USD 382 Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 12, 2026 6:30 pm

Board Members Present

Jeremy Demuth, President	Seth Thibault, Vice President-arrived at 6:42		Chris Drake
Michelle Ferbert-absent	Jennifer Hopkins	Kimberly Staats	Jenna Zimmerman

Administration Present

Steve Blankenship, Superintendent	Joy Schmidt, Assistant Sup/PAC Principal
David Swank, Principal PHS	Chris Battin, PHS Asst Principal/AD
Stephanie Thompson, LMS Principal	Kirsten Blankenship, SW Principal
Jessica Hanvey, SW Asst 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, October 12, 2026, at 6:30 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. Recognition of Guests:

III. Public Comment: No public comments

IV. Approval of Agenda (AI)

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve the agenda. 5/0 Vote

V. Approval of the minutes of the September 14, 2026 board meeting and September 21, 2026 Budget Hearing. (AI)

Kimberly Staats moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on September 14th and the Budget Hearing on September 21st. 5/0 Vote

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

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded, to approve payment of bills, the treasurer's reports, and financial reports. 5/0 Vote

VII. Reports (IO)

SCKSEC Report – Kimberly Staats - Kimberly Staats reported on the September 21st meeting. Thrive Therapy is providing a telemed psychologist for bilingual students. Security concerns were addressed regarding Haskins park/playground. Additionally, an extra teacher was approved for PHS to accommodate the upcoming caseload.

Governmental Relations – Jennifer Hopkins/Jenna Zimmerman - State school board election is next month. There was additional discussion about banning technology at the state level. Reminder about attending teh KASB conference in November.

Maintenance/Facility Report- John Shriver - Discussed the C&C AC control issues at PHS that are causing units to run at 100%. Nathan Younkman was brought on at PHS following a custodian's resignation, leaving the building one position short again. New water fountains have been ordered to replace two fountains that have been out of service for quite a while at LMS and repaired playground equipment at Southwest.

Asst Superintendent/Curriculum Report—Joy Schmidt - Following last week's annual school improvement day at Essdack, Joy Schmidt shared updates on 6-month and yearly progress. Staff have completed 83% of the Keys to Literacy training. Work also continuesl to integrate high-quality instructional materials to support accreditation goals.

Superintendent Report – Steve Blankenship

KESA Update - Joy Schmidt reported on this.

Health Insurance Committee 1st Meeting(Stephanie Thompson) - Essdack attended to present details on Tier II and Tier IV plan options, providing guidance as the committee prepares recommendations for upcoming board negotiations. Members were encouraged to evaluate options from a big-picture perspective. The committee will meet again on November 3rd.

SWE Swing Relocation - Crews will be working in the next month to add parking spaces and work to fix/move the playground equipment.

School Bus Stop Arm Data Collection - One day this month, bus drivers will log stop arm violators to report safety issues to law enforcement. Tag numbers will not be taken during this data collection effort.

LMS Online SPED Teacher - Due to the resignation of the online teacher, LMS has adjusted class schedules to allow the two remaining teachers in the building to support current students. The district plans to hire a replacement for the next school year.

RTU Replacement at LMS - We received three bids to replace the unit at LMS. There will be an additional cost as C&C will have to remove the controls and reinstall them.

SO66 - Last year's and this year's are in the board packet. Our numbers have declined with the loss of several students to online schools.

VIII. New Business

Pratt Co. Emergency Management Mitigation Plan Resolution (AI)
Seth Thibault moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded, to approve the Pratt Co. Emergency Management Mitigation Plan Resolution as presented. 6/0 Vote

Quarterly Budget Comparison (IO)
Three enclosed reports compare current General Fund, Supplemental, and Capital Outlay balances against the same period last year.

IX. Old Business

BOE Recording Policy (AI)
Kimberly Staats moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded to approve the policy presented as amended by the KASB Attorney to record board meetings. 4/2 Vote
Chris Drake and Jennifer Hopkins voted no

X. Executive Session - Personnel
I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and Superintendent Steve Blankenship go enter executive session for 30 minutes at 8:00 to discuss personnel/evaluations, pursuant to the personnel exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 8:30 in the board room. Seconded by Chris Drake. 6/0 Vote
Resumed regular meeting at 8:30

XI. Executive Session - Personnel
I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and Superintendent Steve Blankenship enter executive session for 15 minutes at 8:30 to discuss personnel/evaluations, pursuant to the personnel exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting resume at 8:45 in the board room. Seconded by Chris Drake.
6/0 Vote
Resumed regular meeting at 8:45

Bayley Jacobson	SWE PreK Para	Replaces Gracee Martin
Bayley Jacobson	BTB Sub	Open Position
Nathaniel Younkman	PHS Custodian	Replaces John Shriver
Kaitlyn Hennessee	PHS Custodian	Resignation
Brittaney Dunn	PAC Building Para	Open Position

XII. Approval of personnel updates
Kimberly Staats moved, and Chris Drake seconded, to approve the personnel changes as listed. 6/0 Vote

XIII. BOE Statement Regarding Oct 1 PD

Jenna Zimmerman moved and Seth Thibault seconded to publish the BOE statement regarding the Oct 1 Professional Development Day. 6/0 Vote

XIV. Board Retreat October 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Supper will be provided.

XV. Other:

XVI. Adjournment(AI)

Chris Drake moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

_____BOE Clerk