

Drexel R-IV School Board of Education

March 17, 2025

Board Meeting – Media Summary

The following is a Media Summary of agenda items discussed and/or acted on by the Drexel R-IV School Board of Education during the March, 2025 meeting.

HVAC Bids

The Board of Education accepted a bid from Johnson Mechanical to replace two VRV systems that serve as the primary HVAC source for the high school and junior high areas. The quote given and accepted was at a cost of \$228,800.

Stadium Area Renovation

The Board of Education reviewed a conceptual drawing of potential stadium area renovations. The renovation primary includes hard-surfacing the area from the Vo Ag / concession stand area extending past the locker room exits. It also includes handicap accessibility, drainage, and landscaping.

Board Policy – Staff Short Term Leave Policy

The Board reviewed the current policy addressing professional short term leave and data on staff attendance and leave balances. They were informed that teachers and administrators are working together and exploring ways to limit the district's financial liability, encourage teacher to save days, and reduce the dependence of substitutes.

MEUHP Medical Insurance

The Board of Education was briefed on current issues with the District's Medical Insurance company. The MEUHP group serves as the plan administrator for over 80 school districts including Drexel. The District was notified last week of a large assessment (over \$73,000) due this fiscal year and a 10.2 % increase in premium rates. By all accounts, the MEUHP group appears to be in a bad financial situation. Many of its member districts are looking into other options.

Drexel School District is currently sending census data and applications to selected insurance brokers and cooperatives requesting a quote on group medical insurance.

Personnel Resignations/Retirements

The Board of Education accepted the retirement notice of Kenny Shipps as junior high social science teacher. The Board also accepted the resignation of Christian Seely as kindergarten teacher and David French as assistant junior high football coach.

Personnel Employment

The Board voted to offer teaching contracts for the 2025-2026 school year to all teaching staff members who have not announced their resignation or retirement. The Board voted to extend an elementary teaching contract to Sydney Antley. Sydney is a 2019 graduate of the University of Central Missouri.

*Respectfully,
Gary French*