

**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**

January 23, 2017

PRE-MEETING WORK SESSION

At 4:30 p.m., the Board of Education met for a Boardsmanship/Teamwork work session led by Doug Moeckel, deputy executive director, Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB). The session began with each board member completing a self-evaluation, then an individual evaluation of the board as a whole. Highlighted were the importance of team governing in the areas of structure and process, culture, role, and unity of purpose and the board's responsibility for ensuring student achievement and success through vision, accountability, policy, community leadership and relationships.

BREAK

At 6:30 p.m., the pre-meeting work session concluded and Board President Marcel Harmon declared a break until the start of the regular meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7 p.m., Board President Marcel Harmon called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS, STAFF & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

KSDE School Bus Safety Poster Contest K-2 State Winner & National Third-Place Winner, Kaylee Clancy

Jackie Mickel, principal, Langston Hughes Elementary School, assisted by Ron May, director, operations, and Wayne Zachary, First Student Lawrence branch manager, recognized current third grader Kaylee Clancy who submitted a poster and won first place in the Kansas State Department of Education School Bus Safety Poster contest for K-2, then went on to win third place in the national contest.

Kaylee was presented with a plaque and a messenger bag containing school bus-themed items.

BackSnack Program Partners – Trinity Episcopal Church & Cornerstone Baptist Church

Howard Diacon, principal, Sunflower Elementary School, representing Lawrence elementary school principals, and Julie Heatwole, mental health support professional, Sunflower, recognized members of the Trinity Episcopal Church and Cornerstone Baptist Church for their hard work in volunteering each week to pack and deliver bags of food and other items to 13 of the district's elementary schools for distribution to kids who might not have anything to eat over the weekends.

Special Recognition ~ BackSnack Program Partners (Continued)

Also recognized was Harvesters, The Community Food Network, who is responsible for supplying the items inside the bags. It was noted that the cost of a BackSnack bag for one student is \$250 per year, meaning that \$100,000 going to Harvesters comes back to Lawrence.

Mr. Diacon stated that these volunteers have made a huge difference in the lives of a number of students, children, and families.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>SLT Members Present</u>
Marcel Harmon, president	Kyle Hayden, superintendent
Shannon Kimball, vice president	Anna Stubblefield, assistant superintendent,
Jessica Beeson	educational support
Jill Fincher	Kevin Harrell, executive director,
Rick Ingram	student services
Vanessa Sanburn	Tony Barron, executive director,
<u>Board Member Absent</u>	facilities & operations
Kris Adair	David Cunningham, executive director,
	human resources & legal counsel
	Julie Boyle, director, communications
	Janice Dunn, clerk

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
Karen Allen	Leona Antoine	Laura Basham	Tammy Becker
Sara Bonner	Kathy Bowen	Andy Bricker	Matt Brungardt
Bill Burch	Janet Burch	Morgan Carr	Sharon Carr
Rose Claire	Eli Clancy	Kaylee Clancy	Rebecca Clancy
Jared Comfort	Howard Diacon	Laurie L. Folsom	Jeanne Fridell
Myron Graber	Greg Hazen	Julie Heatwole	Shane Heiman
Mike Hughes	Kathy Johnson	Heather Kearns	David Kent
Orean Kent	Darcy Kraus	Ron May	Laurie Matney
Terry McEwen	Bill McGillivray	Deb Meyer	Jackie Mickel
Paula Murrish	Stan Roth	Sookyung Shin	Njeri Shomari
Shelia Smith	Joe Smysor	Kristin Soper	Norine Spears
Lori Stithem	Katie Stoltenberg	Effie Sun	Tod Sutton
Lindsay Taylor	Rochelle Valverde	Sandra Walker	David Williams
Keith Wilson	Wayne Zachary		

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

There was no report.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- Superintendent Kyle Hayden reminded the board and the public of the Community Conversation about Racial Equity in Lawrence Public Schools to be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on January 30 at Lawrence High School. He expressed the hope that a broad and diverse representation of the community will participate.
- Superintendent Hayden stated that, as expected, discussions have started in the Legislature about mid-year budget cuts to K-12 education. He said this is not a surprise, considering the deep budget hole lawmakers have to fill due to the state's

Report of Superintendent Hayden (Continued)

failed tax policies. He recalled that the district has been deficit spending for several years, using its reserves because of the criticisms out of Topeka about maintaining cash balances. He stated that conversations have already begun about how the district might manage mid-year cuts. Mr. Hayden stated that the community's support of the bond issue in May would help to gain some operational efficiencies and free up Capital Outlay dollars for some salaries related to facilities and operations functions to relieve pressure on the General Fund.

- Mr. Hayden reported that at the request of the K-12 Education Budget Committee, he, Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, innovation and technology, and Keith Wilson, director, virtual programs, will be in Topeka on Thursday, January 26, to share information about Lawrence Virtual School programs and their relation to school finance.
- He thanked the Lied Center for partnering with the Lawrence Schools Foundation on *Ovation!*, the districtwide talent show last night. He said he was unable to attend, but heard it was a great evening with an amazing display of talent from middle and high school students. He stated that the coolest thing about this fundraiser was that the idea came from a student. Mr. Hayden reported that Lawrence High Junior Graham Edmonds developed the talent show as a capstone project for his internship with the Lied Center. He stated that this was a great future ready learning experience for Graham.
- Superintendent Hayden thanked the ONE DREAM Committee, made up of school staff and community partners, for planning and producing last Thursday's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at South Middle School. He said it was truly an inspiring evening.
- He announced that the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence will host its annual Youth of the Year celebration Thursday night, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. at Liberty Hall. He congratulated and wished the best of luck to the Free State and Lawrence High students who are candidates for this year's honor.
- He reported that the board lunch at Sunflower scheduled for tomorrow, January 24, has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

PATRON COMMENTARY

After reading the guidelines for audience participation, Board President Marcel Harmon asked for patron commentary.

Karen Allen, youth services coordinator, Lawrence Public Library, highlighted the books the community is being asked to read together and attend events to discuss during February and March in Read Across Lawrence 2017. The book titles are *In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez (Adults), *Return to Sender* by Julia Alvarez (Teens), and *Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer* by Kelly Jones (Kids).

Njeri Shomari, patron, recalled that she asked questions in regard to the high school course options at the January 9 board of education meeting and received an email on January 13 asking her to restate the questions so they could be answered. Ms. Shomari said she responded on January 16 and has not yet received any answers.

BOARD COMMENTARY

Shannon Kimball

...reported that she recently attended the KASB Advocacy Institute. She said it was a great event that included training sessions with good information and an opportunity to visit the Capitol and provide information to legislators.

Board Commentary ~ Shannon Kimball (Continued)

...reported that the KASB has put together a list of aspiration states based on 15 measures. She said there are only nine states that are doing better than Kansas and they spend \$3,000 more per student on the base. She stated that when we continue to be asked to do more and more for students, it is not realistic to keep pushing to do so. She said, however, that district faculty and staff members are doing an amazing job of supporting students in the current financial situation.

Vanessa Sanburn

...reported that she attended the *Ovation!* USD 497 Talent Show last night saying that there are a lot of talented kids in the district and a number of organizations in the community that are working with our kids. She once again recognized Graham Edmonds for coming up with the idea. Ms. Sanburn said the event went well and was well attended.

Jill Fincher

...reported that she also attended *Ovation!* saying that it is inspiring to see what the kids who have come through our system can do. She said she thinks the event will become bigger and bigger each year.

Shannon Kimball

...reported that there were also a number of talented students who performed at the recent One Dream event.

Vanessa Sanburn

...apologized to the patron who didn't receive a response to her questions and said she would follow up.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, 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 January 9, 2017 regular meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds, budget to actual, cash summary
- The January 23, 2017 personnel report
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	\$ 456,160.14
Local Option Budget	202,523.15
Food Service	84,959.81
Vocational Education	7,568.40
Special Education	360,533.16
Capital Outlay	611,738.35
Virtual School	6,031.93
Professional Development	7,876.80
Student Materials Revolve	5,774.14

Approval of Consent Agenda ~ Monthly Vouchers (Continued)

Contingency Reserve	362.50
2013 Bonds	1,428,353.93
Title I 2017	3,198.65
Indian Educ Title 2017	202.45
Johnson O'Malley 2016	1,972.80
Carl Perkins 2017	333.20
Spectra-Medicaid	16,274.56
Loc/Don/Gra	8,448.38
TOTAL	\$3,202,312.35

- Approvals of the following:
 - Authorization for Legal Services
 - Purchase of Elementary Music, Band & Orchestra Instruments
 - Adoption & Purchase of PreK-5 General Music Curriculum

On behalf of the Board of Education, Vice President Shannon Kimball acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to the following:

...*Roger Paschke* for his 21 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon his retirement effective July 6, 2017.

REPORTS

Special Education Program Review

Laura Basham, assistant director, special education, introduced Deb Meyer and Mike Hughes, Center for Innovative School Leadership (CISL), who conducted an efficiency review of the district's special education services. Ms. Basham reported that the review, which was conducted from April 2016 through January 2017, was voluntary.

It was reported that the goal of the CISL is to identify best practices, cost savings and potential efficiency and effectiveness strategies for school districts and special education entities in the areas of human resources, delivery of services, and organization and leadership.

Shared was an Executive Summary highlighting commendations and recommendations within the three areas. The district is lauded for recognizing the critical priorities for professional development in training for staff and interventions for students with severe disabilities, addressing inequity in identification of students, and managing the identification process well and not over-identifying students. It was noted that the USD 497 Special Education Department is widely respected both locally and regionally. The report suggests that the district should offer individualized, job specific training for new paraeducators provided by itinerant specialists and special education teachers, consider piloting one diagnostic placement program for primary or intermediate students with emotional disturbance, and review the continuum of alternative services, focusing on utilizing all resources available in maintaining highly disruptive students in their neighborhood schools.

Results of administrator, teacher/staff, and parent surveys were presented indicating strength in adequacy of information, communication, efficiency in the IEP process and meetings, support for a tiered intervention system of student services, and educational services that help children improve academically. Also indicated were areas where improvements are needed including inadequate training for general education teachers

Reports ~ Special Education Program Review (Continued)

and staff who work with children with special education needs, issues that need to be resolved, inadequate instructional materials, and educational services that help children improve their behaviors.

Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services, reported that next steps for the district's Special Education Team include development of short- and long-term goals based on the review recommendations and creation of a parent advisory council and teacher leadership committee that will look at the review and data and make recommendations for positive changes.

REPORTS AND APPROVALS

Approval of High School Course Offerings for 2017-2018

Patrick Kelly, director, innovative learning, reviewed information presented at the January 9 meeting in regard to the examination of high school course options, graduation requirements, and personalized plans of study within Career Pathways for students. The nine Career Pathways include: Animal, Plant & Environmental Systems; Arts & Media; Business, Finance, Marketing & Management; Design, Production & Repair; Engineering & Technology; Health Science & Biomedicine; Hospitality & Tourism; Human & Public Service; and Liberal Arts/Early College.

Mr. Kelly recalled that the current traditional (core) graduation requirements include 3.5 units of social studies credit and 7.5 units of elective credits; however, the proposed graduation requirements will include 3.0 units of social studies credit and 8.0 units of elective credit. He noted that students can replace Civics 9 (.5 previous requirement) with a Pathway introductory course. In addition, students can reduce their schedules in grades 10, 11, and/or 12 if they have meet the criteria. He stated that the proposed changes to the high school course offerings would begin in the 2017-2018 school year.

The following information was presented in regard to plans of study:

- Plans of study act as a map for students to navigate the curriculum and find their way towards a college major, post-secondary study, employment, and a successful career.
- Counselors and teachers can use the pathways and plans of study to help students understand the connections between what they learn in school and their future college and career goals.
- Through an introductory course in each pathway/plan of study, students can discover the varied opportunities within each pathway, learn about future classes, and make informed decisions about their educational path.
- Plans of study and introductory courses provide an avenue to articulate to students early in the process what is required for each pathway. Students can choose to enter or leave a plan of study at any time.
- Students should not feel pressure to choose a pathway and may want to take numerous introductory level courses to find an area of study that is right for them.

Following discussion, Rick Ingram made a motion, seconded by Shannon Kimball, to approve the USD 497 high school course offerings, including the graduation requirements, beginning with the class of 2021, for the 2017-2018 school year. The motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:24 p.m., a motion was made by Jill Fincher, seconded by Jessica Beeson, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Janice E. Dunn
Clerk, Board of Education