

**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 14, 2017

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 Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Marcel Harmon, 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
Melissa Johnson	Kyle Hayden, chief operations officer
Vanessa Sanburn	Kathy Johnson, executive director, finance
	Kevin Harrell, executive director, student support/special education
Absent	Dawn Downing, deputy clerk
Rick Ingram	

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
Brady Armstrong	Alissa Baver	Shakiyya Bland	Monica Dittmer
Laurie Folsom	Jennifer Haight	Alan Hollinger	Megan Hill
Kelly Jones	Patrick Kelly	Darren Klish	Sienna Leon
Len Mickel	Hannah Odette	Johnny Paradise	Stan Roth
Njeri Shomari	Rheanne Walton	Tom Walton	Colby Wilson

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Kimball along with the Lawrence Board of Education, Lawrence Public Schools and Lawrence Education Association issued a joint statement Monday night condemning hate speech, violence and white supremacy in every form and expressing sympathy for the innocent victims affected by the atrocities in Charlottesville, Virginia, during the weekend.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT (Continued)

The statement goes on to say, "Our learning community is committed to fighting oppression, injustice, anti-Semitism and racism. The kind of hate speech seen this past weekend will not be tolerated in our schools. Our school board, administrators, teachers and staff will continue to work diligently with our students, school families and community partners to ensure our schools are safe, and will act swiftly in the event of threats or actions against our students.

It is past time to take a bold stand against racism, anti-Semitism and white supremacy – forces that have made up the fabric of our society. These forces must be removed from our institutions and from the hearts and minds of us all. USD 497 is on this journey and is committed to continuing these efforts for the sake of our students and for the future." (See Attachment 1)

President Kimball thanked her fellow board colleagues for their input regarding board committees and building assignments. She provided them the 2017-18 board assignments. She explained there was one revision and that Dawn Downing would send out the revised document. She also mentioned that due to Marcel Harmon and Vanessa Sanburn's board term ending at the end of the year that she would be revisiting these assignments and making additional revisions at that time.

President Kimball reported on her participation at the Welcome Back and Professional Development Day for teachers on August 11th at Lawrence High School. Additionally, she shared her excitement regarding the partnership between the Lawrence Public Schools and Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. She participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center to be build next to the College and Career Center.

President Kimball shared that the Kansas Association of School Boards has encouraged school districts to write a letter to the editor on New Day in Kansas education. The sample letter, drafted by KASB Advocacy staff, lays out the five key factors that are driving historic changes in Kansas public education. President Kimball asked Dawn Downing to send to all board members for review.

President Kimball will be attending the KASB sponsored Superintendent Evaluation Workshop on August 22, 2017 and is looking forward to sharing the information.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD

Superintendent Stubblefield shared that she planned to sign the public statement read by President Kimball condemning what occurred in Charlottesville this weekend. As she said in her remarks to all of our staff on Friday during the Back-to-School Kickoff at Lawrence High: "hate, racism, discrimination, marginalization, and prejudice are all things I wish I did not have to talk about or experience, but they are a reality for me, for our district, and for every student who looks like me or has been 'othered'. The hate speech and violence that occurred this weekend in Charlottesville, Virginia is why we must continue to fight white supremacy and bigoted groups."

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

Superintendent Stubblefield reiterated that school starts Wednesday for Grades 1-5 at the elementary level. Sixth- and ninth-graders will have a half-day orientation on Wednesday. All students in Grades 1-12 will be in session on Thursday, with our Kindergartners following an alternate-day schedule, as announced by their schools, on Thursday and Friday.

Superintendent Stubblefield explained that our district has been planning learning opportunities associated with the solar eclipse. It is estimated that, weather permitting, our view of the sun in Lawrence will be more than 99% blocked by the moon at about 1:07 p.m. We want to remind everyone that it is never safe to look directly at the sun. To safely view the eclipse, specially designed equipment or appropriate safety glasses are required. Thanks to a donation from The University of Kansas, our schools have NASA-approved safety glasses to ensure proper eye protection for students and staff. Our teachers and schools will be communicating with families this week about their specific plans for Monday and opt-out procedures should parents not want their student to participate. Families who choose to witness the eclipse with their children outside of school should notify their school office about that excused absence. There is more information about the eclipse on our website.

Superintendent Stubblefield extended her congratulations to the Boys and Girls Club on their successful groundbreaking for their new Teen Center last week. She was looking forward to the report on tonight's agenda about our partnership to expand opportunities and support for Lawrence teens.

Superintendent Stubblefield wanted to provide a reminder that the board has scheduled a Special Meeting next Monday starting with a 5:30 p.m. for a public Budget Hearing and the board's consideration of final approval of the budget.

