

**Board of Education  
Pawnee Community Unit School District #11  
Wednesday, December 17, 2025  
6:00 p.m. – Closed Session, Unit Office  
7:00 p.m. – Regular Session – Library**

**1. Requested closed session**

**2. Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Morell, Simpson, Ward, Megginson, Clarke, Boblitt, Guess

Members absent: None

Administrators Present: Edmonds, Hennemann, Goodall, Hamilton, Goodall, Gehrs and Recording Secretary Brown; Lucas was absent

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-please stand if able**

**Info: 4. Communications**

4.1 Student Council Updates - Jungle Fever for Winter Carnival, and finished candy cane sales

4.2 Recognition of Coach Chris Hennemann for Coach of the Year and the 2025 Baseball Hall of Fame. Presented with awards and gave a speech.

4.3 Officer Reynolds was not present

4.4 Kevin Kreipe and Hoyt Tremble present items from Foundations of Technology.

4.5 Public Comment-None

**Action 5. Consent Items**

5.1 Adoption of Consent Agenda Items (Action)

5.2 Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, November 19, 2025

5.3 School District Accounts Payable (Bill List)

5.4 School Activity Account Reports

**Motion: Approve the consent agenda as presented.**

**Motion: Simpson**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

**Action 6. Personnel Consent Agenda Items**

6.1 Adoption of Personnel Consent Agenda Items (Action)

6.2 Employment of Grade School Secretary-Scarlett Dunham, starting January 5, 2026

6.3 Employment of Food Service Director-Ashleigh Walters, starting January 5, 2026

6.4 Employment of SIS/Grant Coordinator, Accounts Receivable, and Activity Account Manager-Kim Cook, starting March 2, 2026

**Motion: Approve Personnel Consent Agenda as Presented.**

**Motion: Simpson**

**Second: Megginson**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

## **INFO 7. Treasurer's Report**

7.1 Update on district finances - Jill reported a 99.1% tax collection rate with only \$12,000 uncollected. Monthly overspending reached \$666,000 compared to revenue, with a decreasing cash reserve. Federal rate drops reduce investment income while monthly overspending continues to reduce available investment funds. The district maintains an enviable cash position but faces challenges with continuing contract increases, extracurricular cost increases, and planned projects.

## **8. New Business**

8.1 Pawnee Community Education Foundation Report-Boblitt reported that scholarship transcripts are due in February, and the scholarships open in January.

8.2 First read of Policy Issue 120-Megginson reported that board members requiring grandfathered status must complete trauma-informed training to be sent via email. Policy updates include nursing mothers' compensation for pumping time without clocking out, and new requirements for alcohol/drug testing and steroid education for athletes. The board voted against including Irish famine curriculum requirements in policy after discussion about heritage representation. Consistency was established for non-discrimination and Title IX coordinator designations throughout board policies.

**8.3 Motion: Discuss the summer HS Gym renovations**

**Motion: Ward**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

Discussion-The board approved Farnsworth's gym renovation project for \$235,324, including a new floor at \$124,560 (\$20 per square foot) compared to the original \$147,964 budget for refinishing existing floors. New bleachers will provide 115 seats, compared to the current 90-seat capacity of the portable wooden bleachers. Concerns were raised about concession stand placement for community functions like PYBA and tournaments, with suggestions to use the hallway space by the high school doors. The project timeline targets summer completion without requiring air conditioning for floor installation.

**Motion: Approve the HS Gym renovation**

**Motion: Ward**

**Second: Megginson**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

**8.4 Motion to discuss and approve the architectural firm to complete the 10-year Health Life Survey based on RFQ submittals**

**Motion: Morell**

**Second: Ward**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

Discussion-The board selected JH Petty and Associates over Graham and Hyde. Decision factors included Graham and Hyde's North Mac gym project exceeding budget by double the original quote, while JH Petty demonstrated willingness to listen to district needs without unnecessary additions. The firm will handle health life safety projects and design work for 3, 5, 7, and 10-year planning horizons.

**Motion: Approve JH Petty as the architectural firm to complete the 10-year Health Life Survey**

**Motion: Guess**

**Second: Simpson**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

8.5 Approve Leanne Gehrs as Authorized Agent for IMRF

**Motion: Megginson**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

**8.6 Motion: Discuss the adoption of the Tax Levy**

**Motion: Megginson**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

Discussion- The board approved the 2025 tax levy at 4.71%, requesting \$4,298,338 compared to last year's \$4,104,908, representing a \$193,430 increase. The educational fund was protected from cuts by reducing working cash requests since substantial reserves exist. EAV is projected to increase 9% (6.23% plus an additional 2.8%), while neighboring districts like Auburn requested 15.5% increases and North Mac 20% due to solar installations. The levy passed 5-2, with concerns about the government holding \$15 million in taxpayer funds.

**Motion: to adopt the Tax Levy**

**Motion: Simpson**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Guess, Megginson, Morell, Simpson, Boblitt**

**Nays: Ward, Clarke**

**INFO 9. Administrative Reports (packets included)**

9.1 Superintendent's Report

9.2 JH/HS Principal's Report

9.3 Grade School Principal's Report

9.4 Director of Student Services Report

9.5 Athletic Director's Report-Lucas was unavailable. The changes to the IHSA were brought up, but will be discussed at a later date.

9.6 Technology Director's Report

**10. Adjournment**

**Motion for Adjournment**

**Motion: Megginson**

**Second: Guess**

**Ayes: Morell, Megginson, Simpson, Clarke, Ward, Boblitt, Guess**

Next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for—

Wednesday, January 21, 2025

Pawnee School Cafeteria

6:00 p.m.—executive session

7:00 p.m. - regular session