

Rural Vista U.S.D. 481 Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Hope, Kansas
June 13, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Board Members:

Present: Duane Blythe, Kevin Kniebel, Esther Dillon, Tanya Coons-Reddig, and Jim Barten.

Others present: Renae Hickert, Ethan Gruen, Ashley Tokoi, Joann Kahnt, Vicki Gruber, Larry Goracke, Theresa McCreath, Joel Kahnt, Denny Crable, Mary Lawrenz, Kelly Elliott, Stephanie Berry, and Carol Worrell.

Proceedings: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Duane Blythe, School Board President.

Mr. Blythe asked for additions or subtractions from the agenda. Superintendent Hickert informed the Board there was an addition regarding negotiations as well as a desire to move up the superintendent hours/salary discussion in the order of the agenda.

Casey Riedy entered the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Esther Dillon moved, Kevin Kniebel seconded, the approval of the agenda with the noted additions and modifications.

Passed 6-0

Kevin Kniebel moved and Casey Riedy seconded the approval of the agenda, warrants, and treasurer's report.

Passed 6-0

Public Presentation: **Citizens Open Forum:** Citizens Open Forum was omitted by accident

Correspondence: Mrs. Hickert read a thank you letter from Mrs. Lela Engle regarding her years spent at White City.

The out-going board members were presented certificates for their years dedicated to the Rural Vista BOE.

Government Relations: Jim Barten informed the board KASB was holding forums. Information was available to sign up if the members so wanted. Also, the Legislature had adjourned and Rural Vista has been strapped with an approximate \$150,000 reduction.

Negotiations: Esther Dillon moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel commencing at 7:06 p.m. and returning to open session at 7:25 p.m. including Superintendent Hickert Joel Kahnt, Denny Crable, Mary Lawrenz, and Kelly Elliott.

The board returned to open session at 7:25 p.m.

Jim Barten moved to recess for a five (5) minute break commencing at 7:25 p.m. and returning to open session at 7:30 p.m. Casey Riedy seconded.

Passed 6-0

Public Presentation: **Citizens Open Forum:** The reporter from the Herington Times inquired posed the following question to the board: Considering the recently completed Efficiency Review wherein the overall consensus among the public, teachers, and parents was the board does not consider the opinions of the public et al, how much did weight did the board give to all of the patrons who showed up in support of Mr. Obermeyer?

Mr. Blythe replied it is the general practice of the board to not comment directly on any decision they have made. In general, Mr. Blythe believes the board always gives heed to opinions of the public.

Mr. Goracke requested the board table any matters regarding the former district office building until the July meeting as incoming board members may have ideas not considered by the current board for the use of the building.

New Business: Part-Time Superintendent Position: Esther Dillon moved, Kevin Kniebel seconded to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel commencing at 7:35 p.m. and returning to open session at 7:45 p.m. including Ashley Tokoi and Barb Stroda, both for 5 minute intervals, separately.

The board returned to open session at 7:45pm.

Esther Dillon moved, Kevin Kniebel seconded to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel commencing at 7:45 p.m. and returning to open session at 7:50 p.m. including Barb Stroda.

The board returned to open session at 7:50 pm.

Old Business: Bus Bids: Superintendent Hickert recommended the board accept the bid from National Bus for a 2008 36 passenger bus with 28,000 miles and a price of \$59,800. Tanya Coons-Reddig moved to accept the same. Esther Dillon seconded.

Passed 6-0

Former District Office Building: The district received one sealed bid for the former district office building. After reviewing the bid, Jim Barten moved to table the issue until the July meeting. Esther Dillon seconded.

Failed 2-4
Kevin Kniebel, Duane Blythe, Tanya Coons-Reddig, and Casey Riedy
voting “No”.

Tanya Coons-Reddig moved to accept the bid as is. Casey Riedy seconded.

Passed 4-2
Jim Barten and Esther Dillon voted “no”

Board Policy/Handbook: Esther Dillon moved, Casey Riedy seconded to approve the following changes/updates:

Military Leave- The returning employee is entitled to be reemployed in the job that they would have attained had they not been absent for military service with the same seniority, status and pay, as well as other rights and benefits determined by *law*.

ICAA Teaching Methods- Use of current research findings to improve instruction is required as part of the district’s school improvement efforts. Staff development programs will be designed to help teachers learn research-based instructional skills and to apply them in daily instruction.

JBE Truancy: to include a lifetime earnings chart and bar graph.

JRC Disposition of Records- Following a reasonable amount of time after a student has graduated or ceases to attend school in the district, the records of the student that are determined to be appropriate for the retention may be retained in the format designed by the administration/board.

