

USD 382 Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 13, 2026

7:00 pm

Board Members Present

Jeremy Demuth, President
Jennifer Hopkins

Seth Thibault, Vice President
Kimberly Staats

Chris Drake
Michelle Ferbert - via Zoom
Jenna Zimmerman

Administration Present

Tony Helfrich, Superintendent
Steve Blankenship, Principal PHS
Stephanie Thompson, LMS Principal
Jessica Hanvey, Assistant Principal SW

Antonia Villa, Assistant Superintendent
David Swank, AD/Assistant Principal PHS
Kirsten Blankenship, Principal SW
David Inslee, Director of Maintenance

I. Call to Order

The Board of Education of Pratt Unified School District 382 met in regular session on Monday, April 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. Recognition of Guests: Chris Battin, Brandon Wade, Kaitlyn Vega, Johanna Forsberg, Bre Gimple, Jaylenn Ruddock, Kash Voss, Tiger Thompson, Molly Swank

III. Approval of Agenda (AI)

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

IV. Approval of the minutes of the March 9, 2026, regular meeting.

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2026, regular meeting. Vote 7/0

V. Teacher Presentation:

ACT Results - Chris Battin: Brief overview of the benchmarks, shared the composite scores from 2018-present. Shared benchmark scores since 2020. Discussed the growth between the PreACT and ACT. The student had to take both tests to be represented in the growth chart. The average math track of students taking the Pre-Calc track is 24.96 and the Algebra II track average is 18.27. English AP Language track average is 20.98, and reading is 20.72. Regular track English is 15.32 and reading is 18.14.

PHS Vocal Music - Brandon Wade: Pratt High Singers were invited to perform in the UK In June of 2027. The trip would occur from June 12-18, 2027. The cost of the trip is \$3800 per student with the flight and activities included. Sponsors would be \$3400.

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

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

VII. Reports. (IO)

SCKSEC Report – Chris Drake - Discussed consideration of speech life contract for Spanish, AVENA contract for medical. MOU with Skyline for their gifted services. Added another year to admin contracts through 2029. Sent letter to PNEA for negotiations.

Governmental Relations – Jennifer Hopkins- Community Eligibility program, we don't have the numbers needed for free lunch for all students. HB2412 is headed to the governor's desk - Civics exam would be required to graduate. HB2534 - grades 9-12 fentanyl abuse and addiction resources and recovery kits.

Maintenance/Facility Report- David Inslee - Integreen is replacing the booster heater in the kitchen. The fire marshal was out for our annual inspection. We got dinged for a few cords and non-rated charging towers. The PHS gym floor has been looked at. There is no foundation damage and the repair should start this week. ATG delivered the groomer for the football field. SW East replacement would be 50% of total replacement plus an additional 15% for structural/engineering.

Asst Superintendent/Curriculum Report—Antonia Villa - The state is eliminating the IXL contract, so we will have to start paying for IXL Math. Pricing for 2025-26 was \$10,878 for Grades 4-8 IXL ELA, Social Studies, Science plus 25 licenses for PHS.

Superintendent Report – Tony Helfrich

Hall of Fame Presentation - We will need to add members to the committee. Nominations stay active for 5 years. Alumni can be nominated 20 years after their graduation. Teachers must have worked for the district for 10 years and must have been out of employment for 5 years. Contributors are community members who have made an impact.

At-Risk accountability - General fund gives you a set amount per student, the LOB matches at 30% by taxpayers. Capital outlay is targeted towards buildings and maintenance. At-Risk funding is determined by the number of free lunch students. The state wants to know if we are really using the at-risk money to help move students to a level 3 or above on state assessments. We would not be able to use at-risk funds to lower class sizes. Each school would have goals to meet to get the best level of funding using the same group of students for 4 years. The state would like 11 students to remain in the cohort so schools would need to pick a larger number of students.

Cellphone ban - What does it really mean? How do we handle devices at games/travel? Extra devices for classrooms may need to be purchased since students would not be allowed to use personal devices for Digital Photography etc. Policy update is on the agenda for May.

Staff survey - The staff survey is scheduled for the 20th of April.

BOE survey - The BOE survey has been sent, and the results will be sent out in the next few days.

VIII. New Business

Action Item: PHS Vocal fundraising project

Kim Staats moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the development of a fundraising plan for a vocal music trip to London.

Vote 7/0

Action Item: KSHSAA BOE vote.

