

**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**

October 8, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 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>
<u>Jessica Beeson, president</u>	<u>Dr. Anthony Lewis, superintendent of schools</u>
Melissa Johnson, vice president	Anna Stubblefield, deputy superintendent
Jill Fincher	Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology
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
	Paula Murrish, executive director, nutrition & wellness, printing & purchasing
Absent	Alyse Donnell, board clerk
G.R. Gordon-Ross	

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
Rick Henry	Leah Wisdom	Darcy Kraus	Paula Smith
Jennifer Bessolo	Laurie Folsom	Terry McEwen	Elvin Jones -LJW
Brenda Bandy	Sarah Hamlin	Denise Johnson	Cary Allen
Gary Schmidt	Jo Krise	Kat LeFever	Michael Kesley
Uma Ontka			

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Jill Fincher, the board voted in a unanimous voice vote, to amend and approve the agenda to include executive session.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

USD 497 Gold-Level Breastfeeding Employee Support Award

Presented by Brenda Bandy, Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, and Cary Allen, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department, Denise L. Johnson, USD 497 assistant director of health and wellness

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Beeson

Thanked everyone for attending the Listening and Learning Tours at Billy Mills Middle School and the Lawrence Public Library. Also acknowledged the City committee meeting taking place on October 9th, in which she would be supporting the Tobacco 21 Initiative.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT LEWIS

Superintendent Lewis

We are thrilled for Principal Tammy Becker and Hillcrest staff, students, and families, that the wonderful work that happens there every day has been recognized with the National Blue Ribbon School Award.

In addition to our ten National Merit Semifinalists, we are celebrating with both high schools the designation of nine National Merit Commended Scholars and two National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars. Congratulations to all of our nationally recognized scholars.

Three of our high school student journalists are finalists for national design and photography awards from the National Scholastic Press Association for their work on The Budget and The Free Press. This is in addition to The Budget earning a nomination for the prestigious Pacemaker Award. Congratulations to our student journalists and their faculty advisers.

I want to thank everyone – teachers, staff, students, parents, and community members – who has participated in the Listening and Learning Tour. Our next Tour Stop will be from 5:30-7:00 on October 16 at First Presbyterian Church at 2415 Clinton Parkway. We worked with the Interfaith Alliance to select a church that was centrally located and had ample meeting space and parking. All in the community are welcome to attend!

International Walk to School Day is Wednesday. Weather permitting, many of our schools will host special activities to encourage families to walk or bike to school.

October is National Principals Month. We know how important the role of the principal is to the success of our schools. Communications Specialist Rachel Asbury created a short video to thank our principals for their commitment and dedication to student achievement and success. We'd like to share that video tonight.

PATRON COMMENTARY

There was no patron commentary.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Shannon Kimball

Thanked the staff who attended and assisted with the KASB October 1st Regional Meeting. There was great feedback and it was a great learning opportunity for staff.

Update on Board Policy Committee- Kimball and Jones attended the meeting in which they finished some drafts that were on the agenda that night.

Update on Facilities Committee - Gordon-Ross and Kimball attended this meeting and received an update from staff on the outcome of the recent Bond sale. Also received progress updates for turf replacements, grounds and custodial issues.

Jill Fincher

Update on Late Start Committee - The survey for patron insight and focus groups are in the works, including equally geographic areas of Lawrence and 8th graders moving into high school.

Rick Ingram

Added to comments regarding Late Start Committee - Survey will be sent to all 6-11th graders. He is also studying districts that have implemented this late start time and are having positive results.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, 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 September 24, 2018 regular meeting
- The October 8, 2018 personnel report
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

Fund	Fund Description	Amount
001	GENERAL	253,390.27
002	LOCAL OPTION BUDGET	2,583.43
003	FOOD SERVICE	156,246.12
004	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	3,003.06
005	SPECIAL EDUCATION	27,322.75
009	CAPITAL OUTLAY	511,671.64
015	ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	3,456.00
018	VIRTUAL SCHOOL	3,295.35
020	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP	3,251.50
021	BILINGUAL FUND	13,715.55
022	PARENTS AS TEACHERS	471.86
024	STUDENTS MATLS REVOLVE	3,428.10
025	AT RISK (K-12)	73.08
030	WORK COMP RESERVE	1,757.00
035	2013 BONDS	111,629.00
036	2017 BONDS	107,490.96
038	LEASE TURF 2018 HSOAF	320,412.58
040 19	TITLE 1 2019	4,519.24
043 19	INDIAN EDUC TITLE 2019	115.50
044 18	JOHNSON O'MALLEY 2018	341.06
046 19	TITLE IIA 2019	243.00
047 18	TITLE III ESL 2018	2,713.20
048 19	CARL PERKINS 2019	4,163.50
050 19	TITLE VIBDIS 2019	232.00
053 19	KMSG MIDDLE SCHOOL 2019	2,187.86
056 19	TINY K 2019	286.41
059 18	USDA GRANT 2018	4,000.00
095	PAYROLL FUND	451,668.42
275	SPECTRA-MEDICAID	62,245.84
800	LOC/DON/GRA	48,761.68
GRAND TOTAL		2,104,675.96

