

**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**

**February 13, 2017**

**MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6 p.m., Board President Marcel Harmon called to order a meeting of the Board of Education for the purpose of entering executive session. Rick Ingram made a motion, seconded by Shannon Kimball, to recess to executive session *to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed*, with Kyle Hayden, superintendent, invited to be present, and with the board to return to open session in this room at 6:55 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**BREAK**

At 6:55 p.m., the board returned to open session where Board President Marcel Harmon declared a break until the start of the regular meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING**

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

**APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda with the following amendment: Following the **Reports and Approvals**, the Board of Education will once again recess to executive session *to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed*, with Kyle Hayden, superintendent, invited to be present, and with the board to return to open session in this room 20 minutes after entering.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF & COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year – Zion Bowlin**

Colby Wilson, executive director, Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, stated that the Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Club's premier recognition program honoring young people who have overcome obstacles, possess great character, give back to their communities and set great life goals. He introduced *Zion Bowlin*, senior, Free State High School, as the 2017 Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence Youth of the Year.

Zion spoke about being raised by his Dad in a single parent home, saying his Dad was the man and leader he needed as he was growing up. He also acknowledged the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence and the positive influence it has been in his life. Zion reported that he plans to further his education after high school and pursue a career in nursing. He said he wants to be a positive person in the lives of others, just as others have been in his.

## ROLL CALL

<b>Board Members Present</b>	<b>SLT Members Present</b>
Marcel Harmon, president	Kyle Hayden, superintendent
Shannon Kimball, vice president	Anna Stubblefield, assistant superintendent,
Jessica Beeson	educational support
Jill Fincher	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent,
Rick Ingram	Innovation & technology
Vanessa Sanburn	Kevin Harrell, executive director,
<b>Board Member Absent</b>	student services
Kris Adair	Tony Barron, executive director,
	facilities & operations
	David Cunningham, executive director,
	human resources & legal counsel
	Julie Boyle, director, communications
	Janice Dunn, clerk

<b>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</b>			
Naheed Abdulrahim	Tammy Becker	Zion Bowlin	Andrew Bricker
Rebecca Calderon	Stephen Craig	Lisa Delci	Bill DeWitt
Laurie Folsom	Jana Hare	Joanna Hlavacek	Chris Johnson
Kathy Johnson	Melissa Johnson	Peyton Kraus	Shannan LaVallie
Ashton McKnight	Aimee McLendon	Paula Murrish	Natasha Neal
Andrew Nussbaum	Chery Nussbaum	Inez Robinson	Stan Roth
Amber Rowland	Taylor Royal	Gary Schmidt	Taylor Schmidt
Wendy Smith	Inna Stephaniuk	Caleb Stephens	Oather Strawderman
Effie Sun	Brittany Swearingen	Colby Wilson	Leah Wisdom
Adam Ziegler			

## REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board President Marcel Harmon thanked those who participated in the Community Conversation about Racial Equity in Lawrence Public Schools on January 30. He reported that staff is compiling and summarizing data received that evening and a board work session has been scheduled for 5 p.m. on Monday, February 27, where the information will be shared and discussed. He noted that the information will also be shared with the community.

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- Superintendent Kyle Hayden stated that he has been working on a reorganization of existing personnel to improve support for the district's equity work, professional development of teaching staff and the success of all students. He reported that Assistant Superintendent of Educational Support Anna Stubblefield will add to her supervision of human resources, oversight of the district's equity work, effective immediately. He said she will work with administration and staff to develop strategies to meet district equity goals to provide professional development related to culturally relevant teaching, continue Beyond Diversity training for all district staff, expand student equity leadership development and develop partnerships for student success through continued engagement of school families and community members and organizations. Mr. Hayden reported that he also plans to create an assistant director of teaching and learning position to directly support teacher training and student achievement, saying that South Middle School Principal Jennifer Bessolo will transfer

### **Report of Superintendent Hayden (Continued)**

into this new position, effective July 1, 2017. He said she will join Assistant Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Kirsten Wondra in supervising learning coaches. Mr. Hayden noted that the district will immediately begin a search for a new principal for South Middle School. He also stated his plan to combine the district's curriculum facilitators with learning coaches to maximize the impact of the coaching team and provide school-based training for culturally relevant teaching and personalized student learning. He said he approached this as a cost-neutral change, but it actually will carry a slight cost savings due to eliminating the unfilled administrative support positions and combining curriculum facilitators with our learning coaches.

- Mr. Hayden stated that he has instructed schools to invite parents of students of color to submit applications to serve on the newly-formed District Equity Leadership Team Advisory Council. In addition, he said that those who expressed an interest at the Community Conversation event in serving on the committee will receive information about applying.
- Superintendent Hayden extended congratulations to the district's U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Candidates from Free State High School: Natalie Adams-Menendez, Charlotte B. Crandall, Sayuj S. Thapa, Helen E. Weis and Adelaide Wendel.
- He reported that the Free State Scholars Bowl team won the State Championship this past weekend in Derby.
- Mr. Hayden announced that there will be no school for elementary and middle school students on Friday, February 17, due to recording and reporting of student progress at the elementary level and a middle school professional development day.

### **PATRON COMMENTARY**

After reading the guidelines for audience participation, Board President Marcel Harmon asked for patron commentary.

Patrons who made comments in regard to equity and the recent equity event included the following:

*Inez Robinson*, student  
*Cassie Swearingin*, student  
*Taylor Royal*, student  
*Melissa Johnson*, parent

### **BOARD COMMENTARY**

*Jessica Beeson*

...thanked the patrons for speaking, saying she would follow up the next day in regard to their comments.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Following a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, the board voted, in a 6-0 roll call vote, to adopt the items listed on the consent agenda.

The consent agenda included the following:

- The minutes of the January 23, 2017 pre-meeting work session, regular meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds
- The February 13, 2017 personnel report

## Approval of Consent Agenda (Continued)

- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>
General	\$ 497,470.63
Local Option Budget	1,253,055.42
Food Service	294,627.76
Vocational Education	6,934.93
Special Education	282,012.63
Capital Outlay	237,864.83
Adult Basic Education	306.85
Virtual School	61,832.86
Professional Development	2,455.40
Bilingual Fund	825.34
Parents As Teachers	364.33
Student Materials Revolve	146,915.35
At Risk (K-12)	54.04
Work Comp Reserve	2,254.62
2013 Bonds	896,931.08
Title I 2017	10,525.46
Indian Educ Title 2017	391.70
Johnson O'Malley 2016	622.69
Title IIA 2017	180.00
Title III ESL 2017	428.40
Carl Perkins 2017	550.01
Title VIBDIS 2017	6,745.30
KMSG Middle School 2017	2,763.41
KS Deaf/Blind 2017	3,845.98
Sales Tax	15,291.70
Payroll Fund	551,485.40
Spectra-Medicaid	19,714.25
Wellness Farm to School Local	975.50
Loc/Don/Gra	15,425.64
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,312,851.51</b>

- Approvals of the following:
  - Purchase of Lunchroom Tables – Pinckney
  - Amendment to Contract w/R.D. Johnson Excavating Co. – Sunset Hill
  - Acceptance of Donation for Outdoor Benches – Sunset Hill

On behalf of the Board of Education, Vice President Shannon Kimball acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to the following:

...*Dawn May* for her 27 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon her early retirement effective May 25, 2017.

...*Kathleen Wagner* for her 34 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon her early retirement effective May 25, 2017.

## REPORTS

### Learning Forward, Future Ready Update & High School Recommendation

Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, innovation and technology, introduced Jana Hare and Amber Rowland from KU's Center for Research on Learning (ALTEC) who shared the results of surveys and focus group meetings conducted to evaluate the semester-long pilot project involving Free State High School and Lawrence High School

### **Reports ~ LFFR Update & High School Recommendation (Continued)**

to determine the preference between the iPad and MacBook Air Laptop Computer as the 1:1 device to be recommended for students. It was reported that surveys taken by teachers, students and parents, as well as comments made during the group meetings indicated that the MacBook Air is the preferred device.

Ms. Kemble recalled the process followed by the district's Digital Learning Task Force to design and implement the high school pilot project. Members of the task force including Aimee McLendon, social studies teacher, Free State High School; Chris Johnson, social studies teacher, Lawrence High School; and Oather Strawderman, science department chair and physics teacher, Free State High School; reported on their experiences utilizing both the iPad and MacBook Air in the classroom that reinforces their recommendations for the MacBook Air as the preference for the 1:1 device.

It was reported that 19 out of 26 members (73.1%) of the Digital Learning Task Force ranked the MacBook Air as their first preference for the 1:1 device. Ms. Kemble stated that a request for approval for 1:1 MacBooks for high school students beginning in the 2017-2018 school year will come before the Board of Education at an upcoming board meeting.

#### *Ci3T Student System of Supports*

Leah Wisdom, assistant director, student services, presented a general overview of the district's Comprehensive Integrated Three-Tiered (Ci3T) Model of Prevention to address the various needs of students in academic, behavioral and social areas. She noted that the supports are proactive, preventative, and data-informed, and are used simultaneously.

Examples of ways in which Ci3T is being institutionalized in USD 497 schools were reported by Bill DeWitt, assistant principal, Lawrence High School, and Tammy Becker, principal, Hillcrest Elementary School. It was reported that each building Ci3T leadership team, made up of the principal, teachers, parents and students, works together to craft its plan through soliciting feedback from stakeholders, then communicating and integrating the feedback into the plan. In addition, the team strategizes how Ci3T will be taught, reinforced and monitored.

