

**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**

January 22, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:02 p.m., Board President Shannon Kimball called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Jessica Beeson, seconded by G.R. Gordon-Ross, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda as printed.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>ELT Members Present</u>
Shannon Kimball, president	Anna Stubblefield, interim superintendent
Jessica Beeson, vice president	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology
Jill Fincher	Tony Barron, executive director, facilities & operations
G.R. Gordon-Ross	Julie Boyle, executive director, communications
Rick Ingram	
Kelly Jones	Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services & special education
	Kathy Johnson, executive director, finance
<u>Board Member Absent</u>	Janice Dunn, acting clerk
Melissa Johnson	

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
Brad Allen	Jill Anderson	Laura Basham	Matt Brungardt
Samrie Devin	Shelley Dougherty	Ryan Edwards	Laurie Folsom
Myron Graber	Suzy Green	Shane Heiman	Rick Henry
Steve Hill	Elvyn Jones	Heather Kearns	Patrick Kelly
Darcy Kraus	Shane Lillich	Matt McKillip	Lori Michel
May O'Connell	Donna Patton-Bryant	Stan Roth	Gary Schmidt
Erin Smith-Bird	Heather Staab	Lori Stithem	Marie Taylor
Kelly Thompson	Tammy Wallin		

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Lawrence Free State High School Debate Team

Principal Myron Graber introduced Lawrence Free State's debate coach, Kelly Thompson, announcing that Mr. Thompson was named the 2018 Kansas Debate Coach of the Year at the Kansas State High School Activities Association's 2018 State Debate Championships.

Special Recognition ~ Lawrence Free State Debate Team (Continued)

Coach Thompson recognized members of two of Free State's debate teams that finished as runners-up at the championship tournament held in Emporia on January 12 and 13. The 4-Speaker team consisted of Ting Shi, Amanda White, Zach Hill and Alexi Sommerville and the 2-Speaker team included Li Gordon-Washington and Max Lillich.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Board President Shannon Kimball reported that she was unable to attend the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) Advocacy in Action workshop on January 11; however, she did attend the morning session on January 12. She said there was an encouraging discussion about the work of the mental health task force including short- and long-term goals.
- President Kimball reported that she also attended the KASB board of directors meeting the afternoon of January 12. She stated that updates were given in regard to the first week of the legislative session, including the legislature's response to date to the Gannon court ruling. She said she was encouraged to hear that the KASB advocacy staff believes the experts hired by the legislative committee working on the issue are considered to be credible researchers. She added that concerns were expressed about the incredibly short timeline for the work they are being asked to do. She encouraged board and community members to continue to follow closely the committee's work on school finance issues.
- Ms. Kimball reported that there will be hearings this week in the House Education Committee on a bill that would restore due process to teachers employed before due process was removed by the legislature a few years ago and also a bill that would require districts to transport certain students who live closer than two and one-half miles to their assigned school. She stated that things are ramping up and encouraged board members to take advantage of opportunities to be apprised of upcoming legislative work as the session moves forward.
- She reported that the board conducted its first round of candidate interviews for the superintendent position on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. She stated that she is excited to proceed with interviews of the two finalists tomorrow (Tuesday, January 23) and Wednesday (January 24). Ms. Kimball invited the community to attend Meet and Greet sessions with each of the candidates prior to the board interviews both evenings from 5-6 p.m. at Lawrence High School.
- Board President Kimball extended congratulations to all of the finalists and award winners from the district's ONE DREAM Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration last Thursday evening. She said she was inspired by the courage and contributions of those honored. She added that it was a pleasure to participate in the event by giving closing remarks at the conclusion of the evening.
- Ms. Kimball referenced community members who were looking for the board to have the discussion about a potential name change at South Middle School as part of this evening's agenda. She reported that the item was not placed on the agenda because board officers, staff and the committee need additional time to complete the work that the board asked the requesting group to complete. She noted that board officers plan to meet with the committee leadership in early February with the hope of preparing for continued discussion at the second February meeting or in early March. She thanked patrons for their patience as work is being done to carefully consider the community's proposal for honoring the Native American community's donation of the land for South Middle and Broken Arrow Elementary Schools to the district.