Approvals of the following:

1. Employee Assistance Program
2. Land Transfer from USD #464 Tonganoxie Public Schools to USD #497
3. RTU Replacement – New York and Kennedy
4. Board Policy Committee Recommendations - DFK, KH, JL
5. Board Policy Committee Recommendations - GAJ
6. Board Policy Committee Recommendation - Modify Statute References

REPORTS

State Assessment Report - Terry McEwen, director, assessment, research and accountability

Terry McEwen, USD 497's director of assessment, research, and accountability, presented the district's 2017 and 2018 Kansas Assessment Program results, including Mathematics and English Language Arts (grades 3-8, 10), and Science (grades 5, 8 and 11), to the Lawrence Board of Education on Monday. Dr. McEwen shared data for All Students and identified subgroups, including Students Qualifying for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners, and students grouped by Race/Ethnicity.

Kansas Commissioner of Education Randy Watson will present the state-level assessment results to the Kansas State Board of Education on Tuesday, so only 2017 state results were available Monday. Performance Levels for the Kansas State Assessments are Level 1: The student shows limited ability to understand and use skills and knowledge needed for college and career readiness; Level 2: The student shows a basic ability to understand and use the skills and knowledge needed for college and career readiness; Level 3: The student shows an effective ability to understand and use the skills and knowledge needed for college and career readiness; and Level 4: The student shows an excellent ability to understand and use the skills and knowledge needed for college and career readiness. Kansas's goal is that by 2030, 75% of all students will score at Level 3 and above.

McEwen shared a few examples of the type of assessment questions posed to students, such as identifying proportional relationships in Math or reordering sentences of a story in logical order in ELA. Because the assessments are adaptive, the first 30 questions of the tests are fixed. How students score on those 30 questions determines the level of difficulty for the remaining questions on the test.

He noted that Lawrence demonstrates a percentage of students scoring at Level 3 or 4 that, in most cases, matches or exceeds the state in ELA, Math, and Science. Achievement gaps are narrowing at Grade 10 in both ELA and Math. For many tested groups, performance between 2017 and 2018 was either flat or showing a downward trend, although some groups showed upward momentum.

"We are seeing some achievement gaps narrowing at grade 10," said McEwen. "Achievement gaps between the identified subgroups do still exist at all of our tested grade levels. The district's curriculum work and standards alignment continues to focus on these gaps."

The achievement gap between white and black students decreased by 2.3% in Math and 1.7% in ELA.

In Science, the district saw increases in the performance of the All Students category and for most of the identified subgroups. Achievement gaps, however, widened in most of the racial/ethnic subgroups, except the multi-racial subgroup, where the gap decreased by 7%.

Board member Kelly Jones requested the presentation of assessment data disaggregated by gender in the future. Another key performance measure for the district is Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) data. Those results will also be reported at a future board meeting.

Jessica Beeson left the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

District KESA Goals - Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading learning & technology

KESA is the state's process that focuses on systems results. The Kansas State Board of Education's new vision for public education has widened beyond state assessment results to include social/emotional growth, kindergarten readiness, individual plans of study, high school graduation rates, and postsecondary completion/attendance. Lawrence entered Year One of the KESA cycle last year, performing a needs assessment to determine two focus areas for the current school year: relationships and relevance.

Assistant Superintendent Jerri Kemble shared the district's Relationship and Relevance goals:

- Relationships: During the 2018-19 school year, we will engage students, staff, school families, and community members, providing them opportunities to share input in district decision-making through various avenues.
- Relevance: During the 2018-19 school year, we will develop, align, and implement consistent and equitable curriculum, instruction, and assessment to raise the achievement of all students as evidenced by state and nationally-normed measures.

Actions steps have been identified for each goal. All schools have developed school improvement plans created with specific, measurable, attainable,

results-focused, and time-bound goals, and developed with equity in mind. Administrators shared with the school board plans for building principal leadership, curriculum review, development, and alignment; and improving special education services, student supports, and interventions; English as a Second Language services, and professional development and instructional coaching for teachers and support staff.

“When there aren't advancements or we're not seeing improvement, as a board member, I want to see some action taken,” said Jones of progress related to eliminating achievement gaps at the building level.

Jennifer Bessolo, director of curriculum, shared that the district is focused on the state standards as it realigns curriculum, instruction, and assessment. ELA is the curriculum focus area this year. Cultural relevance and practices are discussed daily with the evaluation of current and new resources.

“We are keeping the focus on what students need. Do students see themselves in the curriculum?” said Dr. Bessolo.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:17 p.m., a motion was made by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, 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