Discussion on who would be our write-in candidate for the KSHSAA Board of Appeals for Congressional District #4.
taken

No action

Action Item: Enrollment capacity

Discussion about raising just certain grade levels for open enrollment due to a large 7th grade class. The 8th-grade class was update to 115 and the 9th-grade updated to 110. Chris Drake moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded to approve enrollment capacity as presented.

Vote 7/0

Action Item: JAG Program renewal. (AI)

Jenna Zimmerman moved, and Chris Drake seconded the motion to approved the renewal of the JAG Program at a cost of \$17,064.00 for the 2026-27 school year.

Vote 7/0

Action Item: BFR Audit. (AI)

Discussion about the budget portion of the auditor's contract
Chris Driake moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded the motion to renew the contract with Busby, Ford, and Reimer (BFR) as the district's financial auditor.

Vote 7/0

Information Only: Board Retreat & Board Goals Session - consensus, vote, or the BOE President can call the special meeting. Dinner will be served. Discussion on who should attend. Should KASB lead the session? Apr 22, 20265:30-7:30. Steve Blankenship and Tony Helfrich were invited to attend.

Information Only: Neighborhood Revitalization Program Rebate - we will have to hold a hearing to approve the program.

Information Only: KASB Policy updates - Cellphone ban and staff usage of online platforms to contact students.

Action Item: KASB Consultancy and KASB Legal Renewal

Jennifer Hopkins moved, and Jenna Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the renewal of USD 382's district membership with KASB consultancy and KASB legal services. Vote 7/0

IX. Old Business

Action Item: Building Handbook changes

SW changed the transportation piece so that K students must be met at the bus stop. This aligns with board policy. Also updating the attendance policy for tardies.

Jenna Zimmerman moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded the motion to approve the building handbook changes for SW, LMS, PAC, and PHS as presented.

Vote 7/0

Information Only: Public Comment form and BOE website updates

Action Item: iPad refresh

Seth Thibault moved, and Jennifer Hopkins seconded the motion to approve the purchase of 155 iPads in the amount of \$55,637.25 from Apple for district use per the terms of the presented quote. Vote 7/0

Action Item: Track resurfacing

Discussion - United has installed a latex track at Meade, which is the least expensive option. Toured ProTrack at Ulysses and Garden City. The committee was not impressed with the track at Garden City. Bannen had several levels of tracks and the committee toured Lakin and Santata. Lakin didn't hold up as well as Santata.

Seth Thibault moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded to approve as the ProTrack contractor for \$169,300.00 to resurface the PHS track and a maintenance plan would be added to the strategic plan under the terms of the advertised RFP and corresponding bid. Vote 7/0

X. Executive Session - Personnel

I, Jeremy Demuth, move that the board and superintendent go into executive session for 20 minutes at 10:30 to discuss personnel, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exemption under KOMA, and that the open meeting shall resume at 10:50. Seconded by Seth Thibault. Steve Blankenship, Chris Battin, and David Swank were invited to stay. Vote 7/0

Resumed regular meeting at 10:50

XI. Personnel Updates - no discussion

Monica Thompson	SW KESA Chair	Replaces Jessica Hanvey
Martin Flemming	Route Bus Driver	Resignation(June 1, 2026)

Bobette Wetter	Route Bus Driver	Replaces Martin Flemming(26-27)
Shiyrah Adelhardt	SW Counselor	Replaces Kim Keiser
Sebastian Beach	SW Lunch Supervisor	Resignation
McKenzie Piland	SW Lunch Supervisor	Graduation
Laney Ritz	SW Lunch Supervisor	Replaces Sebastian Beach(26-27)
Brelane Gimpel	SW Lunch Supervisor	Replaces McKinzie Piland(26-27)
Nicole Moreland	BTB Tutor	Replaces Taylor Binford(26-27)
Regan Rhodes	PHS Biology Teacher	Replaces Joy Schmidt
Daniel Smith	PHS CCR Counselor	Replaces Chris Battin
Daniel Smith	PHS Head Boys Basketball	Replaces Chris Battin
Melissa Schmidt	PHS Bookkeeper	Replaces Denise Loganbill

XII. Approval of personnel updates. (AI)

Kimberly Staats moved, and Chris Drake seconded the motion to approve the personnel updates as listed. Vote 7/0

XIII. Budget Priorities: Discussion of insurance costs and potential raises.

XIV. Other:(IO) Athletic Banquet, Scholarship Banquet, Prom

XV. Adjournment(AI)

Jenna Zimmerman moved, and Kimberly Staats seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 pm. Vote 7/0

BOE Clerk