**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting – October 9, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by President Troy Hilt in the administrative office on the above date at 7:00 a.m. with everyone present except for Danielle McAtee. Principal Susan Dinkel, Principal Delbert Schmidt, Traci Neitzel, and Tania Quintero were present with Sheree Wingo in attendance.

J.W Milliken made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

Items on the Consent Calendar were next considered. Following review of these items, Chris Hingst moved; J.W Milliken seconded, and it carried to approve the consent calendar; including the following items: 1) the minutes of the regular Board meeting on September 18, 2025. 2) The list of bills being paid checks numbering 18747-18783 on First National Bank totaling $295,922.43 for a grand total of $3,480,425.20. 3) The Cash Summary Report including the Grade School Activity Fund Report, and the High School Activity Fund Report - all as of September 30, 2025. 4) One gift offer was approved for $ 500.00 from Cheyenne County Impact Fund , at the Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation, an Affiliate Foundation of Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation. This gift will be spent on projects for the kids through the Mini Foundation at Saint Francis Community Schools.

There were no committee reports.

Under old business, Superintendent Penka discussed KSBRC. After further discussion we will continue using KASB and KSBRC to compare. No action was taken.

Under new business, the board received a summary of the official enrollment on September 20, 2025. Official 2025-2026 FTE enrollment in USD 297 is 270.6, which is a decrease of 19.4 from the 2024-2025 FTE enrollment (290).

The board also received a summary of the KSHSAA Classifications for activities in 2025-2026. St. Francis is anticipated to continue to be a Class 1A Division I school in the KSHSAA Classifications, with an enrollment of 89 students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

There was one contract, and it was brought before the board for signature.

Next, under Personnel, Superintendent Penka reported that we have received two resignations, Dustin Andrist resigning his position as Director of Transportation. Julie Lockhart also resigned her position as Paraprofessional. Chris Hingst made a motion to approve the resignation; seconded by J.W Milliken and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka requested a 30-minute executive session to discuss nonelected personnel. Bruce Swihart made the following motion: Mr. President, I motion to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4319 and to return to open session at 7:55 a.m. with all in attendance to be invited to executive session except Principal Susan Dinkel and Sheree Wingo. The motion was seconded by J.W Milliken and carried. Principal Susan Dinkel and Sheree Wingo left the meeting. At 7:55 a.m. the board returned to open session where J.W Milliken made a motion to go back into executive session with Susan Dinkel and return to open session at 8:05 a.m. The motion was seconded by Chris Hingst and carried. Upon returning to open session at 8:05 a.m. Sheree Wingo returned to the meeting; no action was taken.

Many Miscellaneous items were discussed; Principal Mr. Schmidt reviewed and discussed assessment scores. Principal, Mrs. Dinkel, reviewed and discussed AR annual expenses. Principal, Mrs. Dinkel, has also been reporting on how The Bookworm has been a great success. Traci Neitzel paid her respects to the Board while moving on to the next chapter.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 7:00 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., J.W Milliken made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Bruce Swihart and carried.

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CLERK DATE BOARD PRESIDENT