

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ST. JOHN-HUDSON U.S.D. #350
REGULAR SESSION
March 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Education of Unified School District 350, State of Kansas, Stafford County, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom on Monday March 9, 2015. The meeting was called to order by President Chad Fisher.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chad Fisher, Barbara Alpers, Carl Behr, Vance Fisher, Tom Garner, Bill Milton and Stan Woodward.

STAFF PRESENT

Josh Meyer, Travis Olive, Mike Burgan, Christie Snyder and Juliann Owens.

WELCOME VISITORS

Carol Riegel

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Stan Woodward moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the February 9, 2015 regular meeting

Bills for payment

Budget Report

Activity Fund Report

Stan Woodward moved and Barbara Alpers seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

PATRON COMMENTS

None.

BUSINESS ITEMS

COURSE/CURRICULUM REVIEW

Mr. Meyer provided the board with the course descriptions and class scheduled for grades K-12 for the current school year. His intent is to give the board an idea of what classes and programs are currently being offered to the district's students. This discussion was continued during the budget planning item.

CALENDAR FOR 2015-16

The 2015-16 school calendar was presented for board approval. This calendar proposes a later start date and getting out later in May to help accommodate spring activities.

Barbara Alpers moved and Stan Woodward seconded the motion to approve the calendar for 2015-16 school year as presented.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

6th GRADE/JUNIOR HIGH TRACK

Last month the board discussed allowing 6th grade students to participate in junior high track this year. Since this will not add costs or take away from other junior high students, it is recommended that the board allow this.

Vance Fisher moved and Carl Behr seconded the motion to approve 6th grade students to participate in junior high track.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS 2015-16

While enrollment has increased in each of the last 3 years, the junior high will have the smallest numbers. With small numbers, it is difficult to make full athletic teams. 6th graders may not participate in football per KSSHA rules so the district may need to look at other options due to low participation numbers. However, 6th graders may participate at the junior high level in other sports. Mr. Burgan provided additional explanation regarding anticipated numbers and the rules. A decision will be made at a later date. Administrators will develop a policy that addresses this issue and the board's intent is to address this on a year to year basis as class size dictates.

MARQUEE SIGN

The district leadership team provided some input for the future of our marquee sign. While an electronic sign is a point of pride when working properly, the group feels that money could be better spent in other areas. The group thought that at this time, a static sign makes more sense as opposed to replacing or upgrading the electronic sign.

BUDGET PLANNING

Planning for the district's budget challenges will be the focus of discussion for the next few months into next year. The board began to discuss staffing, projected class size, class offerings and how to handle some larger classes at the K-3 level. Mr. Meyer reviewed the current legislation from HB 2403 which would change the school finance formula from its current structure to a block grant system. Mr. Meyer reviewed the potential impacts this legislation would have on the district.

COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD MEMBERS ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS

There were no reports from the board members for this time period.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Olive reported on the elementary building. Current enrollment for K-6 is 164. The PE program for grades K-4 is tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the main gym. State assessments will begin after spring break and there will be a Farm/Ag Day held on April 10 at Alpers Farms for grades K-4. The end of the 3rd 9 weeks was March 6. He attended a teacher career fair at Emporia State on March 4.

Mr. Burgan reported on the JR/SR high school. Current enrollment is 159 with 5 students attending the Learning Center. 5 students were inducted into the National Honor Society on February 15 – Jeremy Crockett, Miranda Garner, Cade Roberts, Ryan Woodward and Nathan Ward. JH Quiz Bowl League meet was held today in LaCrosse. JH Band/Vocal students attended a music festival in LaCrosse this past Friday. The HS League Music Festival is tomorrow at BCCC hosted by Otis-Bison. The HS CPL Honors Banquet will be held on Tuesday March 31 at Otis. There was a Class Leadership meeting on March 4.

Mr. Meyer has attended a couple of career fairs in the last several weeks. He has completed a grant to put a climbing wall in the main gym. Joint professional development day was a great success with great teacher feedback and interaction. Technology continues to be a focus stymied by budget concerns. He plans to approach the Education Foundation for funds. The district is looking at shifting from workbooks to purchasing new textbooks.

Board elections are coming up. There is a candidates' forum on March 26 at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Meyer will be in attendance. Long range plans for capital continue and Mr. Meyer will bring the updated 5 year plan to the board for approval prior to the budget for 215-2016 is approved. Transportation outsourcing proposals will go out this week. One of the options will be looking at leasing the equipment only.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Barbara Alpers moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to recess to executive session at 8:18 p.m. in the boardroom for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel and a student matter; and that the board return to open session at 8:48 p.m. in the boardroom. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. The Superintendent, Mr. Olive and Mr. Burgan were asked to be in attendance.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

The board returned to open session at 8:48 p.m. in the boardroom.

CLOSING BUSINESS ITEMS

The board reviewed the principals' contracts at the last regular meeting. They are presented for approval at this time.

Tom Garner moved and Stan Woodward seconded the motion to approve Mike Burgan as the JR/SR High School Principal and Travis Olive as the Elementary Principal for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meyer presented a letter of retirement from Debra Pound effective the end of the current school year.

Barbara Alpers moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to accept the retirement of Debra Pound effective the end of the current school year.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meyer presented a letter of retirement from Eddy Wibright effective the end of the current school year.

Barbara Alpers moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to accept the retirement of Eddy Wibright effective the end of the current school year.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meyer presented a letter of retirement from Carolyn Dickson effective the end of the current school year.

Barbara Alpers moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to accept the retirement of Carolyn Dickson effective the end of the current school year.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meyer presented a letter of resignation from Andrea Sayler-Siefkes resigning as quiz bowl sponsor.

Tom Garner moved and Vance Fisher seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Andrea Sayler-Siefkes as Quiz Bowl Sponsor effective the end of the current school year.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Meyer proposed for approval a supplemental contract for Assistant Junior Class Sponsor to Darlene Behnke.

Barbara Alpers moved and Carl Behr seconded the motion to accept the supplemental contract for assistant junior class sponsor to Darlene Behnke.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Approve teachers for hire
- b) Consider handbook changes
- c) Educational Foundation Report (investments and activities)
- d) Review capital improvements plan
- e) Review summer maintenance projects

Vance Fisher moved and Stan Woodward seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

YES: 7 NO: 0 MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED AND SIGNED THIS 13th DAY OF April 2015

PRESIDENT

BOARD CLERK