Report of Board President Kimball (Continued)

- President Kimball reminded board members to complete their superintendent evaluation forms distributed at the January 8 meeting and return them to David Cunningham, executive director, human resources and chief legal counsel, by February 5. She noted that Dr. Stubblefield's evaluation will be completed at the February 12 meeting.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- Superintendent Anna Stubblefield reported that due to the use of two inclement weather days, schools will be in session on the district's Designated Inclement Weather Make-up Day, April 20.
- Superintendent Stubblefield recognized the district's facilities and operations staff for doing a remarkable job of treating sidewalks and parking lots and clearing snow on 21 school campuses and at five support service locations.
- She also expressed gratitude to First Student and all of their bus drivers for coming in early to warm up the buses and making sure everyone got to school safely.
- Ms. Stubblefield reported that the Nutrition and Wellness Department continues to work with local farmers to increase the amount of food the district purchases locally for school meals. She noted that 25 tons of local fruits and vegetables have been purchased so far this school year.
- She thanked all of the staff, students and volunteers who assisted with last Thursday's ONE DREAM Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, saying that it was an inspiring evening. Superintendent Stubblefield extended congratulations to all of this year's MLK Award recipients.
- She reported that the Lawrence Schools Foundation hosted another successful Ovation! districtwide talent show last night at the Lied Center, featuring middle and high school students.
- She congratulated Lawrence Virtual School senior Barry Zhang, winner of the West Central Division of the Music Teachers National Association Senior Piano Competition.
- Ms. Stubblefield also extended congratulations to West Middle School's Future City Team, winners of the regional Future City championship at Kansas University over the weekend.
- Superintendent Stubblefield reminded board members of their lunch tomorrow, January 23, at Prairie Park Elementary School at 11 a.m.

PATRON COMMENTARY

President Kimball asked for patron comment on any item not included on the agenda.

Brad Allen, executive director, Lawrence Public Library, announced that the book, "Wonder," by R.J. Palacio, has been chosen for adults, teens and kids for the 2018 Read Across Lawrence. In addition, he highlighted events relating to the book that will take place between February 10 and March 17.

Copies of "Wonder" were distributed to anyone wanting to participate.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Rick Ingram

...recalled that the results of the recent Patron Insight community survey were reported at the last board meeting and included a section relating to moving high school start times. He distributed a copy of the results in regard to this and background information with a list of resources that scientifically support the benefits of later school start times for students.

Mr. Ingram stated that the board began discussing this topic in 2015 and he wants to make sure a decision is not delayed any longer.

Discussion followed where board members expressed the need to provide education and gather input from site councils, parent/teacher organizations and community members. Superintendent Stubblefield reported that she had visited with Wayne Zachary from First Student, and there may be issues relating to buses and transportation for the next school year. It was stated that a comprehensive timeline needs to be put together by staff in order to go through a process and make a good decision.

Board President Shannon Kimball said the topic will be brought back before the board at a meeting in the near future.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Jessica Beeson, seconded by Jill Fincher, 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 8, 2018 regular meeting, January 16, 2018 special meeting, January 17, 2018 special meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds
- The January 22, 2018 personnel report
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	\$ 445,508.78
Local Option Budget	183,144.81
Food Service	94,777.64
Vocational Education	4,352.63
Special Education	326,656.94
Capital Outlay	51,023.55
Adult Basic Education	73.25
Virtual School	6,087.63
Professional Development	1,406.20
Bilingual Fund	164.94
Student Materials Revolve	4,260.09
At Risk (K-12)	18.51
At Risk 4 Year Old	559.30
2017 Bonds	29,680.00
Lease Proj 23 rd St	1,712.00

Approval of Consent Agenda ~ Monthly Vouchers (Continued)

Title I 2018	11.40
Johnson O'Malley 2017	74.74
Title IIA 2018	25.15
Perkins Reserve 2018	35.00
Title VI BDIS 2018	285.60
Payroll Fund	5,055.26
Spectra-Medicaid	12,915.26
Loc/Don/Gra	14,494.98
TOTAL	\$1,182,323.66

- Approvals of the following:
 - Appointment of Temporary Board Clerk
 - Purchase of Elementary Music, Band & Orchestra Instruments
 - Amendment to Construction Management Agreement w/McCownGordon – Southwest, Free State
 - Furniture Design Services Agreement w/Clark/Huesemann – Middle Schools
 - 2018 Capital Improvement Plan
 - Vehicle Purchase – Used Dump Truck
 - Vehicle Purchase – Transit Van
 - Renewal of BusinessPlus Maintenance Services
 - Roof Replacement – Wakarusa Valley
 - Emergency Generator Purchase – Southwest

On behalf of the Board of Education, Board President Shannon Kimball acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to the following:
 ...*Nancy DeGarmo* for her 14 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon her retirement effective June 30, 2018.

REPORTS & APPROVALS

Approval for Change in Local Lead/Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services

At its January 8 meeting, the Board of Education received a report from the board of directors of tiny-k Early Intervention of Douglas County with a request that USD 497 become their local lead/fiscal agency beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Following that report, board members asked that a breakdown of expected expenses and a list of potential advantages of the merger be brought back prior to consideration of the request.

