

**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**

November 14, 2016

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:31 p.m., Board President Marcel Harmon called to order a meeting of the Board of Education for the purpose of entering executive session. A motion was made by Jessica Beeson, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, to recess to executive session *to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed* with Kyle Hayden, superintendent; David Cunningham, executive director, human resources and legal counsel; and Brad Finkeldei, district counsel; invited to be present, and with the board to return to open session in this room at 6:15 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND EXTENSION

At 6:15 p.m., the board returned to open session where a motion was made by Jill Fincher, seconded by Marcel Harmon, to extend the executive session to 6:25 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND EXTENSION

At 6:25 p.m., the board returned to open session where a motion was made by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Rick Ingram, to extend the executive session to 6:30 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND BREAK

At 6:30 p.m., the board returned to open session where President Harmon declared a break until the start of the regular meeting.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

At 7:00 p.m., Board President Marcel Harmon called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Shannon Kimball, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda as published.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>SLT Members Present</u>
Marcel Harmon, president	Kyle Hayden, superintendent
Shannon Kimball, vice president	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent,
Jessica Beeson	innovation & technology
Jill Fincher	Kevin Harrell, executive director,
Rick Ingram	student services
<u>Board Member Absent</u>	Tony Barron, executive director,
Kris Adair	facilities & operations
	Julie Boyle, director, communications
	Janice Dunn, clerk

Roll Call (Continued)

Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)			
Andy Bricker	Lindsay Buck	Danielle Buschkoetter	Dylan Ediger
Matthew Gough	Sunny Halstead	Shane Heiman	Joanna Hlavacek
Kathy Johnson	Melissa Johnson	Erica Keller	Sally Kelsey
Dacia McCabe-Maher	Michael Maher	Joy Mapes	Terry McEwen
Lauren Mitchell	Paula Murrish	Andrew Nussbaum	Jeff Plinsky
A. Schwartz	Njeri Shomari	Caleb Stephens	Diane Stoddard
Oather Strawderman	Adam Williams	Kirsten Wondra	

REPORT OF BOARD PRESIDENT MARCEL HARMON

As part of his report, Board President Marcel Harmon read the following:

I know that many of us are still coming to grips with the results of last Tuesday's elections. For many it seems like we took a step back, or even a leap backwards, with regards to what we thought had been progress addressing different aspects of institutionalized discrimination. And we're struggling to come to grips with that – many of us are in various states of bereavement and disillusionment. Because it seems clear that institutionalized and individual racism and gender discrimination are still alive and well in our nation for a variety of reasons – and I acknowledge that for many minorities that's not really a surprise at all, but business as usual relative to different aspects of their own day-to-day experiences.

Personally I'm still processing what this says about where we are as a nation, what it means for us as a community, and how we move forward. But one thing I do know is that our public schools have a critical role to play in tearing down these walls of racism and gender discrimination. By creating and maintaining equitable educational environments for our students, teachers and staff, we shed light on the nature of our current social injustices, help inoculate the next generation against negative stereotypes and memes of hate and ignorance, and provide them with needed tools for addressing social injustices when they see it in the world.

I reiterate my personal support for our equity work, that was stated in the letters read during the last board meeting, and I'm sure that my fellow board members and the Superintendent would reiterate that as well. I was also heartened somewhat by the results of our state level elections – we may now have a mix of moderate Republicans and Democrats in our legislature capable of forming coalitions to turn the state around with regards to tax policy and education.

But the external and internal threats to our equity work are real. They threaten to delay and derail the progress we've made and the work we want to continue to do. We must continue having conversations about what we're doing, continue having civil discourse. We must continue assessing how our actions are working and make course corrections when necessary. We must continue supporting and growing our equity champions, and building and maintaining trust with one another. And part of that requires really listening to one another.

So in the spirit of listening to one another, we've heard comments from the community with regards to how we structure the board meetings. And the order of tonight's meeting is an initial attempt to address those comments. We've been aware of the awkwardness and sterility of how we handle public comments. We've felt it ourselves and we heard community members pointedly express that as well during the last board meeting.

Report of Board President Harmon (Continued)

So let me explain the ordering of the agenda, my thought processes behind that, and then if there are any board questions/comments let's go ahead and address those at this time. If any audience members wish to comment on the meeting structure, we invite you to do so during the patron comments.

So I've moved the board president's and the superintendent's reports up towards the front of the meeting. If there happens to be any type of recognition, that would then go between agenda approval and the president's report.

Patron comments occur after the Superintendent's report, with board commentary immediately following patron comments. This way, board members can respond to comments patrons made shortly after they were actually made, and they also have the opportunity to engage with the patron who made a specific comment at that time during the meeting, if needed and the patron is willing. We've also extended the speaking time from 3 minutes to 5 minutes, nor will we cut you off immediately at 5 minutes.

Also, during patron comments:

- *Every meeting, my intent is to read the statement about the guidelines we would like patrons to follow while making comments and the importance of not naming names or details. It isn't just about lawsuits, but really it's about protecting due process.*
- *(Patrons) Don't have to provide their name or contact information, but that provides us the ability to reach out to you for more details to address specific issues.*

We'll see how it works out and make modifications as needed moving forward. It's still open to evolve, depending on feedback from board members and community members.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT KYLE HAYDEN

- Superintendent Kyle Hayden announced that this is American Education Week, a national observance to build awareness of the importance of public education. He reported that he will be sharing a video message with staff this week stating his appreciation for what they do day in and day out to support ALL kids. He recalled that at the beginning of the school year, he told staff that "Those with hope have the most influence." He thanked teachers and staff for continuing to have hope that their work with students can make a difference in students' lives, the lives of their families and in the strength of our community. He expressed appreciation that the district's teachers and staff exercise their influence in positive ways to support student achievement and success every day. He said that their work with kids gives him hope that the young people who are influenced and educated today will create a better future, one in which greater appreciation is shown for each other, our differences and the values we share.
- Superintendent Hayden announced that, as part of American Education Week, a celebration of school volunteerism will be held to honor some outstanding volunteers from across the district. He stated that these moms, dads, grandparents and community partners support teachers and staff in a variety of ways and model for our students the importance of education and public service. Mr. Hayden invited the board and the public to the Friends of Education Recognition Reception beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, in the Southwest Middle School auditorium.

Report of Superintendent Hayden (Continued)

- He also reported that the district will join the Lawrence Education Association and the Lawrence Schools Foundation in sponsoring an all-staff appreciation mixer on Friday, November 17, starting at 4:30 p.m.
- He thanked the hundreds of volunteers and community partners who worked with all of the district's seventh-graders last week at the College and Career Center to share networking skills and information about their career paths during the Your Career Connection learning activity.
- Mr. Hayden reported that this is also National School Psychology Week and acknowledged the caring and dedication of the district's school psychologists. He said they are a very important part of our school mental health teams and their work is appreciated.
- He announced that the National AVID Center has upgraded Lawrence High School to a Highly Certified AVID Site, and expressed congratulations to the staff for demonstrating that all AVID essentials are consistently applied to facilitate learning for students.
- He congratulated the Free State High School Girls' Cross Country Team for winning the 6A State Championship, and also Lawrence Virtual School senior Fletcher Scott, who was named the United States Tennis Association's Heart of America Junior Player of the Year.
- Superintendent Hayden presented a certificate to Board Member Shannon Kimball for earning Honor Roll I status by attending the Kansas Association of School Board's Leadership Academy training.

PATRON COMMENTARY

President Harmon asked for patron commentary.

Matthew Gough, attorney, Barber Emerson L.C., commented in regard to the request from the City of Lawrence for a Neighborhood Revitalization Area at 826 Pennsylvania.

Andy Bricker, Lawrence High School, commented in regard to equity.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Vanessa Sanburn and *Jessica Beeson* made comments in regard to equity.

Jill Fincher commented in regard to the change in the order of the board meeting agenda.

PATRON COMMENTARY

The following made comments in regard to equity:

Andrew Nussbaum, patron

Melissa Johnson, patron

Dacia McCabe-Maher, patron

Michael Maher, patron

Caleb Stephens, patron

Joy Mapes, district employee

BOARD COMMENTARY

Shannon Kimball reported that she recently attended a Kansas Association of School Boards Board of Directors meeting.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, the board voted, in a 6-0 roll call vote, to adopt the items listed on the consent agenda with the following amendment: Remove Request from City of Lawrence for Neighborhood Revitalization Area to be voted on separately.

The consent agenda included the following:

- The minutes of the October 24, 2016 master plan secondary school improvements work session, executive session, regular meeting; November 7, 2016 special meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds
- The November 14, 2016 personnel report
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

Fund	Amount
General	\$ 612,497.77
Local Option Budget	191,699.09
Food Service	224,132.33
Vocational Education	6,426.78
Special Education	326,851.02
Capital Outlay	280,789.55
Health Fund	427.20
Adult Basic Education	1,463.00
Virtual School	80,869.82
Professional Development	55,246.45
Bilingual Fund	886.33
Parents As Teachers	371.94
Student Materials Revolve	71,387.37
At Risk (K-12)	65.83
Contingency Reserve	900.00
2013 Bonds	1,161,710.43
Title I 2017	18,773.86
Title I Carryover 2017	4,057.90
Indian Education Title 2016	1,595.67
Indian Education Title 2017	205.30
Johnson O'Malley 2016	551.50
Title IIA 2017	245.00
Title III ESL 2016	1,028.95
Carl Perkins 2017	761.60
Title VIBDIS 2017	9,930.75
KMSG Middle School 2017	4,956.00
KS Deaf/Blind 2017	3,450.79
Payroll Fund	773,554.99
Spectra-Medicaid	17,509.86
Wellness Farm to School Local	55.00
Loc/Don/Gra	11,791.86
TOTAL	\$3,864,193.94

