

Rural Vista USD 481 Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
November 14, 2011
Hope, Kansas
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Jim Barten, Duane Blythe, Larry Goracke, Vicki Gruber, Theresa McCreath, Casey Riedy

Board Members Absent: Esther Dillon

Others Present: Renae Hickert (Superintendent), Brad Kempf (WC Principal), Michael Teeter (Hope Principal), Joan Anderson (Board Clerk), Katrina Zimmerman, Jason Britt, Angelina Zimmerman, Roger W. Zimmerman, Amy Allen (School Auditor)

Call to Order

The USD 481 Board of Education meeting was called to order by President Jim Barten.

Consent Agenda

Theresa McCreath moved, Larry Goracke seconded, to approve the consent agenda.
Motion Carried 6-0

Adoption of the November Agenda

Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to approve the November agenda with the following addition: under Executive Session, Gary Schrader will be added to the list of Emergency Substitutes; under General Discussion, Hope Library Discussion will be added as 8C.
Motion Carried 6-0

Public Presentation

Duane Blythe moved, Theresa McCreath seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, Katrina Zimmerman, Jason Britt, Angelina Zimmerman, and Roger Zimmerman go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters concerning a student; and that the board will return to the open meeting at 7:20 p.m.
Motion Carried 5-1 (Larry Goracke opposed)

The Board of Education returned to the open meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Duane Blythe moved, Theresa McCreath seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, Katrina Zimmerman, Jason Britt, Angelina Zimmerman, and Roger Zimmerman go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters concerning a student; and that the board will return to the open meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-1 (Larry Goracke opposed)

The Board of Education returned to the open meeting at 7:25 p.m.

For governmental relations, Duane Blythe informed the board about the discussions held concerning redistricting, education funding, and the collecting of taxes in Kansas.

New Business

Amy Allen from Aldrich & Company, LLC presented the district's 2010-11 fiscal audit report to the board. Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to accept the financial report.

Motion Carried 6-0

Principal Teeter and Principal Kempf shared items of interest with the board concerning their respective schools.

Duane Blythe moved, Casey Riedy seconded, to take a ten minute break and return to the open meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Motion Carried 6-0

The Board of Education returned to open meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Old Business

Discussion was held concerning items listed in the Efficiency School Review on opportunities and recommendations for improvement to the school district. Superintendent Hickert informed the board that she has been working on some of the items. She will continue implementing and gathering more information concerning others. It was also noted that the district needs to pursue all avenues for attracting families to the area to help increase enrollment.

Since USD 481 no longer has a Nepotism Policy, Superintendent Hickert presented a statement that, with board approval, would be attached to the policy book stating why the district chose to remove the Nepotism Policy. This would allow future board members an insight into the reasoning behind the removal of the Nepotism policy. Vicki Gruber moved, Duane Blythe seconded, to approve the following statement to be placed in the policy book:

“As the Rural Vista School District is comprised of small communities, the employment pool can be limited for classified staff, substitute teachers, and hard to fill teaching positions. It is for this reason that the Rural Vista Board of Education voted to remove the Nepotism Policy from its policies in September 2011.

The former Nepotism Policy is stored in the policy archive file in the district office.”
Motion Carried 4-2 (Larry Goracke & Jim Barten opposed)

Executive Session

Casey Riedy moved, Theresa McCreath seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, and Principals go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to the open meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Motion Carried 6-0

The Board of Education returned to open meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Vicki Gruber moved, Casey Riedy seconded, to approve Joe Williams and Gary Schrader as District Substitutes.

Motion Carried 6-0

Casey Riedy moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to approve Dawn Johnson as Hope school cook.

Motion Carried 6-0

Casey Riedy moved, Duane Blythe seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, and Principals go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to the open meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Motion Carried 6-0

The Board of Education returned to open meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Superintendent Hickert formally submitted her resignation to the board effective June 30, 2012. Larry Goracke moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to accept the resignation of Superintendent Hickert.

Motion Carried 6-0

Duane Blythe moved, Casey Riedy seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, and Principals go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters concerning a student; and that the board will return to the open meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Motion Carried 6-0

The Board of Education returned to open meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Duane Blythe moved, Theresa McCreath seconded, that the Board of Education, Superintendent, and Principals go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters concerning a student; and that the board will return to the open meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Motion Carried 6-0

The Board of Education returned to open meeting at 9:50 p.m.

General Discussion

Discussion was held concerning non-school related fundraisers at school functions. Superintendent Hickert will find out from other districts what their policy is concerning this matter.

The KASB convention will be held December 2-4. Any board member interested in going should contact the district office so necessary arrangements can be made.

Board member Vicki Gruber, who now works at the Hope public library, was concerned about the preschool not receiving library time. She informed the board that the Hope Public Library received a grant. This grant allows her the opportunity to go to the Hope School library every other week and have library time not only with the preschool, but with children in PreK through second grade.

Adjournment

Casey Riedy moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to adjourn.

Motion Carried 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Jim Barten, President

Joan Anderson, Board Clerk

Approved: