

**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**

August 13, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 p.m., Board President Jessica Beeson called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>ELT Members Present</u>
Jessica Beeson, president	Dr. Anthony Lewis, superintendent of schools
Melissa Johnson, vice president	Anna Stubblefield, deputy superintendent
Jill Fincher	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology
GR Gordon-Ross	Tony Barron, executive director, facilities & operations
Rick Ingram	David Cunningham, executive director, human resources/chief legal counsel
Kelly Jones	Julie Boyle, executive director, communications
Shannon Kimball	Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services/special education
	Kyle Hayden, chief operations officer
	Kathy Johnson, executive director, finance
	Paula Murrish, executive director, nutrition & wellness, printing & purchasing
Absent	Alyse Donnell, board clerk

Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)

Laura Basham	Samrie Devin	Rick Henry	Darcy Kraus
Elvyn Jones, LJWorld	Brad Kempf	Kirsten Wondra	Ellen Willets
David Vignery	Laurie Folsom	Shane Heiman	Myron Graber
Njeri Shomari	Brandt Radke	Savannah Franz	Mackenzie Pfeiffer
Jeremy Philipp	Shirley Sheppard	Jocelyn Mathis	Marisa Hegeman
Melanie Schoeneberg	David Harrison	Drew Harrison	Jes Miesahier-Lerner
Bill Winkler	Jennifer Thomas	Jim Franz	Laseshia Strel
Bonny Greenlee	Bailey Marable	Justin Marable	S.Rott

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Negotiations

Upon a motion by Jessica Beeson, seconded by Melissa Johnson, the board voted in a unanimous voice vote to recess to executive session to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract to discuss negotiations, pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, with **Dr. Anthony Lewis, Anna Stubblefield, Jerri Kemble, David Cunningham, Kathy Johnson, Samrie Devin, and Matt Brungardt**, invited to be present; and with the board to return to open session in this room at **7:00 p.m.** with possible action to follow.”

The board returned at 7:00 p.m. and indicated there was no further action to be taken.

At 7:00 pm, President Beeson reconvened the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS- no new business

2018-19 Budget Hearing

At 7:00 pm, Kathy Johnson, executive director of finance, opened the budget hearing. She explained that the Lawrence student enrollment declined by 47 students from 2016 to 2017, but due to the state’s declining enrollment provision, the 2018-19 budget was not adversely affected. In addition, the 2018-19 published budget reflects the maximum amount of taxes to be levied at 54.626 mills. Instead of the 2.4 mill-increase in the bond and interest fund anticipated as a result of voter approval of the \$87 million bond issue in 2017, bond and interest increased by only 1.5 mills.

The board conducted its annual public budget hearing of its 2018-19 budget of \$170,885,457.

With no public comment shared during its annual budget hearing, the Lawrence Board of Education on Monday unanimously approved a 2018-19 budget of \$170,885,457, made up of the maximum budget authority of each levied and special revenue fund. That amount is based on a mill rate of 54.626 mills, a decrease of 1.32 mills from 2017-18. Executive Director of Finance Kathy Johnson explained that budget authority is published high in order to ensure the district has the flexibility to meet any unanticipated needs.

Four parents spoke during the audience participation time of the agenda about their concerns with class sizes at Sunset Hill and Deerfield Elementary Schools. The district has watched student enrollment “hot spots” and has placed teachers hired as part of a contingency pool. The district also considers placement of support staff to help manage student enrollment.

Johnson shared that the district will work to revise a federal grant in order to hire two additional teachers to address classes that exceed district enrollment thresholds in the fifth grade at Sunset Hill and in kindergarten at Broken Arrow Elementary Schools. Student enrollment numbers change frequently during August as the school year begins. Some students leave the district without updating their enrollment status, so waiting until the school year starts helps the district solidify enrollment. Johnson said that any additional staffing would require the board to shift resources.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Beeson

Jessica Beeson referenced the fun events that took place that week including the new teacher welcome and the all staff kickoff at the Lied Center and thanked all those that made the events possible.

Beeson cleared up the misinformation about what the Middle School Cell Phone Policy states. The policy came to being based off feedback from teachers that cellphones were disruptive. After researching the topic, the major movement around the country was to move away from cell phones during class time. Phones will not be confiscated and cell phone usage written into IEP's will be honored (i.e. music). In regards to strict discipline, the same warnings will be given as if with any other discipline issue, however, no additional astringent discipline will apply due to the policy.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT LEWIS

Superintendent Lewis

At the Community Safety Fair on Saturday in South Park, the district offered bicycle safety courses, digital citizenship parent/child contracts, stickers for Common Sense Media, a website with lots of great information about staying safe online; an ALICE overview, candy, pencils, and the wildly popular "Selfies with the Superintendent." LawrenceHits.com also interviewed me live from the fair. Thanks to Julie, Jerri Kemble, and Denise L. Johnson for attending and representing the district.

The Lawrence Schools Foundation collected school supplies to support students from the "Cram the Cruiser" competition hosted by Lawrence Police Department, Douglas County Sheriff's Office and Lawrence Douglas County Fire Medical Services. Thanks, Dena Johnston, Mike Strauss, and Jamie Sinclair.

All staff returned on today. We began the day with our Staff Back-to-School Kickoff this morning. at the Lied Center. I was super excited to welcome all of our LPS Staff back, and kick off what will be an amazing 2018 – 2019 school year. #AllStudentsOneTeam.

First Student employees returned to work on Wednesday. Julie Boyle and I attended their staff luncheon. I enjoyed visiting with the bus drivers, bus attendants, mechanics, and office staff, emphasizing the positive impressions they can make as caring adults interacting with our students.

We continue to watch enrollment numbers. It is our understanding that we are gaining some middle school students due to Veritas discontinuing its eighth-grade sports programs. In addition, we are watching class sizes at Broken Arrow, Quail Run and Sunset Elementary Schools.

Congratulations to Patrick Kelly, Lawrence College and Career Center/career and technical education director, for his Primary Election victory in Douglas County Commission District 1. Patrick does not have a General Election challenger.

PATRON COMMENTARY

President Beeson asked for public comment on any item not included on the agenda.

Jennifer Thomas, Jocelyn Mathis and Melanie Schoeneberg all spoke about the class sizes at Sunset Hill Elementary School. They requested a third 5th grade teacher be added as the class sizes were too large. Stated that children are able to learn more efficiently in a smaller class size, and it would be less overwhelming and challenging for the teachers.

Bonny Greenlee echoed those same concerns at Deerfield Elementary School. Stated that the students and the teachers deserve better. Greenlee questioned where the class capacity of 26 originated for the K-3 students. She also references in the board policy that the stated class size goal is 17 students.

BOARD COMMENTARY

GR Gordon-Ross has researched Board Management Software companies and narrowed it down to two, whom will be presenting at the next board meeting. Two live demos will take place during the August 27th special meeting from BoardDocs and BoardPaq.

Shannon Kimball spoke about the Mental Health First Aid course she attended. The class was facilitated by Lawrence Public Schools and The Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center. Kimball stated the class was excellent and encouraged all board members to attend.

Shannon Kimball and GR Gordon-Ross attended a Facilities Meeting on August 2, in which they went over ongoing bond projects. Stated she is excited that the Facilities & Operations building is up and running and that staff is doing a great job of managing hiccups.

Shannon Kimball and Kelly Jones attended a Policy Committee Meeting on August 6, in which they were continuing work on gifts and donations policies. The committee was able to take a comprehensive look, and work on rewrites that will make the policies more understandable and effective. The draft for their next meeting is a work in progress.

Kelly Jones acknowledged Carole Cadue-Blackwood. The National Indian Education Association awarded her the 2018 NIEA Parent of the Year Award for her work on the Billy Mills Project. She also extended a thank you to the parents that spoke regarding class sizes.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by GR Gordon-Ross, the board voted, in a **7-0 roll call vote**, to adopt the items listed on the consent agenda.

