

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF DISTRICT 497, HELD IN THE LAWRENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER,
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER,
110 McDONALD DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF LAWRENCE**

May 11, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

At 7 p.m., Board President Craig Grant called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Marlene Merrill, seconded by Scott Morgan, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present

Craig Grant, president
Scott Morgan, vice president
Mary Loveland
Marlene Merrill
Rich Minder
John Mitchell
Linda Robinson

SAT Members Present

Randy Weseman, superintendent
Bruce Passman, deputy superintendent
Mary Rodriguez, chief operations officer
Kim Bodensteiner, chief academic officer

Julie Boyle, director, communications
Janice Dunn, clerk

Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)

Bob Arevalo	Neal Ballard	Llora Baska	Kim Bodensteiner
Tom Bracciano	Mark Bradford	Larry Bussinger	Taylor Bussinger
Robert Byers	Leslie Campbell	Scott Campbell	Andrew Carter
Lorri Claassen	Darrell Cox	Johannah Cox	David Cunningham
Jason Czerniak	Lisa Day	Erica Demby	Susan Esau
Kevin Harrell	Frank Harwood	Karen Hyde	Kathy Johnson
Valerie Johnson-Powell	Patrick Kelly	Michael Lavieri	Randy Lewis
Shelby Lewis	Mark Maranell	Mike Martin	Sheri Martin
Cat Monroe	Nora Murphy	Kimberly Oyler	A. David Parr
Joan Parr	Marshall Rawley	Meredith Richey	Peg Rogers
Vickie Sims	Lindsey Slater	Cliff Tisdale	Amanda Vail
Karen Vespestad	Ginger Wehner	John Weldon	David Williams
Elaine Williams	Gay Willson	William Winkler	Lynn Witters
Sharron Witters			

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Lawrence Teachers of the Year

Randy Weseman, superintendent of schools, recognized *Mike Martin*, physical education teacher, Prairie Park Elementary School, as the 2008-2009 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Mr. Weseman stated that Prairie Park Principal David Williams described Mike as a natural teacher who possesses strong instructional skills and uses

Special Recognition ~ Elementary Teacher of the Year (Continued)

many strategies to engage his students in physical education. A colleague said that Mike takes great care in planning units and lessons, keeping them age-appropriate, challenging and fun. Mr. Martin is a 13-year veteran educator.

Mr. Weseman then recognized *Johannah Cox*, instrumental music teacher, Central Junior High School, as the 2008-2009 Secondary Teacher of the Year. He reported that Lawrence High choral music director, Cathy Crispino, said that Johannah's expertise as a woodwind player and her wisdom as a parent and veteran educator make a huge impact on the district's music program. Other colleagues recognized the care she shows for her students. Ms. Cox is a 30-year veteran of the teaching profession.

2008-2009 Horizon Award Winners

Randy Weseman, superintendent of schools, recalled that the Horizon Award honors exemplary novice teachers during their second year of teaching. He recognized *Amanda Vail*, second grade teacher, Prairie Park Elementary School, as the winner of the 2008-2009 Lawrence Elementary Horizon Award. Mr. Weseman reported that Prairie Park Principal David Williams said that Amanda sets high and clear expectations for her students in the areas of behavior and academics and they respond by meeting those high goals. Mr. Williams said also that Amanda was anxious to learn as much as she could during her first years of teaching, and not only are her instructional skills exceptional, her attitude is always positive. Superintendent Weseman noted that Ms. Vail was also honored by the Kansas State Department of Education as a Kansas Horizon Award winner.

Mr. Weseman then recognized *Cat Monroe*, social studies teacher, Central Junior High School, as the winner of the 2008-2009 Lawrence Secondary Horizon Award. He stated that Central Assistant Principal Lisa Clipsham said that Cat is the type of teacher who strives for self improvement and her greatest strengths come from her ability and desire to collaborate with other teachers.

Each of these teachers will have his/her photograph on display on the district's Wall of Honor.