Ms. Wisdom reported that forward progress will include integration into the system for new staff and principals, monitoring the communication structure, enhancement of implementation of culturally relevant teaching and consideration of multiple sources of data.

#### *Update on May 2 Bond Election*

Julie Boyle, director, communications, reported on ways USD 497 plans to engage the community and provide information in regard to the May 2, 2017, Lawrence School Bond Mail-Ballot Election.

She highlighted the information that needs to be shared including the district's successful 2013 bond issue, and the process followed to determine the scope, budget and projects at the middle and high schools in the current referendum. She stated that the community also needs to know the goals to 1) provide flexible spaces to enhance students' educational experiences and opportunities to collaborate, create and innovate; 2) address equity across school facilities; 3) improve safety and security; 4) accommodate growth; and 5) deliver energy efficient, high-performance schools that

## **Reports ~ Update on May 2 Bond Election (Continued)**

promote student and staff wellness and success. Other information that needs to be shared is in regard to the district's financial position and the impact to community members. Ms. Boyle stated that it is important too for the community to be informed about the ballot language, the election timeline and voting instructions.

Also highlighted were a number of ways information will be disseminated to district administration and staff, students, parents and community members including group presentations, distribution of fact sheets, direct mailers to registered voters, newspaper inserts, local media, social media, and a variety of other avenues.

## **REPORTS AND APPROVALS**

### *Approval of Board Policy Committee Recommendation for Board Governance & Operation Procedures*

Shannon Kimball, board vice president and board policy committee member, reported that the board's policy committee has met and discussed the possibility of Lawrence Public Schools adopting governance and operating procedures to guide the work of the Board of Education. She presented a template from another Kansas school district and asked for engagement from board members around the benefits of this concept.

Vanessa Sanburn, board member and board policy committee member, stated that this seems to flow well from the training the board received from the Kansas Association of School Boards at its January 23, 2017 professional development work session. She said she thought it would provide greater clarity to some of the operating procedures and would be good for new members to the Board of Education.

Ms. Kimball stated that any board member interested in serving on a committee to draft the document should let Board President Harmon know. She said the timeline for completion is the end of the current fiscal year so that the document can be adopted as part of the organizational meeting in July and every year after that.

Following a brief discussion where there was agreement around the concept, a motion was made by Rick Ingram, seconded by Jessica Beeson, to approve the appointment of an *ad hoc* committee to develop board governance and operating procedures for further consideration and possible adoption at a future meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### *Acceptance of Resignation of Board Member Kris Adair*

Marcel Harmon, president, board of education, recalled that Board Member Kris Adair submitted a letter of resignation from the board on February 10, 2017, noting that her term is scheduled to expire on January 8, 2018.

Board President Harmon recognized a patron who wished to speak.

*Peter Karman*, parent, encouraged board members to fill the seat with a person of color to better reflect the diversity of colors of our community.

Mr. Harmon suggested a timeline, should the board vote to accept the resignation that included the following:

- February 13: Acceptance of resignation of Kris Adair
- February 15: Vacancy notice published in Lawrence Journal-World and application made available on USD 497 website

## **Reports & Approvals ~ Resignation of Board Member Kris Adair (Continued)**

- March 6: Deadline for submission of applications
- March 7-12: Board review of applications
- March 13: Board discussion of applicants and appointment of new board member to fill vacancy

Vanessa Sanburn suggested that it would be good to solicit applications from members of the community who have shown interest in serving on the District Equity Leadership Team Advisory Council.

Board Vice President Shannon Kimball stated that Kris Adair's lack of participation recently and last year during the superintendent search was difficult for the board. She said she was dismayed that Kris chose to use her letter of resignation to disparage the board and make unfounded allegations in regard to decisions made by the board. Ms. Kimball said she is glad to have the opportunity to find a person who will share the time, dedication and enthusiasm to commit and be a successful member of the board.

Following a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Jessica Beeson, the board voted, in a 6-0 roll call vote, to accept the resignation of Board Member Kris Adair and direct that the application to fill the term until January 8, 2018 be made available to the public on Wednesday, February 15, 2017.

### **MOTION TO RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:58 p.m., Shannon Kimball made a motion, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, to return to executive session *to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed*, with Kyle Hayden, superintendent, invited to be present, and with the board to return to open session in this room at 10:20 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

At 10:20 p.m., the board returned to open session where a motion was made by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, to extend the executive session to 10:30 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:30 p.m., the board returned to open session where a motion was made by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Vanessa Sanburn, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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Janice E. Dunn  
Clerk, Board of Education