

**Rural Vista USD 481
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
March 13, 2017
White City, Kansas
7:00pm**

Board Members Present:

Jim Barten, Theresa McCreath, Chad Johnson, Tracy Schmidt, Mike Jacobson, David Whitehair, Vicki Gruber

Others Present:

Joann Kahnt (The Prairie Post), JR Sparke (The Herington Times), Sarah Loquist (KASB), Barb Stroda, Steve Stroda, Taylor Ryker, Kam Sandow, Crystal Carson, Jenny Shelton (ISE), Joel Kahnt (WC Principal), Mike Teeter (Hope Principal), Ralph Blevins (Superintendent)

Call to Order: President Jim Barten called the USD 481 Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:00pm

Adoption of February Meeting Agenda:

David Whitehair moved to accept the February meeting agenda with the following addition. Theresa McCreath seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0.

Under New Business/Resignations, add an additional resignation.

Jim Barton moved to approve the agenda with the additional resignation.
Chad Johnson seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0.

Public Presentation:

Citizens Open Forum

There was no one present who wished to address the board.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Governmental Relations

No report was given.

Old Business:

Informational Item regarding Fund Accounts

Board was presented with an email from auditor regarding these accounts. No discussion or questions.

Approval of 2017-2018 USD 481 School Calendar

Vicki Gruber comments about having board meetings on the same nights as parent teacher conferences during the month of March.

Joel Kahnt and Mike Teeter comment about Spring Break and would like to move the "no school" from March 16th and instead join it with the Monday after Easter. They express concerns regarding having several four day weeks in a row.

Discussion was held but no action was taken.

Insurance Issue

Ralph Blevins informed the board that he has submitted paperwork to BCBS and is still awaiting a reply.

403b Retirement Plan

Mike Jacobson moved to go into executive session with the superintendent and principals, for 10 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Chad Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 7:14pm

The board returned to open session at 7:24pm

Hope Playground

Mike Teeter reports needing more mulch for the Hope playground. The amount of mulch ordered when the project began was not accurate. They need approximately 4 more bags to complete the playground. They can order these bags at the same discounted rate as they ordered the other mulch.

Mike Jacobson moved to accept Mr. Teeter's Request.

Vicki Gruber seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

Bullying Prevention Policy:

Informational report was given by Lori Kasten.

New Business:

Personnel:

Tracy Schmidt moved to go into executive session with Sarah Loquist (KASB Attorney), for 30 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Chad Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 7:37pm with Board President, Jim Barten, not partaking.

The board returned to open session at 8:07pm.

Teresa McCreath moved for approximately a 5 minute bathroom break and then to return to executive session with Sarah Loquist (KASB Attorney), for 15 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Mike Jacobson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

The board went into executive session at 8:15pm.

The board returned to open session at 8:30pm.

Tracy Schmidt moved to return to executive session with Sarah Loquist (KASB Attorney), for 10 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Chad Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

The board went into executive session at 8:31pm.

The board returned to open session at 8:41pm. Board President, Jim Barten, rejoined the meeting at this time.

Resignations:

The board was presented with a letter of resignation from Nancy Morgan from the White City Title 1 Teacher, Head Teacher, and White City High School scholars bowl coach. Joe Ross also submitted his resignation letter from the Hope Physical Education teacher and coaching position. Both resignations are effective the end of the current school year.

Tracy Schmidt moved to accept the resignation of Joe Ross and Nancy Morgan.

Vicki Gruber seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

Negotiations:

For informational purposes a timeline for negotiations deadline dates were presented to the board. Board members requested to receive the link for "training for negotiations." The negotiations team was not decided upon at this time.

Ralph Blevins presented the board with the current policy on negotiations and recommended a change of dates. He recommended that the deadline for teacher's to submit their eligibility for a change on the salary schedule be on or before September 1st of the current school year instead of on or before February 1st of the current school year. This wordage change would prevent salary increases from falling during the middle of a school year.

Theresa McCreath moved to change the date from "on or before February 1st" to "on or before September 1st."

Motion seconded by Chad Johnson.

Motion carried 7-0.

Review of November 2017 Board Elections:

The board was presented with a preliminary draft of the USD 481 Board of Education positions that will be up for election at the November 2017 general election. The board approved the preliminary draft and asked that the positions be posted in local newspapers as well.

School Nutrition Program:

Chelsey Schmidt asked the board for their approval to be appointed as the New Authorized Representative for the School Nutrition Programs. There are several reports that Chelsey will submit to this program on a monthly basis. The authorized representative is currently listed under a former employee.

Theresa McCreath moved to appoint Chelsey Schmidt as the new authorized representative for the School Nutrition Programs.

Mike Jacobson seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of legal services from KASB:

Board members were presented with a purchase order for KASB legal services.

Tracy Schmidt moved to approve, sign, and pay the purchase order and amount.
Mike Jacobson seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0.

