

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Rose Hill USD 394 held on Monday September 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom of the Administrative Center located at 104 N. Rose Hill Road, Rose Hill, Kansas.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board of Education. They will be presented to the Board at the regular meeting on October 12, 2026.

Board Members present: Richard Ringwall, Tom Heumann, David Turner, Amy Racchini, and Rhonda Crosby.

Board Members not present: Gina Geer and Quentin Nusz.

Others present: Superintendent Chuck Lambert, Assistant Superintendent Rachel Dalinghaus Board Clerk Jessica Kocher, Finance Director Sabrina Dunkin, Building Principals Greg Welch, Nikki Garcia and Emily Noe, Buildings & Grounds Director Todd Exley, and Maintenance Supervisor Tom Lovell.

President Richard Ringwall called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Amy Racchini.

FY 2027 Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing

Board President Richard Ringwall opened the FY 2027 Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and invited members of the public to provide comments or ask questions regarding the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR), with each speaker allowed up to five minutes.

Superintendent Chuck Lambert provided an overview of the Revenue Neutral Rate process, including an explanation of the district's mill levy and the state-required minimum levy of 20 mills for the General Fund.

Superintendent Lambert presented the following information:

General Fund: The State of Kansas requires the district to levy 20 mills. Due to increases in assessed valuation, the district's Revenue Neutral Rate decreased. To generate approximately the same amount of revenue as the previous year, the district would need to levy 18.991 mills.

Capital Outlay: The Revenue Neutral Rate is 7.677 mills. The Board previously approved a resolution in 2014 authorizing a levy of 8 mills.

Supplemental General (LOB): The Revenue Neutral Rate for the Local Option Budget is approximately 12.844 mills. The proposed levy is 13.333 mills. Superintendent Lambert explained that the LOB is directly related to the General Fund and that the Board has the authority to approve an LOB of up to 33% of the General Fund.

Bond & Interest: The proposed Bond & Interest levy is 16.23 mills, compared with a Revenue Neutral Rate of 15.544 mills.

The Board was also provided with the district's Building Needs Assessments for consideration as part of the budgeting process.

Public Comment

Board President Richard Ringwall provided an opportunity for public comment regarding the Revenue Neutral Rate. No members of the public requested to speak.

Revenue Neutral Rate Resolution No. 394-2027-27

Motion: David Turner moved to approve Revenue Neutral Rate Resolution No. 394-2027-27 as printed in the board packet. Tom Heumann seconded the motion.

Motion carried, 5-0.

FY 2027 Budget Hearing

Board President Richard Ringwall opened the FY 2027 Budget Hearing and invited members of the public to provide comments or ask questions regarding the proposed budget, with each speaker allowed up to five minutes. Superintendent Chuck Lambert provided an overview of the district budget and explained how property valuation relates to school district taxation, including an example using residential property market value and the 11.5% residential assessment rate.

Superintendent Lambert explained that the district prepared the budget using a mill rate similar to previous years. Across the four USD funds supported by local tax levies, the proposed budget reflects an overall decrease of approximately 0.073 mills.

The Bond & Interest levy will remain at 16.23 mills, as previously communicated, and continues to be lower than the district's bond mill levy prior to the 2024 election.

Public Comment

Board President Richard Ringwall provided an opportunity for public comment regarding the proposed FY 2027 budget. No members of the public requested to speak.

I. Approval of Agenda

Amy Racchini made a motion, second by David Turner, to amend the agenda with the following additions:

- IV.A – LOB Resolution
- IV.B – 2026-2027 Budget
- IV.C – ORION Adult Education Waiver
- IV.D – Apptegy Contract
- IV.E – Transportation Director

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

II. Reports

A. Board Member Reports

David Turner expressed his excitement for the new school year and recognized the students, teachers, and administrators. He shared that he continues to hear positive feedback regarding the district's open houses and recent construction projects. He thanked Hutton Construction, Superintendent Chuck Lambert, and Assistant Superintendent Rachel Dalinghaus for their work throughout the construction process.

Mr. Turner also commented positively on the start of the fall sports season and the previous week's home football game, jokingly giving some credit for the team's performance to the new weight room. He expressed his appreciation for the work being done throughout the district.

Amy Racchini shared positive feedback she has received regarding the high school's cell phone procedures. She noted a reported 61% increase in library checkouts and commented positively on the limited number of middle school referrals. Mrs. Racchini also expressed appreciation for the district's continued implementation of Ron Clark Academy initiatives and thanked USD 394 staff for their work.