Non-Resident Students- Any nonresident student who desires to be admitted to our schools may do so by first visiting with a building principal followed by the student’s parent or guardian writing a letter to the board of education explaining in detail the reason for admission. The decision of the board will be final.

School Closings- Families will be notified via School Reach Messaging system in the event it becomes necessary to call off school. School cancellations will also be posted on KWCH (Wichita), KSNT (Topeka), WIBW, 1150 AM, 104.9 FM, 102.5 FM, 98.5 FM, 97.5 FM, 1420 AM, and 103.5 FM.

Make Up Work- For excused absences, students will have the numbers of days missed plus 1 day to make up the work missed while the student was absent. Administration may extend the number of days needed to make up work for extenuating circumstances. EXCEPTION: Any long term project, assignment, or test that a student knew about prior to absent does NOT get extra work time. Assignments test, or projects assigned in advance of an absence are due when the student returns to school. The administration reserves the right to rule on extenuating circumstances and extend make up time.

Classification of High School Students- High school students will be classified for grade level purposes based upon the number of credits earned rather than on number of years attended. The following scale will be used: Freshman, 0-6 credits; Sophomores 7-13 credits; Juniors 14-21 credits, and Seniors 22+ credits.

Forfeiture of Credit- 4. Parents may appeal the loss of credit to the School Attendance Committee. This appeal must be in writing and be submitted to the principal within two weeks of notification of credit forfeiture.

High School Graduation Requirement- Commencing with the Class of 2014 each student must successfully complete twenty-seven (27) units of credit to graduate.

Junior High Promotion- All junior high students who have met the specified number of units in the core classes and other requirements as recommended by the administration and approved by the board of education shall be entitled to participate in the exercises unless participation is denied for an appropriate reason. In some instances, retention may be an option for a student who has failed to make appropriate academic progress. This determination will be made by the Student Intervention Team. Students shall pass 14 of 18 core curricular classes and 8 of 15 elective classes while in junior high.

Grade Report- Report cards are distributed quarterly, with a progress report issued at the mid-term of each quarter. Progress reports and report cards are sent home with students. Parents are notified via the School Reach notification system. Parents may request login information for Powerschool so a child's grade can be checked at any time.

Complaints and Grievance- A student or parent may file a complaint....Although it is not required, it is preferred that the complaint be written.

Use of Trained Dogs to Search- At the request of the administration, law enforcement officers or licensed private agencies may use trained dogs on the school premises to identify student property which may contain illegal or illicit materials and to determine whether materials are present which may threaten the general health, welfare and safety of students and/or district employees.

Social Networking- Accessing social networking websites during the school day or at school activities is prohibited.

Passed 6-0

Student Athletic Camps: Tanya Coons-Reddig moved and Ether Dillon seconded to approve the Hope High School Football and Girls Basketball Camps on July 11-16, 2011.

Passed 6-0

Budget Reductions: Tonya Coons-Reddig moved to reduce one bus route at hope as well as reduce the PAT contribution by \$3,000. Kevin Kneibel seconded.

Passed 5-0

Casey Reidy excused himself from the vote.

Board Member Boundaries: Upon completion of the census, school boards must determine if board member district's boundaries need to be adjusted because of population changes. Superintendent Hickert is going to inquire as to costs to determine the same.

New Business:

Faculty Handbook Updates: First reading of the proposed changes include limiting compensatory time to 24 hours and the board discourages school district staff from socializing with students outside of school in person or on social networking websites.

2011-2012 Fees: Casey Riedy moved and Jim Barten seconded to maintain all fees from the prior year with the exception of adult lunches which will increase to the amount of \$3.00 per meal (a \$0.25 increase).

Passed 5-1

Tanya Coons-Reddig voted "no"

2011-2012 Bell Schedules: Casey Riedy moved and Esther Dillon seconded to approve the bell schedules as presented.

Passed 6-0

2011-2012 BOE Dates: Casey Riedy moved and Esther Dillon seconded to approve the following dates for the regular BOE meetings:

July 13, 2011 Hope

August 8, 2011 White City

September 12, 2011 Hope

October 10, 2011 White City

November 14, 2011 Hope

December 12, 2011 White City

January 9, 2012 Hope

February 13, 2012 White City

March 12, 2012 Hope

April 9, 2012 White City

May 14, 2012 Hope

June 11, 2012 White City

Passed 6-0

Esther Dillon moved to allow Shianne Davis to graduate in December of the 2011-2012 school year. Esther Dillon further moved to allow Shianne Davis to walk with her class at graduation. Jim Barten seconded.

Passed 7-0

Fiscal Year Wrap Up: Esther Dillon moved and Casey Riedy seconded to grant the superintendent and board clerk the authority to commit the unencumbered 2010-2011 general fund to cash disbursements and

transfers to the extent of the unencumbered cash that benefits the cash flow of the district.

Passed 6-0

Insurance Renewal: Esther Dillon moved and Kevin Kniebel seconded to retain the services of Tyner Insurance for the districts various insurance needs and further, accept the bid so presented.

Passed 6-0

Casey Riedy moved to recess for 5 minutes commencing at 8:55 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:00 p.m. Esther Dillon seconded.

The board returned to open session at 9:00 p.m.

Jim Barten moved and Esther Dillon seconded to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel commencing at 9:40 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:55 p.m. reserving the right to call Superintendent Hickert and/or Assistant Superintendent Gruen into the executive session.

Passed 7-0

The board returned to open session at 9:55 p.m.

Student Matters: Esther Dillon moved and Casey Riedy seconded to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing student matters commencing at 9:04 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:20 p.m. including Superintendent Hickert and Assistant Superintendent Gruen.

Passed 6-0

The board returned to open session at 9:20 p.m.

Esther Dillon moved and Tanya Coons-Reddig seconded to accept the following out-of-district students conditionally:

Bentley	Myia
Floyd	Montana
Floyd	Brantley
Floyd	Matthew
Floyd	Wesley
Henely	Andrew
Hill	Tyler
Prickett	Emilia
Prickett	Elisha
Prickett	Christina
Smith	Bryanna
Swanson	Erik
Thomas	Katherine
Thomas	Rachel
Zimmer	Mary Clare
Zimmer	Hannah

Beavers	Jace
Brock	Mitchell
Brown	Cody
Conrad	Alison
Conrad	Tyler
Enfield	Colton
Enfield	Leeza
Hollis	Bethany
Larson	Ty
Larson	Cheyenne
Maas	Tawni
Wallo	Nicole
Wiebe	Adam

Passed 6-0

Negotiations: Esther Dillon moved, Casey Riedy seconded to adjourn to executive session for the purposes of discussing negotiations with Superintendent Hickert and Assistant Superintendent Gruen commencing at 9:22 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:30 p.m.

Passed 6-0

The board returned to open session at 9:30 p.m.

Esther Dillon moved, Casey Riedy seconded to return to executive session for the purposes of discussing negotiations commencing at 9:30 p.m. and returning to open session at 10:15 p.m.

Passed 6-0

The board returned to open session at 10:15 p.m.

Esther Dillon moved, Casey Riedy seconded to return to executive session for the purposes of discussing negotiations commencing at 10:15 p.m. and returning to open session at 10:30 p.m.

Passed 6-0

The board returned to open session at 10:30 p.m.

Esther Dillon moved to accept the appointments of Brad Kempf (WC principal), Chris Brown (Hope PE), John Rickner (HHS Vo-Ag), Amy Harms (WCHS dance), Chris Brown (HHS girls BB, Hope A.D., HJH FB and track Susannah Hutchinson (HHS Cheer), Stacy Kahnt (WCJH cheer), and the resignation of Kristy Stover (Hope 1st grade). Casey Riedy seconded.

Passed 6-0

Non-Renewal Resolution: **NONRENEWAL OF A NONTENURED TEACHER'S CONTRACT RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, on the 9th day of May, 2011, the Board of Education of Unified School District 481, Dickinson County, Kansas, by resolution duly adopted, took action to notify **Drew Obermeyer**, of the board's intent to nonrenew her contract as a teacher for the 2011-2012 school year; and

WHEREAS, the clerk of the board of education or designee gave written notice to **Drew Obermeyer** on the 9th day of May, 2011, that it was the intent of the board of education to nonrenew her contract for the 2011-12 school year; and

WHEREAS, after extensive consideration and thorough discussion the board has determined that the matter should be resolved as follows:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 481, DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS:

Section 1. That the contract of **Drew Obermeyer** be nonrenewed for the 2011-2012 school year;

Section 2. That the clerk of the board of education and/or designee gave **Drew Obermeyer**, personally a signed copy of this resolution.

Casey Riedy moved to accept the presented non-renewal resolution regarding Mr. Drew Obermeyer. Esther Dillon seconded.

Passed 5-1
Jim Barten voting "no"

Esther Dillon moved and Tanya Coons-Reddig seconded to reduce the Superintendent contract to ½ time, ½ fringe benefits, ½ leave, and a salary of \$40,000 per year.

Passed 4-2
Kevin Kniebel and Casey Riedy voting "no"

General Discussion: Ashley Tokoi informed the board the return on service card had been received from Melissa Sweeney. The next step will be a wage garnishment after the allotted time.

Adjournment: Esther Dillon moved to adjourn. Tanya Coons-Reddig seconded.

Passed 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Board President---Duane Blythe

Board Clerk---Ashley Tokoi

Date Approved:

