

MEET YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Legal control of McPherson USD 418 is vested in the seven members of the Board of Education, elected to staggered four-year terms by district residents. Any registered voter who resides within the boundaries of McPherson may run for election to the Board. Board members are elected at-large. School elections are held bi-annually in odd years the first Tuesday of April.

Members of the Board of Education invite you to be involved with your schools. Your questions and comments are always welcome.

WELCOME TO A MEETING OF YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board meetings are held for the purpose of establishing or amending school policies, acting on recommendations by the superintendent on matters ranging from personnel to maintenance of facilities, adopting an operating budget and tax rate for the district and authorizing the spending of budgeted funds.

An agenda is prepared and studied by the Board president and superintendent in preparation for each meeting. All votes are recorded, and minutes are kept on permanent record by the Board Clerk. Because Board members actively seek the advice and counsel of district residents, citizens are encouraged to attend Board meetings.

THE AGENDA

- 1.0 Approval of Agenda
- 2.0 Comments from the Public
- 3.0 Special Recognition
- 4.0 Gifts to Schools
- 5.0 Consent Items
- 6.0 Reports
- 7.0 Old Business
- 8.0 New Business
- 9.0 Routine Items
 - 9.1 Disposition of Minutes
 - 9.2 Clerk's Report for the Month
 - 9.3 Treasurer's Report for the Month
 - 9.4 Payment of Bills
- 10.0 Next Meeting Possible Items
- 11.0 Future Meeting Suggested Items
- 12.0 Announcements
- 13.0 Executive Session

CONSENT

Typical in the management of any large organization, the Board of Education considers numerous routine tasks at each meeting. The consent section of the agenda allows for quick resolution of matters such as approval of minutes from previous meetings, purchases, routine personnel matters, and other detail work.

Use of consent is not intended to remove items from public review. Board members have the right to have any consent item placed in the business section of the agenda if they feel public discussion is necessary.

The consent allows for a more efficient and effective meeting, permitting board members to focus more time and attention on matters not already covered by specific policies and procedures.

HOW TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

The Board of Education serves the citizens of McPherson USD 418, so community input is always welcome. Ideas and suggestions can help meet the challenge of becoming the best school district possible.

There are two ways a citizen can express their thoughts at a Board meeting. First, there is a specific section of the agenda (*see The Agenda section – Comments from the Public*) permitting people to address the Board. This is the best time to speak about something that does not appear on the agenda. Speakers are asked to give their name, address, and to limit comments to a few minutes.

Secondly, citizens may speak during the public time on any listed agenda item when recognized by the president. This is the time to make views known about the item(s) being discussed previous to any action taken by the Board.

OPEN MEETING/EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

The public is invited to attend all open meetings of the McPherson USD 418 Board of Education. Occasionally, executive sessions may be held. A majority vote of the Board is necessary to discuss items in executive session such as –

1. Personnel matters for nonelected personnel;
2. Consultation with an attorney for the body or agency which would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship;
3. Matters relating to employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative(s) of the body or agency;

4. Confidential data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships;
5. Matters relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a person as a student, patient or resident of a public institution, except that any such person shall have the right to a public hearing if requested by that person;
6. Preliminary discussion relating to the acquisition of real property.
7. Matters relating to the security of the board and the school district.

Board action on any item discussed in executive session must be taken in public session.

BOARD RESPONSE ON AN ISSUE

Many issues require review and deliberation by the Board if good decisions are to be made. Immediate answers cannot always be rendered. The Board will listen to citizens and answer questions or make a decision on a concern as soon as possible, but should review all available information regarding a matter. As soon as a decision has been reached or an answer determined, the public will be notified.

COMPENSATION

Board members receive no financial compensation for their service time. Members are reimbursed for actual expenses incurred when participating in activities relating to board service.

BOARD DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Board members are responsible for developing and adopting policies that will guide the superintendent and staff as they provide for the educational needs of the students, parents, and citizens of the district. Other duties include:

- setting goals for the district;
- establishing operating policies for local schools;
- hiring and evaluating the superintendent;
- authorizing the appointment of district staff;
- authorizing curriculum development and revision; and
- establishing the operating budget for the district.

All policies established by the Board must be consistent with the laws covering public education in the state of Kansas and must follow regulations established by the Kansas State Board of Education.



Brad Berg
Term expires: 06/30/13



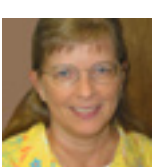
Jeff Johnson
Term expires: 06/30/11



Damon Kelinsorge
Term expires: 06/30/11



Terry Krier
Term expires: 06/30/13



Pat Nippert
Term expires: 06/30/11



Bob Tolle
Term expires: 06/30/11



Donna Viola
Term expires: 06/30/13

*Mission Statement for
McPherson Unified School District 418*

The purpose of the McPherson Unified School District 418 is to assure that students will acquire basic academic and decision-making skills necessary to be productive, responsible citizens in a changing society. Students are challenged to achieve individual success, work to their fullest potential, and become lifelong learners. Our school will guide and assist students to identify and accomplish personal, academic and career goals.

To achieve the purpose of our schools, the following learning goals are established.

Students should:

- *Demonstrate competency in the communication skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking.*
- *Demonstrate competency in basic math skills.*
- *Express knowledge and understanding of our country's history and the democratic process.*
- *Exhibit knowledge of basic concepts of humanities and fine arts.*
- *Utilize current technology and information resources.*
- *Apply logical thinking skills to evaluate information, solve problems and make decisions.*
- *Develop and practice personal skills needed for physical and emotional wellness.*
- *Develop parenting and family life skills.*
- *Cooperate with others, showing compassion and tolerance for individual differences.*
- *Practice commitment, dependability and responsibility.*
- *Demonstrate skills needed for success regarding further education and careers.*

Maximum achievement of these goals requires a continued commitment from our community, patrons, parents, board of education, school administrators, staff and the students themselves. McPherson Unified School District 418 pledges its commitment to the achievement of these goals.

Adopted by the Board of Education on April 24, 1989

2009-10 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Regular meetings and work sessions of the McPherson USD 418 Board of Education will be held in the Board Room at the Central Office, 514 N Main, McPherson KS. Regular meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting Dates

July 13, 2009	September 28, 2009	January 11, 2010	April 12, 2010
July 27, 2009	October 12, 2009	January 25, 2010	April 26, 2010
August 10, 2009	October 26, 2009	February 8, 2010	May 10, 2010
August 24, 2009	November 9, 2009	February 22, 2010	May 24, 2010
September 14, 2009	November 23, 2009	March 8, 2010	June 14, 2010
	December 14, 2009	March 22, 2010	June 28, 2010
	(12:00 noon)		

(9/16/09)

McPHERSON

Unified School District 418

Welcome to a
meeting of your

Board of Education

We're glad you're here!

2009-10 Board of Education
and Administration

Donna Viola	President
Jeff Johnson	Vice President
Brad Berg	Board Member
Damon Kleinsorge	Board Member
Terry Krier	Board Member
Pat Nippert	Board Member
Bob Tolle	Board Member
Randy Watson, Ed.D	Superintendent
Chris Ruder	Director of Business
Chris Ruder	Clerk of the Board
Gordon Mohn	Director of Special Education

THE ROLE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The superintendent is a professional educator employed by the Board to administer all district operations and carry out policies. In addition to advising the Board of matters relating to the management of the district, the superintendent is responsible for giving direction to the staff. The president of the Board and the superintendent prepare an agenda for each meeting that outlines the formal order of business.



*Randy Watson, Ed.D
Superintendent*

PREPARATION

Preparation for each meeting of the Board of Education is of great importance and may occur over long periods of time. Study materials, public discussion, advisory group meetings, and observations are a few of the many sources board members draw upon to help in the decision-making process.

Board members receive the official agenda and related materials, such as staff reports, financial data, input from community residents and groups, as well as other background materials in advance of the meeting. Board members may call the superintendent for clarification of certain items or to request additional information.

LEARNING ABOUT YOUR SCHOOLS

If you have any questions or need additional information about the Board of Education or McPherson USD 418, please call the superintendent's office at 620-241-9400.

MEETING TIMES

Most regular meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Special meetings may be called by the Board president at any time with required advanced notice.

Agendas and meeting locations will be available the Friday afternoon before the meeting from the superintendent's office. When a special meeting is called or there is a change in a meeting date or location, the information should be published in the McPherson Sentinel and announced on KNGL/KBBE radio at least 24 hours in advance.