Lastly, Superintendent Stubblefield reiterated a few facts about the budget, which the board approved for publication last week:

- The Kansas Legislature approved the new school finance formula in June of 2017. The district could not have known the impact of the new formula prior to our facility master planning process, which began in December of 2015 and resulted in the successful school bond election on May 2, 2017.
- The district's estimate of the tax impact on the Bond and Interest Fund as a result of the \$87 million bond issue approved by voters on May 2, remains 2.4 mills. This is a conservative estimate and one that was shared widely with the public in the months leading up to the election.
- In order to lessen the overall tax impact of the new school finance formula on the budget and local taxpayers, the district plans to sell only half the bonds this year. We will also strategically build our bond repayment schedule in order to minimize future bond interest expense.
- The remaining tax impact of the total budget, a 2.3 mill increase, is a direct result of the impact of the state's new school finance formula on the Local Option Budget.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT (Continued)

- The district could not have predicted that after three years of flat funding under the state's block-grant system that our schools would lose state aid under the way the new finance formula calculates the Local Option Budget.
- The mill levy increase in the LOB was the result of growth in our "district's wealth" or assessed valuation and a corresponding reduction in state aid. Some districts do not get state aid for the LOB and are better able to control their LOB locally. Again, we did not know of this impact until all of the state budget form calculations were completed.
- We also do not know what future changes may occur in the LOB due to the pending school finance case before the Kansas Supreme Court.
- The district's published mill levy for 2017-18 of 56.863 mills is lower than our total mill levy has been during four of the last six years. The six-year history of the district's mill levy was a slide shared during all of our 2017 bond election presentations.

PATRON COMMENTARY

President Kimball asked for public comment on any item not included on the agenda. Tom Walton who is affiliated with Team STEAM discussed the importance of the middle school robotics team, the ongoing support received from the district, and the upcoming tournament that is to be hosted in our district.

Dr. Stubblefield thanked Mr. Walton for his commitment and explained that the building usage issue for the robotics tournament had been resolved.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Marcel Harmon shared about the Verizon Horizon 20/20 Committee. This committee was created in the early 90's. In 2013, a steering committee was formed to Update/revise the mission and goals. It is a comprehensive plan that expresses the community's desires about the future image of the community. It provides the foundation and framework for physical development and policy decisions in the future. It is used as a policy guide that identifies the community's goals for directing future land use decisions. For additional information, the plan can be accessed at- <https://assets.lawrenceks.org/assets/pds/planning/documents/Horizon2020.pdf>

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Jessica Beeson, 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 July 24, 2017 regular meeting and the August 7, 2017 special board meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (continued)

- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

Fund	Amount
General	441,019.61
Food Service	30,540.61
Vocational Education	10,831.79
Special Education	25,798.60
Capital Outlay	322,327.91
Summer School	60.00
Adult Basic Education	62.55
Virtual School	26,282.22
Professional Development	10,153.00
Student Materials Revolve	79,512.71
Contingency Reserve	10,470.00
2013 Bonds	294.00
Title 1 2017	839.07
Title 1 2018	16,892.00
Indian Educ Title 2018	297.08
Johnson O'Malley 2017	291.88
Title IIA 2017	100.80
Title III ESL 2017	183.08
Carl Perkins 2018	12,145.00
Payroll Fund	157,819.39
Spectra-Medicaid	25,424.85
Loc/Don/Gra	418,528.18
Memorial Scholarships	1,500.00
TOTAL	1,591,374.33

Approvals of the following:

- Sanitary Sewer Improvements-RD Johnson Excavating Co., LLC
- Painting Services-SG Dahmer Construction
- Special Inspections-Terracon Consultants
- Agreement with Tiny K
- Kagan Cooperative Learning PD
- Annual Renewal of On-line Subscriptions
- Nearpod Licenses (Secondary)
- SeeSaw Licenses (Elementary)
- Herff Jones LHS' Yearbook Contract
- PEG Services for 2017-18
- School Improvement Services Support Plan 2017-18 (Greenbush)
- Revised AOS Cisco SmartNet Renewal

REPORTS & APPROVALS

- Architect & Engineer Design Teams for 2017 Bond Projects
Chief Operations Officer, Kyle Hayden, shared that following the school district's request for qualifications, we received proposals from eight firms regarding the secondary school facility improvements. Four firms were chosen. After review of criteria such as experience, fee structure, management approach to

REPORTS & APPROVALS (continued)

communicating and collaboration with stakeholders, information on sub consultant engineering firms, the firms' approach to designing toward 21st century teaching and learning, and references, M. Hayden recommended negotiating contracts with three local firms-

1. Gould Evans - the planning and design of Lawrence High and Free State High Schools, with Henderson Engineers partnering on mechanical, electrical and plumbing upgrades.
2. Clark|Huesemann - will lead projects at all four middle schools, and
3. TreanorHL- the planning and design of improvements to the Lawrence College and Career Center.

