

February 4, 2026

BROWN COUNTY KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION INTERLOCAL #615
301 S. FIRST STREET HIAWATHA, KS 66434
Phone (785) 742-7108

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 4, 2026

(These minutes are not official until approved at the March 4, 2026 board meeting.)

The Board of Education of the Brown County Kansas Special Education Interlocal #615 held its regular February Board of Education meeting at 6:00 p.m. on February 4, 2026 at the Special Education Annex in Hiawatha.

CALL TO ORDER

Shelby Rice called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

John West, Director
Jon Boller, USD 430 Board Member
Mitch Brown, Incoming USD 415 Board Member
Rex Lockwood, USD 430 Board Member
Shelby Rice, USD 430 Board Member
Brooklyn Schuetz, USD 415 Board Member
Roni Tietjens, USD 415 Board Member
Kindra Howard, Speech/Language Pathologist
Kendelle Runer, ECSE Instructor
Amy Larson, Board Clerk/Business Manager

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Rex Lockwood moved to approve the agenda. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Board Clerk Amy Larson swore in incoming board member, Mitch Brown.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Kendelle Runer stated there is a need for more paras.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shelby Rice noted board clerk appreciation day. Director West presented the board clerk with an appreciation gift.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Para hires of Leah McPeak and Barry Schuetz as well as para contract nonrenewal of Marissa Dexter were added to the consent agenda.

Rex Lockwood moved to approve the consent agenda with the changes as presented. Jon Boller seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero. Included in the consent agenda was:

1. Approval of the minutes of the January 7, 2026 regular board meeting.
2. Approval of the bills for the month of February 2026.
3. Accept the treasurer's report for the month of February 2026.
4. Approve the hires of Rebecca Sivils, Leah McPeak, and Barry Schuetz, all IRC paras at Hiawatha Middle School.
5. Approve the resignations of Jared Dittmer, IRC Teacher; Rebecca Sivils, HMS IRC para; as well as contract nonrenewal of Marissa Dexter, Hiawatha Elementary IRC para.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The integrated preschool model visit has been rescheduled due to weather.
- Parent and staff handbooks are on the waiting list to be developed.
- Leanna Streeter got an Adobe account for electronic signatures.
- The website refresh will start in the near future.
- A public Facebook page for the interlocal has been created.
- Two interlocal vehicles have had brakes replaced.
- Paras are needed.

There was discussion about para numbers and wages.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS, NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL, STUDENT PERSONNEL

At 6:13 pm, Rex Lockwood moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss negotiable items as allowed for employer-employee negotiations, non-elected personnel, and student personnel under KOMA, and reconvene at 6:18 pm. Brooklyn Schuetz seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero. The executive session was necessary to ensure a fair and equitable contract and to protect the privacy of those individuals discussed. Those present for the executive session were John West, Jon Boller, Mitch Brown, Rex Lockwood, Shelby Rice, Brooklyn Schuetz, and Roni Tietjens. At 6:18 pm, Rex Lockwood moved to go into a second executive session for 5 minutes to discuss negotiable items as allowed for employer-employee negotiations, non-elected personnel, and student personnel under KOMA, and reconvene at 6:23 pm. Brooklyn Schuetz seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero. The executive session was necessary to protect the privacy of those individuals discussed.

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Those present for the executive session were John West, Jon Boller, Mitch Brown, Rex Lockwood, Shelby Rice, Brooklyn Schuetz, and Roni Tietjens. At 6:23 pm, the board came out of executive session.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Brooklyn Schuetz moved to hire Leah McPeak, Travis Hampl, and Barbara Spangler as IRC teachers for the 2026-27 school year. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero.

Rex Lockwood moved to extend a retention bonus to School Psychologist Leanna Streeter. Brooklyn Schuetz seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero.

OTHER

There was no other business.

ADJOURN

Brooklyn Schuetz moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of six to zero. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BCK-SEI Board of Education will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at the Special Education Annex in Hiawatha.

_____	Board _____, President	_____	_____, Clerk
_____	_____, Date	_____	_____, Date