Foreign Exchange Student:

Mike Teeter informed the board that there are possibly 2 foreign exchange students that are going to be placed with a host family that would require them to attend school at USD 481. Kim Sandow, the host family for the foreign exchange students, was given 3 minutes to speak to the board on this matter. Jenny Shelton, the foreign exchange student representative, also spoke to the board members.

Theresa McCreath moved to go into executive session with the principals and superintendent, for 10 minutes, for the purpose of discussing matters concerning a potential student.
Tracy Schmidt seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 8:56pm.

The board returned to open session at 9:06pm.

No further action or discussion.

Appointments:

Mike Teeter informs the board that he has a recommendation for the Hope Business teacher position opening.

Theresa McCreath moves to go into executive session with the principals and superintendent, for 5 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.
Tracy Schmidt seconded the motion.
Motion carried 7-0

The board entered executive session at 9:10pm.

The board returned to open session at 9:15pm.

Vicki Gruber moved to accept Anne Jirak as the new business teacher for Hope, starting in August 2017.

Theresa McCreath seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

Transportation Secretary:

Ralph Blevins reports that he has a recommendation for an employee to assist with transportation documentation.

Theresa McCreath moved to go into executive session with principals and superintendent, for 2 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Mike Jacobson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 9:17pm.

The board returned to open session at 9:19pm.

No action or further discussion at this time.

Hope Bus Barn

Ralph Blevins informs the board of structural repairs that are needed for the Hope bus barn. The board was presented with a bid from David Stroda Construction regarding all of the repairs needed and the estimated cost for labor and materials. The board would like this project to be posted in the local newspapers for open bid. They would like to be presented with all bids at the next meeting.

No further action or discussion.

Principal Contracts

No discussion at this time.

Teaching Positions

There are currently positions open for a music teacher and the FACS position at Hope. Additionally the positions of Nancy Morgan and Joe Ross will now be open, effective the end of this school year.

No further action or discussion at this time.

Coaching Positions

Joel Kahnt and Mike Teeter report that they would like to submit an internal notification for all open coaching positions. They will report back to the board at the next meeting.

Administrative Updates

Hope Principal

Mike Teeter discusses the HS girls and HS boys basketball teams qualifying for the state tournaments. Parent Teacher conferences started 13th and 14th of this month. Employee of Green Bush came and gave ESOL test. They are working towards getting an employee certified in the Migrant Program and ESOL teacher. National FFA week was the 21st-24th. FFA/AG Updates were given from Mike Teeter via Crystal Carson. They are offering CDL Training for those interested. Crystal Carson would like to provide assistance to those affected by the fires in western Kansas and involve the students by going the 30th of March through April 2nd. She would require the students interested have signed parental permission. The school would only provide transportation and have a liability waiver.

Vicki Gruber moves to provide a bus for the rural vista students to go to Ashland for recovery efforts, provided that waivers are completed, etc.

Chad Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

White City Principal

Joel Kahnt discusses the test security for state assessments coming up and the Jason Flatt Act on Suicide Prevention. Early childhood screenings were rescheduled due to basketball for April 13th. State Assessments are coming up. Prom is going to be April 20th. Track Practice has also began.

Superintendent

No updates or reports to be given at this time.

David Whitehair moves to go into executive session with Sarah Loquist (KASB Attorney) and superintendent, for 10 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Chad Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 9:42pm.

Superintendent, Ralph Blevins, left the executive session at 9:45pm.

Board members Chad Johnson and Mike Jacobson left the executive session at 9:46pm.

Chad Johnson and Mike Jacobson returned to the executive session at 9:48pm

Chelsey Schmidt was invited into executive session at 9:48pm.

Chelsey Schmidt, Chad Johnson, and Mike Jacobson left the executive session at 9:49pm

The board returned to open session at 9:52pm.

Mike Jacobson moved to place Ralph Blevins, superintendent, on administrative leave with pay effective immediately.

David Whitehair seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-1, with Jim Barten dissenting.

Chad Johnson moved to go into executive session with Sarah Loquist (KASB Attorney), for 10 minutes, for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Mike Jacobson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

The board went into executive session at 9:55pm.

The board returned to open session at 10:05pm.

Jim Barten notifies the board of his resignation as Board President effective immediately.

Tracy Schmidt moved to accept Jim Barten's resignation as board president but to remain on the board as a member.

David Whitehair seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1, with Chad Johnson dissenting.

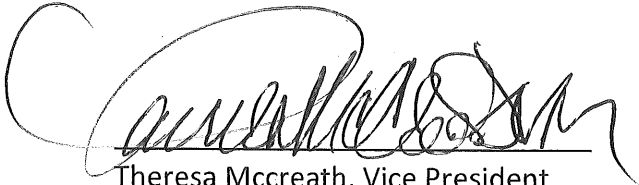
Tracy Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting.

David Whitehair seconded the motion.

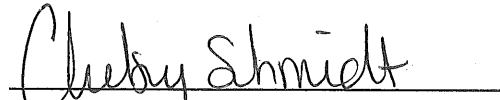
Motion carried 7-0.

The board meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm

Approved:



Theresa McCreath, Vice President



Chelsey Schmidt, Board Clerk