Approval of Consent Agenda (Continued)

- Approvals of the following:
 - Purchase of Casework, Storage, Tables & Desks – District
 - Agreement for School Psychology Services
 - Board Policy Committee Recommendations – Final Action

Approval for Request from City of Lawrence for Neighborhood Revitalization Area

Following a brief discussion, Shannon Kimball made a motion, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, to approve participation in the request by Williams Management LLC for the establishment of a Neighborhood Revitalization Area rebate for 826 Pennsylvania Street at 50% for a period of 10 years, and with the understanding that if the City of Lawrence were to decide to change their level of approval for a rebate that the Board of Education would revisit their decision. The motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Through discussion, it was recommended that a conversation be held between the City of Lawrence, Douglas County, and USD 497 in regard to policy and the NRA request process and how it affects the school district.

REPORTS

Update on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Terry McEwen, director, curriculum, instruction, and assessment, recalled the Board of Education goal under College and Career Readiness to *continue to align core curriculum and resources to Kansas College and Career Standards (Next Generation Science Standards, K-12)*.

Erica Keller, facilitator, elementary science curriculum, reported on the process that has been followed since the NGSS were adopted by USD 497 in April 2013. She reported that a Science Leadership Team was formed and began planning in the 2013-2014 school year, and in 2014-2015, the new standards were shared within elementary buildings and an investigation in regard to instructional resources aligned with the standards began. She added that during the 2015-2016 school year, three instructional resources were field tested, and 21 teachers continue to field test one of the three programs. The remaining staff are utilizing FOSS kits along with an elementary science course master on Blackboard and additional add-ons that align with the standards.

Ms. Keller reported that field test updates have been provided to the Science Leadership Team since the beginning of the year and alternatives have been examined. She stated that the goals when selecting a new resource include: 1) alignment to NGSS, 2) cultural relevancy, 3) user-friendly for teachers and students, 4) alignment with the district/board goals, 5) ability to personalize and blend for students. It was noted that professional development for teachers will be offered next summer or in the spring if the materials become available.

Sunny Halstead, facilitator, secondary science curriculum, reported that at the middle school level, teaching of science will move from a domain model (6th-Life Science, 7th-Earth Science, 8th-Physical Science) to a conceptual progression model where each domain is taught in every grade level and integrated with the ELA/Math standards. Work has been done over the last couple of years to ensure that teachers have a good understanding of the NGSS. The process has also involved placing the teaching of the standards in sequence and designing master courses that can be easily accessed. Ms. Halstead reported that implementation of the NGSS began last year in Grade 6, in Grade 7 this year, and will begin next year in Grade 8.

Reports ~ Update on Next Generation Science Standards (Continued)

Oather Strawderman, science department chair, Free State High School, reported that high school planning for the NGSS began in the fall of 2013. He stated that representatives from both high schools met during the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years to research several plans for implementation. Meetings to determine curriculum and content in the areas of biology, chemistry, and physics, and to address student learning have taken place and will continue to take place at the district level and through professional learning communities.

Update on School Finance & Legislative Priorities

Kathy Johnson, director, finance, recalled that the Kansas Legislature repealed the 1992 school finance formula in 2015 and replaced it with a two-year block grant system. She reported that the block grant system expires in 2017 and the Legislature will develop a new funding system in its upcoming legislative session.

Ms. Johnson highlighted a draft of the Lawrence Public Schools' input to a school finance formula framework, and asked Board of Education members to provide feedback before a request for final approval is made at the November 28 board meeting. She said, following approval, it will be forwarded to the Governor, Kansas Legislature, and Kansas Association of School Boards for the November 30 deadline. She reported that the Finance Advisory Council has provided input and will once again look at the document on November 17.

In addition, Ms. Johnson shared the district's 2016 Legislative Priorities and asked for board input in constructing ones for the 2017 legislative session. She said a request for board approval will also be made at the November 28 meeting before the priorities are presented to local legislators and community entities at The Chamber's Legislative Priorities Breakfast to be held the first part of January. They will also be forwarded to the Governor, Kansas Legislature, and Kansas Association of School Boards.

Input from board members was provided through discussion and can also be forwarded to the board clerk by November 21.

REPORTS AND APPROVAL

There were no items for reports and approval.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:36 p.m., a motion was made by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, 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