

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 248
GIRARD, KS
September 11, 2025

The Board of Education of Unified School District 248 met in the Board Office on Thursday, September 11, 2025. President, Dave Goble, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Board members present were: Henry Ashbacher, Aaron Coester, Dave Goble, Lori Johnson, Peggy Marshall, and Kelly Peak. Also present were: Superintendent, Todd Ferguson; Board Clerk, Randee Hanks; Board Treasurer, Charlene Bollinger; GHS Principal, Tim Davied; and RVH Principal, Tina Daniel. Also present were FFA Teacher, Elizabeth Sturgis and students Chance Gillard and Makenzie Wood; Tucker Hudson, reporter with Hometown Girard; and Jon Staton, with Greenbush.

Absent were: Board Member, Roger Breneman; Assistant HS Principal, Chris Swartz; MS Principal, BJ Pruitt; and RVH Assistant Principal, Joni Benso.

Kelly Peak moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to approve the following additions to the agenda: 23A, Approval of the GMS/GHS Fire Alert System replacement; and 23B, KESA Stipend. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Henry Ashbacher moved, Aaron Coester seconded the motion for the approval of the agenda, approval of the minutes of the August 14th, 2025 Board Meeting, approval of the treasurer's report and the bills be approved for payment, amounting to \$1,369,904.63. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Kelly Peak moved, Peggy Marshall seconded the motion to approve the following donations: Booster Club, \$300 per Cross Country, Volleyball and Golf; Barb McClaskey, \$100 for Girard FFA; Crawford County Farm Bureau, \$100 for Girard FFA; Challenger, \$500 for Girard FFA; Crawford County Farm Bureau, \$100 for Girard Choir; and Farm Bureau, \$100 for Girard FFA. Motion carried 6 – 0.

GHS FFA students, Chance Gillard and Makenzie Wood, presented the FFA student presentation.

Superintendent, Todd Ferguson, presented the PD Committee presentation.

Superintendent, Todd Ferguson, presented the USD 248 2025-2026 Student Enrollment Updates.

Kelly Peak moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to elect Dave Goble as delegate for the upcoming KASB Assembly. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Superintendent, Todd Ferguson, presented the Facility/Construction Updates.

Kelly Peak moved, Henry Ashbacher seconded the motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:50 pm for a period of 8 minutes, for discussion of Non-Elected Personnel under KOMA, with Board Members, Superintendent, and Building Administrators present.

Motion carried 6 – 0.

Back to regular session at 6:58 pm.

The regular Board Meeting ceased.

Henry Ashbacher moved, Aaron Coester seconded the motion to enter into the Budget Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing 7:00 pm. No questions arose from patrons about the Revenue Neutral Hearing.

Lori Johnson moved, Roger Breneman seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution: A resolution expressing the property taxation policy of USD 248 (Girard Schools) with respect to exceeding the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate for financing the annual budget for 2025-2026.

K.S.A. 79-2988, provides that a levy of property taxes to finance the 2025-2026 budget of USD 248 exceeds the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate to finance the 2025-2026 budget of USD 248 by authorized by a resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED by USD 248 that the 2025-2026 budget with a levy of property taxes exceeding the Revenue Neutral Tax Rates calculated for 2025-2026, as adjusted pursuant of K.S.A. 79-2988 is hereby adopted.

Adopted this 11th day of September, 2025 by USD 248 Girard Schools in Crawford County Kansas.

Roll Call Vote:

Henry Ashbacher-Yes; Aaron Coester- Yes; Dave Goble-Yes; Lori Johnson- Yes; Peggy Marshall- Yes; and Kelly Peak-Yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Kelly Peak moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to enter into the USD 248 2025-2026 Budget Hearing at 7:05 pm. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Henry Ashbacher moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution: Be It Resolved that: The above-named school board shall be authorized to make a Local Option Percentage in an amount of 32.3% percent for the 2025-2026 school year.

Certificate

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the board of education of Unified School District No. 248, Crawford County, Kansas, on the 11th day of September, 2025. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Superintendent, Todd Ferguson, discussed the 2025-2026 District Budget Updates.

Superintendent, Todd Ferguson, discussed the 2025-2026 District Needs Assessment Review for budgetary considerations.

Aaron Coester moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to Adopt and Approve the 2025-2026 USD 248 Budget as published. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Back to regular session at 7:12 pm.

Henry Ashbacher moved, Aaron Coester seconded the motion to approve the following employment recommendations: Jeff McDonald, GHS Assistant Girls Golf Coach; Robert Fornelli, GHS Head Baseball coach; and Hannah Mengarelli, RVH Para. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Principals' Reports in the Board Packets.

Southeast 637 Interlocal and Greenbush Report.

Peggy Marshall moved, Kelly Peak seconded the motion to review bids for the GMS/GHS Fire Alert System replacement. A \$45,510 bid from Johnson Control was approved.

Motion carried 6 – 0.

Henry Ashbacher moved, Lori Johnson seconded the motion to approve the KESA Stipend for the GHS, GMS and RVH representatives. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Peggy Marshall moved, Aaron Coester seconded the motion for adjournment of the meeting at 7:33 pm. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Randee Hanks
Clerk