

**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**

September 11, 2017

BOARD GOAL SETTING WORK SESSION

At 5:01 pm, President Shannon Kimball welcomed staff and called to order the work session of the Board of Education.

The Lawrence Board of Education began discussing its priorities for the 2017-18 school year at the August work session. With Superintendent Stubblefield being the Interim Superintendent for the 2017-18 school year, it was decided to focus on 3-5 goals for the upcoming year.

The board finalized its 2017-18 Excellence, Equity and Engagement goals by determining four key goal areas and multiple action steps related to each one.

The four areas are:

- 1) Curriculum, instruction and assessment
- 2) Communication, community connections and engagement
- 3) Supports to meet the academic, social, emotional and behavioral needs of each student, and
- 4) Delivery of quality educational programs, services and facilities.

At 5:48, board member Rick Ingram arrived.

At 6:20 p.m., the work session concluded and by unanimous voice vote, it was decided to break until 7p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7 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 Vanessa Sanburn, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda, as published.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>ELT Members Present</u>
Shannon Kimball, president	Anna Stubblefield, superintendent of schools
Jessica Beeson, vice president	David Cunningham, executive director, human resources/chief legal counsel
Jill Fincher	Julie Boyle, executive director, communications
Marcel Harmon	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning and technology
Rick Ingram	Kathy Johnson, executive director, finance
Melissa Johnson	Kevin Harrell, executive director, student support/special education
Vanessa Sanburn	Paula Murrish, executive director, nutrition and wellness, purchasing and printing
	Tony Barron, executive director, maintenance & operations
	Dawn Downing, deputy clerk

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
*Jennifer Bessolo	Annette Dabney	*Samrie Devin	*Laurie Folsom
GR Gordon-Ross	Shane Heiman	*Rick Henry	Alan Hollinger
Elvin Jones, LJWorld	Kelly Jones	*Denise Johnson	*Darcy Kraus
*Ron May	*Terry McEwen	Danica Moore	Larry Northrop
Andrew Nussbaum	Stan Roth	Gary Schmidt	Njeri Shomari
*Ellen Willets	*Leah Wisdom	*Kirsten Wondra	

*In attendance for Goal-Setting Work Session only

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board President Kimball began the meeting sharing the following statement-

In February as questions about the potential effects of changes to federal immigration laws began to surface, Lawrence Public Schools reaffirmed our commitment to protecting the rights of all staff and students. Given the President's recent announcement to rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the school district wants to emphasize that Lawrence USD 497 is a learning community that welcomes all staff, students and school families. The district is committed to ensuring safe and supportive learning environments and providing equal opportunities for all students regardless of race or immigration status. We value the privacy rights of each individual and take seriously our responsibility to safeguard the personal information of staff and students. Lawrence Public Schools do not release educational or personnel records unless authorized by the staff member, parent or adult student to whom they belong or directed by court order to do so. If you have any questions about the release of personal information, please visit with your school principal.

President Kimball provided notebooks to her fellow board members regarding the KASB Superintendent Evaluation Training that she attended. She requested that they review the materials that included three different evaluation tools along with their current evaluation tool. At the next board meeting on September 25, the group will discuss and make a determination regarding which evaluation tool to utilize.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT (Continued)

President Kimball shared that communication with legislators was encouraged. Just because things are less bad does not mean that it is good. It is encouraged that board members spend 5 minutes a month sending emails to legislators and/or Education Staffers.

President Kimball shared that at the KASB Board of Directors meeting, with all the work through KAN Can and KESA, a challenge was issued to look at our district's testing footprint. It is important to look at all the ways that we are testing students and determine if it is too much and if so, how can we address it.

President Kimball shared that there will be a free training session by the Attorney General on Open meetings/Open records in Topeka on October 6. If you are interested in attending, please visit - <https://kasb.org/0908-2/>

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD

Superintendent Stubblefield shared her thoughts regarding today being Patriot Day which is observed as the National Day of Service and Remembrance in memory of the 2,977 civilians, military personnel and emergency responders killed in the 2001 September 11th terrorist attacks. The attacks had a profound impact on our nation and the rest of the world. She asked that we pause, remember and honor those who died.

Superintendent Stubblefield made the public aware of the joint meeting of the Board, Douglas County Commission and Lawrence City Commission from 4-5:30 p.m. next Monday in the meeting room of the Baker Wetlands Discovery Center. That address is 1365 North 1250 Road. The public is welcome to attend.

Superintendent Stubblefield took the time to clarify some inaccurate information circulating on social media about school lunches, and specifically the sale of a la carte items. I want to share that our schools never deny a student a school meal due to inability to pay. A la carte purchases of individual items or seconds, however, do require adequate funds in the lunch account. Parents may review student meal purchases online at My School Bucks-dot-com and may complete a form at their child's school if they wish to limit or deny a la carte purchases. While there are some school districts across the country that may be making a lot of money on the sale of a la carte items, our district is not one of them. All of the a la carte items we sell also meet USDA Smart Snack guidelines for nutritional value.

Superintendent Stubblefield shared that she had the pleasure yesterday to support our Lawrence Teachers of the Year: Lisa Melton, Sunflower fifth-grade teacher, and Jack Hood, Lawrence High history teacher, as they were recognized during the Kansas Teacher of the Year Region 2 Awards Banquet. In addition, Amanda Torbett, a new English teacher at Free State High, was honored as last year's Teacher of the Year nominee from the Topeka-Seaman school district. Lisa Melton received additional recognition yesterday as an elementary semifinalist, and ultimately, teachers from Atchison and Silver Lake were selected to represent the region at the state level of the Teacher of the Year program.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD

Superintendent Stubblefield congratulated Free State, Lawrence High and the Lawrence Virtual High School for encouraging more students to take the ACT exam, and to those student test-takers' for their outstanding performance on the ACT exam last year. She shared that our high schools continue to offer rigorous coursework to help prepare students for college and careers.

Superintendent Stubblefield thanked the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce for hosting another fun Taste of Lawrence Mixer last week and to the Chamber-member businesses who make it possible for our employees to attend the annual event at half-price.

Superintendent Stubblefield shared that Hispanic school families were invited to attend our annual Hispanic College Fair from 5:30-8:00 on Wednesday evening at the Lawrence College and Career Center.

Superintendent Stubblefield was happy to announce that Friday we would be welcoming home Free State High School alumnus Hamilton Lewis to publicly share remarks about his educational journey and career during the Lawrence Schools Foundation Community Education Breakfast. Hamilton is a film animator and previsualization artist, who has worked on some blockbuster movies for DreamWorks.

Lastly, Superintendent Stubblefield invited the community to tour our most recently completed elementary school construction and renovation projects during Open Houses at Pinckney and Sunflower from 9:00-noon on Saturday, September 23.

PATRON COMMENTARY

There was none.

BOARD COMMENTARY

There was none.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Board Member Marcel Harmon requested to remove the BG Consultants Amendment from the consent agenda in order to obtain additional information and clarification during Tony Barron's report on the GMP for the New Facilities and Operations site later in the evening.

Following a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Melissa Johnson, the board voted, in a 7-0 roll call vote, to adopt the items listed on the Consent Agenda except for the BG Consultants Amendment.

The Consent Agenda included the following:

- The minutes of the August 14, 2017, special meeting
August 22, 2017, board meeting
August 28, 2017, board meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Continued)

- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

Fund Description	Amount
LOCAL OPTION BUDGET	5,890.27
FOOD SERVICE	226,950.15
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	12,665.50
SPECIAL EDUCATION	202,812.04
CAPITAL OUTLAY	394,337.37
VIRTUAL SCHOOL	28,315.53
PROFESSIONAL DEVELP	54,578.00
BILINGUAL FUND	285.33
PARENTS AS TEACHERS	145.10
STUDENTS MATLS REVOLVE	134,750.67
AT RISK (K-12)	41.14
AR RISK 4 YEAR OLD	2,000.00
WORK COMP RESERVE	112,565.00
CONTINGENCY RESERVE	130,242.15
2013 BONDS	9,015.09
LEASE PROJ 23RD ST	123,596.00
TITLE 1 2018	581.15
INDIAN EDUC TITLE 2017	2,150.00
INDIAN EDUC TITLE 2018	626.42
JOHNSON O'MALLEY 2017	771.79
TITLE IIA 2018	514.90
TITLE III ESL 2016	300.00
CARL PERKINS 2017	2,197.36
CARL PERKINS 2018	6,637.12
TITLE VIBDIS 2018	693.00
PAYROLL FUND	629,406.90
SPECTRA-MEDICAID	25,657.79
LOC/DON/GRA	26,738.50
MEMORIAL/SCHOLARSHIP	500.00
GRAND TOTAL	2.134.964.27

Approvals of the following:

- Lease Agreement with Boys & Girls Club Teen Center
- Roof Replacement (District Office)-Schwickert's
- Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence After School Programming for Middle School
- Kajeets Monthly Fees
- Syn-Apps Upgrade

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

David Cunningham, Executive Director of Human Resources/Chief Legal counsel, initiated the conversation regarding the search firms who made presentations to the board regarding their desire to represent Lawrence Public Schools in the superintendent search.

Board member Vanessa Sanburn said that the firm of Ray & Associates seemed to better understand the district's focus on improving the diversity of its hiring practices. Board President Shannon Kimball agreed, adding that Ray & Associates included in its base cost some additional services, such as background checks of finalist candidates, follow-up sessions to assist with relationship-building between the superintendent and the board, a two-year service guarantee and video interviews that can be used to facilitate a more efficient candidate screening process. "They understand our district and our priorities and seem open to listening to our needs and refining the search to fit our needs," Kimball said.

Upon a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Jill Fincher, the board approved in a 7-0 roll call vote, to proceed into contract negotiations with Ray and Associates at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, to represent Lawrence Public Schools in the superintendent search.

The board expects to hire a new superintendent by February.

Board Member Vanessa Sanburn departed the meeting at 7:17 pm.

REPORTS & APPROVALS

- Ratification of Master Agreement

David Cunningham, executive director, human resources/chief legal counsel, shared that the negotiations team and LEA representatives had reached an agreement regarding salaries. "We are in the ballpark now," said Mr. Cunningham referring to meeting the board's goal of creating a more competitive salary schedule. The agreement included language changes to the contract for professional employees. The contract adds \$2,310 to each cell of the certified teacher salary schedule, funds vertical and horizontal movement for accumulated years of service and advanced education, and funds an individual fringe benefits package. The total cost to the board of these changes is \$3,426,354.

Upon a motion by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Rick Ingram, the board approved in a 6-0 roll call vote, to ratify the master agreement with certified teaching staff, which included a certified compensation and fringe benefit package totaling \$3,426,354.

- Bond Sale Resolution

Kathy Johnson, executive director of finance explained that at the August 22, 2017 board meeting, the Board of Education approved resolution 2017-0822, authorizing the offering for sale of up to \$43,500,000 of General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2017-A of Unified School District No. 497, of which Douglas County

REPORTS & APPROVALS (Continued)

approved by voters on May 2 to fund secondary school facility improvements. The District has received a Moody’s rating of Aa2 on the bonds

The board reviewed all of the terms and conditions (including the interest rates offered) by the following eight bidders that were proposed at the competitive public sale earlier in the day – (9/11/2017).

Bidder Name	TIC – True Interest Cost
Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co.	2.950476%
Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc	2.963192%
J. P. Morgan Securities LLC	2.972955%
Morgan Stanley & Co LLC	2.978090%
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.	2.979298%
Bank of America Merrill Lynch	2.988454%
Mesirow Financial, Inc.	3.004482%
Wells Fargo Bank, National Association	3.010007%

Upon a motion by Jill Fincher, seconded by Jessica Beeson, the board approved in a 6-0 roll call vote, to approved the sale of \$43.5 million or half of the \$87 million in general obligation bonds. The winning bidder was Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co. at an interest rate of 2.95%.

The bids came in even lower than expected. The district’s financial advisor congratulated the board on “a good, competitive sale.”

- BG Consultants Amendment/GMP for New Facilities & Operations Site
When discussing the amended BG Consultants contract, which was removed from the consent agenda to allow for more discussion and clarification. Tony Barron, executive director, maintenance & operations, explained that initial plans and estimations were made based on what was believed needed to be done. However, Lawrence Public Schools did not own the building at the time and as such, changes needed to be made to the plan once in our possession. Ultimately, BG Consultants had to keep returning to the drawing board to work on the plan. Board Member Harmon stressed that it was important to remember that this particular building had been used primarily for industry for decades. As such, several unknowns and complexities were not pre-determined. Nonetheless, ultimately, the overall belief is that this project must meet our needs.

Upon a motion by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Melissa Johnson, the Board approved the amended contract with BG Consultants to provide design, bidding and construction administration services related to the construction and renovation of the property located at 711 East 23rd Street in the amount of \$46,000.”

REPORTS & APPROVALS (Continued)

Mr. Barron continued to discuss the need for an amended contract with KBS Constructors, Inc., for Construction Management At Risk services to provide additional design, bidding and construction administration services for the district's planned Facilities and Operations Office and warehouse. The location, 711 E. 23rd Street, is the former Douglas County Public Works site. The revised guaranteed maximum price or GMP for the new facility will allow for the centralization of F&O services and expand space for facilities, operations and trades personnel and meetings. At 13,500 square feet, the proposed warehouse will accommodate the district's Instructional Resources Center and will eliminate its need to lease warehouse space. Our current space is approximately 1 ½ acres and the new facility will be housed on seven acres. Board President Kimball explained "that while the project has exceeded initial budget estimates, the facility is both a fiscally responsible design and one that will meet the district needs."

Upon a motion by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Jessica Beeson, the Board approved the amended construction management at-risk services contract with KBS Constructors, Inc. for construction of a warehouse and facilities and operations building located at 711 E. 23rd Street in the amount of \$5,056,407 (an increase of approximately \$206,000 to be paid out of capital outlay).

REPORTS

- **Equity Update**

Kevin Harrell, Executive Director of Student Services/Special Education, Leah Wisdom, Assistant Director of Student Services and Equity, and Danica Moore, Equity Facilitator shared information with the board about the district's ongoing equity work.

The Equity Advisory Council has identified three areas of focus for the school year: academic achievement, social-emotional support and policy. Along with the District Equity Leadership Team Advisory, made up of parents of color, the community members and organizations who comprise the Council have elected co-chairs and scheduled standing meeting dates. The two groups will meet on the first and third Mondays of each month, opposite board meetings on the second and fourth Mondays.

The district's LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee, made up of staff and administrators, is in the process of completing its recommendations to provide additional guidance for principals and teachers. That group plans to first share its recommendations with the parent and community equity advisory committees. In addition, special education advisory groups have been meeting to discuss the district's recent special education program review and areas identified for improvement.

Other steps in the district's equity journey will include setting minimum expectations for administrators, teachers and staff, continuing to offer training related to identifying and eliminating micro aggressions, school Equity Team

REPORTS (continued)

support and training, further utilization of equity resources, such as the culturally relevant rubric used to evaluate curriculum, and providing affiliate practitioner training through the Pacific Educational Group (PEG) to learning coaches who support teachers. Some of the trainings planned this year include continued Beyond Diversity workshops and Culturally Relevant Teaching professional learning, as well as PEG-led sessions to support school leaders in developing Partnerships for Academically Successful Students by working hand-in-hand with families of color.

Harrell and Interim Superintendent Stubblefield recently returned from an equity Leadership training with the Great Lakes Equity Center, now called Midwest and Plains Educational Access Center. The government-funded center offers many free resources related to racial equity and its intersectionality with other traditionally marginalized groups. Stubblefield said that the Center will assist the district with a strategic plan for its equity work.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.12 p.m., a motion was made by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Jessica Beeson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Dawn Downing
Deputy Clerk, Board of Education