Tom Heumann commented on the increase in library checkouts and shared that the new weight room is one of his favorite parts of the recent construction. He humorously recounted attempting a box jump in the weight room and falling, followed by Coach Saferite attempting to outdo him.

Rhonda Crosby expressed appreciation for the positive feedback regarding the district's cell phone procedures, particularly at the high school. She noted that the detailed reports help demonstrate student engagement and accountability and commented on the reported 26 cell phone infractions.

Mrs. Crosby also expressed appreciation for the implementation of Ron Clark Academy initiatives at the elementary level and said she looks forward to seeing those practices expand throughout the district. She commented positively on the recently completed concrete work behind the high school and expressed interest in upcoming discussions involving the District Leadership Team and negotiations, including planning periods and late starts.

Richard Ringwall reported that he attended the September 11 memorial service at the park. He noted that the event was well attended by community members and students and stated that it was an honor to attend.

Mr. Ringwall also shared information regarding an upcoming Kansas School Board Resource Center KPI 2026 School Board Summit/academic workshop in October and encouraged fellow Board members to attend.

Mr. Ringwall thanked Mr. Welch for the cell phone update included in his report and congratulated Mrs. Garcia on the improvement reflected in her reports. He also recognized the football and soccer programs for their successful starts to the season.

Mr. Ringwall discussed the importance of providing students with information and opportunities related to skilled trades, including electrical work, HVAC, welding, plumbing, and other technical careers. He noted workforce shortages in several skilled-trade fields and discussed the competitive salaries and career opportunities available to individuals entering those professions. He also spoke about the cost of higher education and emphasized the importance of exposing students to multiple postsecondary pathways, including both college and skilled-trade careers.

During the discussion, Amy Racchini noted that she recently visited the welding classroom and observed strong student participation. She reported that six seniors were currently enrolled and that all ten welding stations were being utilized.

B. Superintendent(s) Reports

Assistant Superintendent Dalinghaus reviewed her report included in the Board packet. She commented that the new staff members are excited to join Rose Hill Schools and thanked the Board for its assistance with the Rocket Rally.

Superintendent Lambert, in addition to reviewing his report included in the Board packet, discussed the various steps involved in the bond and construction projects and thanked the Board for its involvement. He specifically recognized the Board for recommending that the bond issue be placed on the general election ballot. He said the completed projects represent an effort in which everyone had an opportunity to participate and expressed excitement about the results. Superintendent Lambert welcomed the new administrators and wished them well on the first day of school. He expressed his excitement about having them join the district. Superintendent Lambert discussed the district's custodial staffing shortage. He said the district is exploring the use of robotic cleaning equipment and is also working to outsource custodial services at the Middle School for several months. The outsourced service was scheduled to begin that evening. He said the district continues to work to fill available custodial positions. At the Primary School, five teachers have volunteered to assist with one evening of cleaning. Superintendent Lambert said the district will evaluate how the arrangement works moving forward. Superintendent Lambert also showed the Board a picture of a new bicycle rack that was donated to the Primary School. He then reviewed his written report included in the Board packet. Superintendent Lambert also showed the Board the video regarding the effects of screen time on students and adults that had previously been shown to district teachers. The Board viewed a TED Talk addressing the topic. During discussion of the presentation, President Richard Ringwall expressed concerns regarding the effects of cell phone use and excessive screen time on students and adults. He emphasized that

addressing these issues begins at home and that parents also play an important role in modeling healthy technology habits.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting – August 11, 2026

B. Employment Recommendations

EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Chuck Lambert, Superintendent

Date: **September 14, 2026**

NAME POSITION DATE

SUBSTITUTES: "Employees At-Will"

Certified Subs

CERTIFIED EMPLOYMENT:

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT: "Employees At-Will"

Jacob Gibbs	Custodian	8/24/26
Connie Speer	MS Lunchroom Para	9/8/26

CONTINGENT LETTER OF INTENT:

RESCINDED ACCEPTANCE/OFFER:

TERMINATION (Voluntary & Involuntary):

Zachary Frakes	Substitute Teacher	7/27/26
Mallory Howard	Substitute Teacher	8/7/26
Meagan Tucker	Substitute Nurse	8/7/26
Elijah Jay-Lozano	Seasonal Maintenance Tech	8/7/26
Jordan Hart	Substitute Teacher	8/10/26
Lexie Rose	Kids Klub	8/12/26
David Sliger	Transportation Director	8/24/26
Juli Vrbas	Custodian	9/4/26

RETIREMENT:

SUPPLEMENTAL:

Waylynne Teague	IS SIT	8/10/26
Stephanie Arbogast	HS Scholar's Bowl	8/26/26

SUPPLEMENTAL TERMINATION (Voluntary & Involuntary):

Robert Hansen	MS Track	7/14/26
Robert Hansen	7 th Grade Boys Basketball	7/14/26
Stephanie Arbogast	HS Drama	8/6/26

TRANSFERS:

- C. Donations**
- D. Approval of Bills, Activity Accounts & Payroll Reports**
- E. Disposal of District Property**

David Turner made a motion, second by Rhonda Crosby, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

IV. Discussion With Possible Action

A. LOB Resolution

Tom Heumann moved to approve the 33% LOB Resolution No. 394-2027-28 as printed in the board packet. David Turner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay. Formal Role Call attached.

RESOLUTION NO. 394-2027-27

A resolution expressing the property taxation policy of USD 394 Rose Hill Schools with respect to exceeding the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate for financing the annual budget for 2026-2027.

Whereas, K.S.A 79-2988, provides that a levy of property taxes to finance the 2026-2027 budget of USD 394 exceed the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate to finance the 2026-2027 budget of USD 394, be authorized by a resolution.

Whereas, the Board of Education of USD 394 held a hearing on September 14, 2026, allowing all interested taxpayers desiring to be heard an opportunity to give oral testimony; and

Whereas, the Board of Education of USD 394, having heard testimony, still finds it necessary to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of USD 394 that the 2026-2027 budget with a levy of property taxes exceeding the Revenue Neutral Tax Rates calculated for 2026-2027, as adjusted pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2988 is hereby adopted.

Adopted this 14th day of September 2026 by USD 394 Rose Hill Schools in Butler County, Kansas.

Board Clerk

J. Kocher

Board President

Richard Ringwall

Roll Call Vote Results:

Richard Ringwall -	Yes ☒	No ☐
Amy Racchini -	Yes ☒	No ☐
Gina Geer -	Yes ☐	No ☐
Quentin Nusz -	Yes ☐	No ☐
David Turner -	Yes ☒	No ☐
Tom Heumann -	Yes ☒	No ☐
Rhonda Crosby -	Yes ☒	No ☐

RESOLUTION NO. 394-2027-28

Be It Resolved that:

The above-named school board shall be authorized to make a Local Option Percentage in an amount of 33 percent for the 2026-2027 school year.

CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the board of education of Unified School District No. 394, Butler County, Kansas, on the 14th day of September, 2026.

J. Kocher

Clerk of the Board of Education

B. 2026-2027 Budget

After reviewing the Building Needs Assessment and State Assessment Results as part of the approval process, Rhonda Crosby moved to adopt the 2026-2027 District Budget as prepared and presented. Amy Racchini seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

C. Orion Adult Education Waiver

Rhonda Crosby, second by David Turner, made a motion to approve the Orion Adult Education Waiver as presented.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

D. Apptegy -School Communication

Amy Racchini, second by Tom Heumann, made a motion to approve the Apptegy Contract as presented

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

E. Transportation Director Approval

The Board discussed the qualifications and experience of Meret Jennings for the Transportation Director position. Superintendent Lambert explained that Ms. Jennings has experience on the transportation management side of district operations. Because the position has historically included mechanical responsibilities, the district may need to outsource some mechanic services; however, the immediate priority is ensuring the district has appropriate leadership and oversight of its transportation department. The Board and administration also recognized Sharon Guilfol and Mel Morrow for their assistance and work with the district's transportation operations.

Tom Heumann, second by Amy Racchini, motioned to offer the Transportation Director At-Will Employee Contract to Meret Jennings.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 na

V. Executive Session

Personnel Matters-Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA)

Amy Racchini moved that the Board enter into executive session in the conference room for 35 minutes, beginning at 7:20 p.m. and ending at 7:55 p.m., to discuss matters affecting an employee or employees in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual or individuals to be discussed, pursuant to the personnel matters exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The Board would return to open session in the meeting room at 7:55 p.m. Superintendent Chuck Lambert and Assistant Superintendent Rachel Dalinghaus were invited to attend the executive session. David Turner seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5 yea (AR, DT, RR, TH, RC) 0 nay

The Board returned to open session at 7:55 p.m.

Following the executive session, Board President Richard Ringwall asked Board members whether they had an opportunity to review the new KASB policies he had distributed. The policies will be reviewed at the October Board meeting.

IV. Adjournment

President Richard Ringwall adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Richard Ringwall, President

Jessica Kocher, Board Clerk