pratt High Instructional	\$500.00	R-4
PHS Activity	\$1500.00	R-7 & R-12
Central Office	\$1500.00	R-5

XIV. New Fiscal Year Adoptions

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve the fiscal year adoptions as listed. 7/0 Vote

Waiving the GAAP requirements 27-9

Approving the resolutions pertaining to the destruction of record guidelines 27-9

Adopting guidelines for early payment of bills. "I move that the board designate Lori Girard and Meagan Householter as its employees to pay bills in advance of any board meeting in order to avoid a penalty for late payment or take advantage of any early payment discount in accordance with Board policy DJEJ and K.S.A 12-150b."

Adopting the 1116-hour calendar

Adopting Home Rule Policy resolution 27-14

XV. New Business

Action Item: Approval of USD 382's participation in Federal and Title programs for 2026-27

Jenna Zimmerman moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded to approve USD 382's participation in Federal and Title Programs for 2026-27.

7/0 Vote

Action Item: Approval of the Substitute Pay Rate

Kimberly Staats moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve the substitute pay rate at \$125.00 a day.

7/0 Vote

Action Item: Lunch prices for 2026-27

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded to approve the lunch prices as presented.

7/0 Vote

Action Item: Shade Covers at SW PreK and SW Playground

Kimberly Staats moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve a shade cover for the SW West playground and the SW PreK playground through Rainbow of the Heartland for \$19,863.00 from the capital outlay fund.

7/0 Vote

XVI. Old Business

Action Item: BOE policy updates - 2nd read will revisit in August.

Action Item: SRO MOU

Chris Drake moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded to approve the MOU with the City of Pratt for the hiring of an SRO for the 2026-27 school year.

Vote 7/0

Action Item: MHIT Grant approval

Jenna Zimmerman Moved and Chris Drake seconded to approve USD 382's participation in the MHIT grant.

7/0 Vote

XVII. Executive Session - Negotiations

I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 20 minutes at 9:06 to discuss negotiations under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 9:26. Tony Helfrich and Joy Schmidt were invited to stay. Seconded by Jennifer Hopkins.

Resumed regular meeting at 9:26

7/0 Vote

- XVIII. Executive Session - Negotiations
 I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 10 minutes at 9:26 to discuss negotiations under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 9:36. Tony Helfrich and Joy Schmidt were invited to stay. Seconded by Jennifer Hopkins. Resumed regular meeting at 9:36
 7/0 Vote
- XIX. Executive Session - Negotiations
 I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 5 minutes at 9:36 to discuss negotiations under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 9:41. Tony Helfrich and Joy Schmidt were invited to stay. Seconded by Jennifer Hopkins. Resumed regular meeting at 9:41
 7/0 Vote
- XX. Revenue Neutral - Chris Drake moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded the motion to not exceed Revenue Neutral.
 7/0 Vote
- XXI. Classified Pay Raise and Negotiated Agreement
- Action Item: 2026-27 Teacher Negotiated Agreement - Teachers did not pass the negotiated items for the 26-27 school year. No action taken.
- Action Item: Classified pay raise
 Chris Drake Moved and Kimberly Staats seconded to approve a general 2.7% pay raise for classified personnel. 7/0 Vote
- XXII. Executive Session - Personnel
 I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 10 minutes at 9:48 to discuss personnel/evaluations under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 9:58. Tony Helfrich was invited to stay. Seconded by Jennifer Hopkins. Resumed regular meeting at 9:58 7/0 Vote
- Action Item: Admin pay raise
 Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded to approve administrative pay raises as presented for Stephanie Thompson, Jessica Hanvey, and Kirsten Blankenship. 7/0 Vote
- XXIII. Executive Session - Personnel
 I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 10 minutes at 10:00 to discuss personnel/evaluations, pursuant to the negotiation exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 10:10. Tony Helfrich was invited to stay. Seconded by Jennifer Hopkins. Resumed regular meeting at 10:10 7/0 Vote
- XXIV. Executive Session - Personnel
 I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 5 minutes at 10:10 to discuss personnel/evaluations, pursuant to the negotiation exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 10:15. Tony Helfrich was invited to stay. Seconded by Jenna Zimmerman.
 Resumed regular meeting at 10:15 7/0 Vote

Krista Wilson	Title Para	Resignation
Lexi Walker	Title Para	Replaces Krista Wilson
Brooke Barrett	MS VB Assistant	Resignation
Kari Eastes	MS VN Assistant	Replaces Brooke Barrett
Kaitlyn Hennessee	PHS Custodian	Replaces Bryce Corfee
Callee Arnold	Custodian	Replaces open position

XXV. Approval of personnel updates

Kimberly Staats moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve the personnel changes as listed. 7/0 Vote

XXVI. Other: Thursday, August 6th at 8:00 am Back-to-School Breakfast and District In-service at LMS auditorium. Tony's retirement party is July 23, 2026

XXVII. Adjournment(AI)

Michelle Ferbert moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 pm.

BOE Clerk