2009 Lawrence Public Schools' Outstanding Citizen Award

Randy Weseman, superintendent of schools, noted that the Outstanding Citizen Award acknowledges an individual or individuals for outstanding leadership and service to public education. He recognized *Ginger Wehner*, regional vice president, KU Credit Union, as the recipient of the 2009 Lawrence Public Schools' Outstanding Citizen Award for her leadership through KU Credit Union in supporting in many ways the district's teachers, staff, students and schools. Mr. Weseman announced that Ginger and the credit union have offered to assume the costs of the district's fall back-to-school convocation at the Lied Center, where staff will be introduced to the new superintendent, Dr. Rick Doll, new Lawrence Education Association president, Valerie Johnson-Powell, and Board of Education president, Scott Morgan. In addition, Mr. Weseman noted that Ginger has chaired the Lawrence Education Achievement Partners board and served as its treasurer for several years.

Special Recognition (Continued)

Lawrence Educators Celebrating 25 Years of Teaching

On behalf of The University of Kansas, David Cunningham, division director, human resources, certified, assisted by Bob Arevalo, division director, human resources, classified, recognized educators whose total teaching experience equals 25 years. Teachers from Lawrence Public Schools who were recognized this year include *Leslie "Neal" Ballard, George "Skip" Bennett, *Leslie Campbell, *Lorri Claassen, Denise Curnes, Deborah Francisco, Melody Gatti, Nancy Gill, Mary-Nell Gleeson, Karen Grisafe, Craig Hershiser, Jo Huntsinger, *Karen Hyde, Ronda Catt, David Lawrence, Robert Lisher, Vickie Lowe, Nancy Moring, *Joan Parr, Mark Rickabaugh, Rusty Schnur-Shelton, *Vickie Sims, Twilla Smith, Karen Ward, *David Williams, *Elaine Williams, *Gay Willson, and *Sharron Witters.

Note: * indicates those who were in attendance to receive recognition and certificates.

Supported Work Program Employer of the Year

Cliff Tisdale, work experience coordinator, Lawrence High School, assisted by Llara Baska, work experience coordinator, Free State High School, recognized *Mark R. Maranell*, general manager, Ekdahl Dining Services, for his assistance with the district's Supported Work Experience Program. This program helps guide students with limited disabilities through their work experience in the community. Mr. Tisdale noted that Mr. Maranell and Ekdahl have employed nearly 50 students over the years and have been extremely helpful in working with them. He added that they have been reasonable, fair and willing to problem solve to help the students gain experience and be successful in living independent, productive lives. Through the program students gain skills and earn credits, wages, and benefits while they work.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Marshall Rawley, Kimberly Oylar, Erica Demby and Taylor Bussinger, current and former students, Lawrence High School, spoke in support of the district's prevention program which is on the list of programs that may not be funded in the 2009-2010 budget. They shared in regard to their involvement in the Peer Education Program, which includes the "Day of Silence," where 50-70 students are selected to "die" representing those whose lives are taken due to alcohol related crashes, YADA (Youth Against Drugs & Alcohol), STAT (Students Teaching About Tobacco), Cultural Heritage Panel, Relationship Panel and other opportunities to go into the grade schools and junior highs to talk to students about making choices not to be involved with drugs, alcoholism, smoking, bullying and racial discrimination.

Meredith Richey, member, Kansas 9/12 Project, said it had come to the attention of the group that a teacher within Lawrence Public Schools was given a non-renewal because of a difference in political opinion. She asked the board of education to investigate this and possibly reconsider the non-renewal or check into how teachers are released so this is not a pattern in Lawrence. She said different opinions should be tolerated and she believes this is worth exploring.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Mary Loveland, seconded by John Mitchell, the board voted, in a 7-0 roll call vote, to adopt the items listed on the consent agenda:

1. The minutes of the April 27, 2009, study session and April 27, 2009, executive session, regular meeting
2. The financial reports
3. The May 11, 2009, personnel report
4. The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund	\$ 252,424.07
Local Option Budget	250,118.83
Food Service	123,527.51
Vocational Education	4,788.11
Special Education	173,912.10
Drivers Training	268.00
Capital Outlay	288,503.61
Health Care Fund	0.00
Adult Basic Education	139.88
Textbook Rental	102,296.00
Virtual School	5,522.99
Professional Development	8,391.50
Bilingual Education	2,428.50
Parents As Teachers	445.61
Student Materials Revolving	4,660.20
At Risk K-12	187.30
HSOA Projects	257,717.32
2005 Bond Projects	231.00
Title I 2009	774.73
Title I 2008 Carryover	34.95
Indian Education 2009	1,911.34
Johnson O'Malley 2008	0.00
Johnson O'Malley 2009	266.00
Title I Delinquent	0.00
Title IIA 2008	380.00
Title IIA 2009	160.00
Title IV 2008	0.00
Carl Perkins 2009	4,076.71
21 st Century ASP 2008	0.00
21 st Century ASP 2009	4,762.88
Reading First 2009	684.00
Title IID 2009	294.00
Title III ESL	0.00
21 st Century ASP CJH 2008	600.00
21 st Century ASP CJH 2009	128.95
Medicaid-Federal	23,616.00
Title VIB Discretionary Grant	110.28
Title VIB Flow Thru Grant	1,050.00
HOP'N Douglas County	0.00
DCCDA/Propel 2008	0.00
21 st Century NY 2008	0.00
Juvenile Justice Authority 2008	0.00

Approval of Consent Agenda ~ Monthly Vouchers (Continued)

LHS Lions Laundry	7.56
KS Middle School Grant	0.00
Donation Funds	4,131.59
TOTAL	\$1,518,551.52

5. Approvals of the following:
 - Change Order – Soccer Field Retaining Wall – Free State
 - Football Bleachers – Lawrence High and Free State
 - Restroom Renovations – Lawrence High
 - Purchase of Kaspersky Anti-Virus Software
 - Letter of Agreement with Bert Nash Community Mental Health

6. Board policies, second reading, as follow:
 - BCBG — Voting Method
 - CBA — Fraud

Recognition of Retirements

On behalf of the Board of Education, Board Member John Mitchell acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to the following retirees:

...*Rita Avery* for her 25 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon her early retirement effective May 26, 2009.

...*Cindy Murray* for her 20 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon her early retirement effective May 28, 2009.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board President Craig Grant reported that the legislative session ended with a fury. He said the last thing passed was SB84, which is an important part of the budget and will serve as a building block for next year. He noted that 2.5% was cut from the budget for schools, which is better than the 4.75% that some groups were trying to push during the veto session. Mr. Grant said also passed was a new area of KPERS law that allows someone to earn a little more after they have retired without losing their retirement. He said now the board can start to firm its budget because it will know what kinds of funds will be available for next year.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- Superintendent Randy Weseman reported that even though the district is thankful that the authority for the Local Option Budget (LOB) was preserved and the budget was not cut by 4.5%, it will still be hurt at 2.75%. He recalled that \$66 was taken off of the BSAPP (Base State Aid Per Pupil) in front of this and the district will not receive monies from the school finance act. He said administration will refine the budget to meet the new funding law and bring it back to the next meeting on Tuesday, May 26th.
- Superintendent Weseman reported that Kansas Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins has announced that Free State High's Drue Davis is the winner of the Congressional Art Competition for the Second Congressional District. A collage, created by Drue, will be displayed for a year in the Cannon Tunnel that connects the U.S. Capitol with the House office buildings. He noted that Drue and her family will be flown to Washington D.C. for the gallery opening in June. In addition, he reported that Free State's Chloe Porter and Charika Bille also placed in the competition and their art will be displayed in Lynn Jenkins' offices next year.

Report of Superintendent (Continued)

- He reported that the following four Lawrence High students have qualified for the National Forensics Tournament to be held this summer in Alabama:
 - Amelia Weil, first place in dramatic interpretation
 - Hannah Lusk, first place in Lincoln-Douglas debate
 - Alex Hyler, will compete in Student Congress
 - Carina Fowler, first place in humorous interpretation
- Mr. Weseman reported that The American Association of School Librarians will present its Information Technology Pathfinder Award to Jenny Gorup, the library-media specialist at Quail Run Elementary. He said Jenny will receive \$1,000 plus travel expenses to the association's conference in Chicago, and Quail Run will receive a \$500 award. Mr. Weseman noted that this award recognizes and honors a school library-media specialist demonstrating vision and leadership, through the use of information technology, to build lifelong learners.
- Superintendent Weseman noted that next week marks the second annual "LPS on the Move" event. He said that in the district's efforts to promote and celebrate health and wellness practices for staff and students, each campus will take part in an activity involving staff and students in at least 20 minutes of physical activity.
- He reported that the district and the Lawrence Education Association also will host the annual district Recognition Reception honoring 30 retiring teachers and staff members. It will be held on Wednesday, May 20th, at 4 p.m., in the multi-purpose room, and the board and the public are invited to attend.
- Mr. Weseman announced that today he introduced Kassie Shook, first grade teacher, Sunflower Elementary School, as the 2008-2009 Rotary Teacher of the Year. He noted that Kassie has taught in Lawrence Public Schools for 14 years.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Rich Minder

...said he was glad to hear of the award for Kassie Shook, saying he had worked with her in the elementary planning time group.

...reported that he recently went to the Lawrence Arts Center to view our district's student artwork that is on display. He said it was worthwhile to go there.

...reported that he will travel to Wichita this Thursday to tour the Horace Mann School which has a dual language program. He said all students who emerge from there are completely fluent in Spanish and English. He added that it brings together parents and families from different ethnic and economic strata groups.

...announced that he recently won third place in District 2 of the Kansas Author's Club for a short story he wrote.

Marlene Merrill

...reported that she recently attended the Kansas Association of School Boards spring meeting in Olathe. She said one topic of discussion included ways that various districts are addressing the budget shortfalls. In addition, there was discussion in regard to foundations and how different districts are approaching them. She noted that Lawrence stands out well in any type of comparison in how well supported they are and the work they do. She said the topics were interesting and meaningful.

Linda Robinson

...announced that Superintendent Randy Weseman was awarded today the Paul Harris Rotarian of the Year Award.

Board Commentary ~ Linda Robinson (Continued)

...noted that students who leave Lawrence Public Schools go on to do great things as is the case with Mason Heilman, who won the race for president elect of the Senate at Kansas University. In addition, Erin Robinson, Linda's daughter, ran and won the race for Senator.

NEW BUSINESS

Fringe Benefit Committee Health Provider Recommendation

Andy Carter, third party fringe benefits consultant, assisted by Bob Arevalo and Valerie Johnson-Powell, co-chairs, fringe benefit committee, reported that the fringe benefits committee presented to the negotiations team last Wednesday evening a recommendation to change health care providers from Cigna to Coventry. He reported that there was a unanimous recommendation that the district move back to Coventry. Mr. Carter said the main reason for this is that for the five years that the district was with Coventry, the provider managed to keep the annual health care cost increase to under 7%, and the renewal increase for Cigna would be almost 48%.

Mr. Carter said it is important that a decision be made as soon as possible to allow the process to be implemented should the district move to a new provider.

Information was presented showing a Triple Option 2 Comparison with Coventry and following discussion, a motion was made by John Mitchell, seconded by Marlene Merrill, to accept the recommendation from the Fringe Benefits Committee to change from Cigna to Coventry as the Health Care Provider for Lawrence Public Schools. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (See Attachment No. 1)

REPORT

Special Education Compliance

Kevin Harrell, division director, student intervention services, reported that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) of 2004 requires that each year states make determinations of special education performance and compliance for each school district. For Lawrence Public Schools, this information is obtained by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) and submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs. Data is collected from a number of different sources and is reported in the State Performance Plan and Annual Report.