Upon a motion by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Jill Fincher, the board approved in a 6-0 roll call vote, to proceed with contract negotiations for Architectural Design and Construction Administration Services with Gould Evans, Clark/Huesemann and TreanorHL.

Reports~

- **Boys & Girls Club Teen Center**

Kyle Hayden, Chief Operations Officer, Patrick Kelly, Director of Innovation, College & Career Center and Colby Wilson, Director of Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, shared information regarding the growth and importance of the Boys & Girls Program here in Lawrence.

Lawrence Public Schools and the Boys & Girls Club's partnership spans over 17 years. Our total enrollment has grown from 150 children to over 3,000. Currently there is a program in all 14 elementary schools. 66% of elementary students are involved in Boys and Girls Club. However, we are lacking in space availability/capacity at the middle and high school levels. The Club currently busses teens to it main site at 1520 Haskell Ave., an undersized facility serving less than 1% of the district's middle and high school students.

Formal approval of leasing property adjacent to the Lawrence College and Career Center at 2910 Haskell Avenue to the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence for construction of a teen center will be forthcoming. Upon completion of the Don and Beverly Gardner Center for Great Futures, the Club plans to donate the building to the district and enter into a long-term lease to collaborate in using the expanded space for both educational and after-school programming. In addition to serving a critical need of school families for a safe, positive environment for after-school care, the Club supports the mission of the district by extending student learning, growth and development beyond the confines of the school day.

- **Negotiations Update**

David Cunningham, executive director of human resources/chief legal counsel shared that the board team began negotiations with the Lawrence Education Association on May 1, 2017. After resolving all

Reports (Continued)

noticed items except salary, the parties declared impasse on August 7, 2017. At that time, the board had proposed adding \$2,310 to each cell and to fund vertical (for experience) and horizontal (for additional education) movement on the teacher salary schedule. This results in an overall increase of 6.094%. LEA requested the board add \$2,500 to each cell and fund movement on the schedule for an total increase of 6.491%. Since the parties did not reach agreement, a federal mediator will now assist.

Mr. Cunningham further explained that traditionally the board addressed compensation for all employee groups at one time; however, due to negotiations with teachers reaching an impasse, the board would need to delay teacher compensation decisions until an agreement is reached. The board is not legally required to delay action on compensation for classified and administrator employee groups. Mr. Cunningham requested the directive to move forward with classified and administrator compensation. At this time, a motion was made to enter into executive session.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:07 pm, Board President Shannon Kimball requested to enter executive session. A motion was made by Jill Fincher, seconded by Melissa Johnson, to recess to executive session to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract to discuss negotiations, with Anna Stubblefield, David Cunningham, Kathy Johnson, and Samrie Devin; invited to be present; and with the board to return to open session in this room at 8:26 p.m. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 8:27 pm, the Board of Education returned to open session.

Reports (continued)

Upon a motion made by Marcel Harmon, seconded by Jill Fincher, the board approved in a 6-0 roll call vote to direct staff to prepare information for the consideration of compensation for classified and administrative groups during its August 22, 2017, Special Meeting.

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

David Cunningham shared that requests for proposals was sent to four firms regarding the upcoming Superintendent search. All firms responded with KASB declining to participate in the search. The information received from the firms was shared with the board members to review.

The board approved in a unanimous voice vote to invite Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, Ray & Associates and School Exec Connect to make presentations to the board on August 28, 2017 regarding their proposal to provide superintendent search services.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.37 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



August 14, 2017

To the Lawrence Community and Beyond:

The Lawrence Board of Education, Lawrence Public Schools and Lawrence Education Association condemn hate speech, violence and white supremacy in every form. Our thoughts and sympathies are with the innocent victims affected by the atrocities in Charlottesville, Virginia, during the weekend.

Our learning community is committed to fighting oppression, injustice, anti-Semitism and racism. The kind of hate speech seen this past weekend will not be tolerated in our schools. Our school board, administrators, teachers and staff will continue to work diligently with our students, school families and community partners to ensure our schools are safe, and will act swiftly in the event of threats or actions against our students.

It is past time to take a bold stand against racism, anti-Semitism and white supremacy – forces that have made up the fabric of our society. These forces must be removed from our institutions and from the hearts and minds of us all. USD 497 is on this journey and is committed to continuing these efforts for the sake of our students and for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shannon Kimball".

Shannon Kimball, President
Lawrence Board of Education

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Stubblefield".

Anna Stubblefield, Interim Superintendent
Lawrence Public Schools

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Folsom".

Laurie Folsom, President
Lawrence Education Association