Erin Smith-Bird, president, board of directors, tiny-k Early Intervention; Heather Staab, Part C coordinator, Infant-Toddler Services, Kansas Department of Health and Environment; Tammy Wallin, technical assistance specialist, Kansas Inservice Training Systems, University of Kansas; Shelley Dougherty, executive director, tiny-k Early Intervention; and Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services and special education; provided answers to questions in regard to the advantages and challenges of the change, the stability of state and federal funding sources, the annual grant application process and the timeline for transitioning the management of the program to the district.

Reports & Approvals ~ tiny-k Early Intervention Local Lead/Fiscal Agency (Continued)

Laura Basham, assistant director, special education, early childhood, presented the next steps in the transition process which include approval by the local Interagency Coordinating Council and the state of Kansas and hiring staff to deliver the services.

Upon a motion by Rick Ingram, seconded by G.R. Gordon-Ross, the board voted, in a 6-0 roll call vote, to approve the request to change the Local Lead/Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services to USD 497, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Approval of Contract for Renovations at East Heights for Community Transition Program

Lori Stithem, assistant director, special education, secondary, reported on state and federal requirements for transition services that are provided by USD 497 to students with an IEP due to a disability who have met graduation requirements and are 18-21 years of age. These services are *designed to be within a results-oriented process focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student; based on the individual student's needs taking into account strengths, preferences and interests; and include instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives and, if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.*

It was reported that at its January 8, 2018 meeting, the Board of Education approved an agreement with Gould Evans to provide architectural/engineering design services for renovation at East Heights to accommodate the Community Transition Program.

Donna Patton-Bryant, special education facilitator, presented an overview of the district's transition services currently provided at the high schools, the Community Transition site at 2600 West 25th Street (Holcom), and the Project Search sites. She noted that the Holcom facility now houses 30 young adults, 17 staff members and the district's culinary kitchen with limited space.

Highlighted were the proposed facility improvements which will include renovation of the existing kitchen to a teaching kitchen with six stations and a commercial washer and dryer, conversion of restrooms for ADA compliance and conversion of two classrooms to studio apartments with one having a kitchenette, restroom and shower.

Ms. Patton-Bryant stated that the intent is to create adequate spaces that are more realistic and allow for more practice and understanding for these young adults to learn independent living and employability skills. She said the environment will allow a place to pre-teach, practice and make mistakes so students can successfully go out into the community.

Upon a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Jessica Beeson, the board voted, in a 6-0 roll call vote, to approve a contract with Benchmark Construction for the renovations at East Heights Elementary to accommodate the Community Transition Program in the amount of \$402,945 plus a 5% contingency in the amount of \$20,150 for unforeseen costs to be paid from the Capital Outlay Fund.

REPORTS

Proposal for Additional High School Course Offerings for 2018-2019

Rick Henry, director, high school support, reported on the courses being proposed as additions to the high school curriculum for the next school year. Those courses include the following: English 12, Integrated Math, Principles of Technology, AP Human Geography and Cybersecurity.

Discussion followed in regard to the reinstatement of 9th grade Civics as a requirement for graduation. Mr. Henry shared some points to consider before making a decision which included the need for new resource materials, the addition of teacher FTE and creation of a required semester-long course to balance the required semester-long 9th grade health course. It was also reported that the proposed new 9th grade course, AP Human Geography, could be affected because students would be required to take an additional .5 social studies credit in order to meet graduation requirements. Mr. Henry noted that 9th grade Civics could provide a deeper student understanding of government and the responsibilities of being a U.S. citizen when paired with the required 12th grade U.S. Government course since a great deal of overlap has been found in the two courses.

There was further discussion about the need for a complete review of high school curriculum. Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning and technology, will plan to meet soon with Mr. Henry; Myron Graber, principal, Free State; Matt Brungardt, principal, Lawrence High; and Patrick Kelly, principal, Lawrence College and Career Center; to develop an aggressive timeline to begin and work through that process. A report with this information will come back before the board in April.

Following a request to move forward with board approval of the new courses to expedite the enrollment process, Shannon Kimball made a motion, seconded by Rick Ingram, to approve the additional high school course proposals for 2018-2019 to include English 12, Integrated Math, Principles of Technology, AP Human Geography and Cybersecurity that are outlined in the attachment to the board enclosure. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:18 p.m., a motion was made by Jessica Beeson, seconded by Jill Fincher, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Janice E. Dunn
Acting Clerk, Board of Education