Mr. Harrell reported that there are 20 performance and compliance indicators, and 13 of them were selected for the most recent report, which was submitted on February 1, 2008, and based on 2007-2008 data. The four levels of determination include *Meets Requirements*, *Needs Assistance*, *Needs Intervention* and *Needs Substantial Intervention*. The report for USD 497 for fiscal year 2007-2008 shows that the current year level of determination is *Meets Requirements*, arrived at because all substantial compliance indicators were met and the level of determination from the previous year was *Needs Assistance Yr 1*. Mr. Harrell noted that there are no current sanctions against Lawrence Public Schools. These reports are designed to help school districts identify targets that are not being met.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:48 p.m., following a motion by John Mitchell, seconded by Linda Robinson, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to recess to executive session *to discuss negotiations in order to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract*, with Randy Weseman, superintendent; Dr. Bruce Passman, deputy superintendent; David Cunningham, division director, human resources, certified; Mary Rodriguez, chief operations officer; Kim Bodensteiner, chief academic officer; Kathy Johnson, division director, finance; Frank Harwood, chief board negotiator; and Joni Appleman, negotiations team member; invited to be present, and with the board to return to open session in this room at 9:15 p.m., with no action to follow.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 p.m., the board returned to open session where a motion was made by Scott Morgan, seconded by John Mitchell, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Janice E. Dunn
Clerk, Board of Education

LAWRENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2009-10 Plan Year
Coventry Triple Option 2 Comparison

Increase Network	Core Plan 15% Increase		Buy-Up Plan 30% Increase		Buy-Down HSA*
	POS	PPO	POS	PPO	12% Decrease PPO
Office Visit Copay	\$25/\$50	\$25/\$50	\$20/\$30	\$20/\$20	Deductible/Coins. \$2,000 / \$4,000
Deductible (single/family)	\$1,000 / \$3,000	\$1,250 / \$3,750	\$250 / \$750	\$500 / \$1,000	10% \$3,000 / \$6,000
Coinurance	20%	30%	20%	30%	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Out of Pocket (ded.+ coins)	\$4,500 / \$10,000	\$4,750 / \$10,750	\$2,500 / \$5,000	\$3,500 / \$7,000	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
ER/UC Copay	\$150 + 20% / \$75	\$150 + 30% / \$75	\$100 / \$30	Ded + 30%	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Lifetime Max (combined)	Unlimited	\$5 million	Unlimited	\$5 million	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
RX Copay (retail/mail order)					Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Tier 1	\$10 / \$30	\$10 / \$30	\$10 / \$30	\$10 / \$30	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Tier 2	\$35 / \$105	\$35 / \$105	\$35 / \$105	\$35 / \$105	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Tier 3	\$60 / \$180	\$60 / \$180	\$60 / \$180	\$60 / \$180	Deductible/Coins. \$5 million
Rates:					
Employee Only	\$360.26	\$406.74 (\$46.48)	\$406.74 (\$46.48)	\$274.79 (-\$85.47)	
Employee & Spouse	\$810.59 (\$450.33)	\$915.17 (\$554.91)	\$915.17 (\$554.91)	\$618.28 (\$258.02)	
Employee & Child(ren)	\$756.54 (\$396.28)	\$854.14 (\$493.88)	\$854.14 (\$493.88)	\$577.05 (\$216.79)	
Employee & Family	\$1,116.79 (\$756.53)	\$1,260.87 (\$900.61)	\$1,260.87 (\$900.61)	\$851.83 (\$491.57)	
	(Employee Cost)	(Employee Cost)	(Employee Cost)	(Employee Cost)	(Employee Cost)

Note: Assumes one way participating contract arrangement with 2nd year 15.6% rate cap.

* HSA Administration Options:

1. HSA Prime - This is our basic product and costs \$2.95 PEPM
2. HSA Investor - This product offers investments and higher interest rates and costs \$4.95 PEPM

District HSA funding - \$85.47 pepm/ \$1,025.64 annually per HSA enrollee
If employer funds more than 50% of QHDP deductible, rates subject to change