The consent agenda included the following:

- The minutes of the July 23, 2018 regular meeting and July 30, 2018 special meeting
- Financial Reports
- The August 13, 2018 personnel report
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

Approvals of the following:

- [Amendment to Owner-Architect Agreement w/ Gould Evans Associates](#)
- [Kajeet Service Renewal & Purchase of Replacement Parts \(Renewal Quote\) \(Replacements Quote\)](#)
- [SeeSaw Licenses for Elementary Students](#)
- [Annual Renewals of Nearpod and IXL Math online licenses](#)
- [2018-2019 Cisco SmartNet Maintenance Renewal \(Renewal Quote\)](#)
- [2018-2019 SolarWinds Network Monitoring Software and Support \(Quote\)](#)
- [BPlus Support Contract \(Agreement\)](#)
- [Nursing Contracted Services – Advocate Home Specialty Care](#)
- [Letter of Agreement with Bert Nash Mental Health Center](#)
- [Agreement with Cornerstones of Care – Ozanam School](#)
- [Nursing Contracted Services – Craig Home Care](#)
- [Nursing Contracted Services – Maxim Staffing](#)
- [Agreement with PresenceLearning, Inc.](#)
- [Supplemental Health Care contracted services](#)
- [Don Johnston Product Contract](#)
- [Boys & Girls Club Contract for Middle School After School Programming Grant](#)
- [Athletic Field Improvements - Hellas Construction Contract Amendment](#)

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Approval (Code 99)

Upon a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, the board approved in a 7-0 roll call vote the 2018-19 budget as published.

REPORTS

Early Childhood-tiny-k Update

Director of Early Childhood Laura Basham presented an update since the district added the tiny-k program this summer to its early childhood services. The tiny-k program offers special education services to children from birth to age three, where they live, learn, and play, in the home and in the community.

The district also offers Parents as Teachers (birth-age 3), a four-year-old at-risk program, and special education services for children ages 3-5. Basham shared the structure of early childhood in the district, an overview of tiny-k, which became part of the district on July 2; and the current movement of the tinyk and Parents as Teachers programs to East Heights, 14th and Haskell Avenue.

“We’re really looking forward to offering seamless services for children from birth to three, and as they move into our four-year-old program,” said Basham.

Technology Update

The Leading, Learning, and Technology Team presented a comprehensive report about technology, including an update about the first year of the high school 1:1 initiative. The district started providing a MacBook to each high school student last year. The team shared student feedback, which was largely positive, except for some student concerns about the district’s filtering system being too stringent and causing students to log in multiple times.

Technology staff shared some of the challenges of 1:1, including lost property; improvements to try to reduce losses, and possible solutions to mitigate the financial losses associated with missing property. While the district reported nominal losses of devices, 2%, which is within the national average, according to Apple; the team cited a greater challenge with the loss of power cords and adapters. Staff shared that other school districts report facing similar issues.

Other components of the technology update included addressing the development of a technology handbook, an asset management system for all inventory, and a study of potential benefits of continuous use of the devices, including during the summer months.

“The more we allow students to have ownership of the devices, the more they will use it for learning,” said Brad Kempf, West Middle School principal, of continuous use. “It really is that equity piece, allowing all students to have the benefits that some students have just by being born into a particular family.”

Superintendent Anthony Lewis said that the district will study continuous use and bring a report back to the board by February. Dr. Lewis shared that he is a proponent of summer access to devices and measuring student achievement gains, losses or maintenance from spring to fall.

In addition, the technology report covered end-user support improvements, upgrades to the work order system, expanded hours for the Technology Services Department, current and upcoming projects, and the results of a technology infrastructure audit.

“When I came to the district in March, I was given the opportunity to take a look under the hood,” said David Vignery, a technology consultant hired upon the resignation of the former technology director. “The infrastructure is healthy. It’s running. There are some concerns I would like to share.”

He added that the audit revealed aging hardware; storage, backup, and disaster recovery recommendations; and needs related to the replacement of wireless access points, switches, phone systems, and security camera/door access technology.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:03 p.m., a motion was made by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Melissa Johnson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Alyse Donnell
Board Clerk, Board of Education