

**Minutes (DRAFT; Pending BOE Approval)**

**Work Session & Regular BOE Meeting  
Unified School District No. 473, Chapman, KS**

**February 14, 2022**

**Brenda Edleston, Board President, convened the Work Session at 6:04 pm.**

**Other Board Members Present: Brian Rock, Vice-President, Kelly Kuntz, Mike Rutz & Jerry Wright (Todd Frieze and Betsy Edwards were absent.)**

**Also Present: Kevin Suther - Superintendent, Michele Sutter - Board Clerk and Keven Ward**

**Jerry Wright made the motion to adopt the agenda. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 5-0.**

**Mr. Keven Ward, TRANE Strategic Programs Consultant, was invited to share with the Board their findings of their recent study of our building's HVAC units and controls. They also advised the Board they are working directly with Superintendent Suther and Rick Hall and are mapping out a plan. He said they are planning on coming back to us in March with the next step in the process. Some things can be easily remedied and fixed very quickly. He hopes that there will be an approval in the engineering design for the scope of work in March or April.**

(Betsy Edwards in at 6:28 pm)

**Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adjourn. Jerry Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

**Work session adjourned at 6:54 pm.**

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**Brenda Edleston, Board President, called the Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Guests introduced themselves.**

**Mike Rutz made a motion to adopt the agenda. Brian Rock seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

**Jerry Wright made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

- 3.01 Approve the Minutes from the Regular January 10th, 2022 Meeting
- 3.02 Financial Reports: Treasurer, Food Service, Petty Cash
- 3.03 Payment of Bills
- 3.04 Out-of-District Requests
- 3.05 In-District Transfer Requests
- 3.06 Public Participation

**Betsy Edwards made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for (15) minutes in order to discuss a legal matter pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 7:22 pm. Angie Stallbaumer is invited in to the session via phone and Superintendent Suther is also invited in. Brian Rock seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

(The Board returned to open session at 7:22 pm)

**Brian Rock made a motion for the Board to extend their Executive Session for (15) minutes in order to discuss a legal matter pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 7:37 pm. Angie Stallbaumer is invited in to the session via phone and Superintendent Suther is also invited in. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

(The Board returned to open session at 7:37 pm)

**OLD Business:**

**Superintendent Suther gave an update on COVID as Nurse Tara could not be at the meeting. He reported that we did not go over the 10% guideline and therefore, no buildings required masks. Nurse Tara still tests at the Middle School every day but that number is falling in the amount of tests needing to be given. Superintendent Suther commends everyone for getting through the month of January which had an increase in absences. The last two weeks have been significantly better.**

**Jerry Wright made a motion to continue our current COVID protocols. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

**NEW Business:**

Cheri Simpson introduced Jessica Murphy, RC PTO President and Illa Beemer who were there to talk about the 70th Anniversary of Rural Center Elementary. They wanted to have a large celebration but COVID sidelined the celebration so they came up with a couple of non-contact ways to celebrate instead. One is a cookbook and another is a special t-shirt. They shared if the public would like either one to please let Cheri Simpson know and she will get those ordered.

They told how the school was founded in 1951 and built in 1952. In March of 1951, (7) one room school houses consolidated. Mrs. Ira Engle won \$10 with her winning name of Rural Center. The fall of 1952 saw the grand opening and Ila was an 8th grader. She told how thrilling it was that the new school had in-door plumbing and how a school bus picked her up each day. School always started the Tuesday after Labor Day and lasted for (8) months. The day was 9 am to 4 pm. The last day of school was always a community event and ended with a baseball game between the boys and their dads. She said Kindergarten was added in 1962 and it was a half day and was located in the gymnasium. The blackboard that was used is still there. In 1966 Rural Center became a part of USD 473. The 7th and 8th grades left in the fall of 1968. The 6th grade left in 2000. It currently houses Pre-School (Wee Clovers) through the 5th grade.

Superintendent Suther shared the BLT (Building Leadership Team) went to Topeka last Thursday. Also, the team had decided to put a video together about reading by utilizing the CHS Journalism Department. Mrs. Shasta Acheson, CHS Journalism Teacher, along side multiple students, created a video with the vision and approach to literacy throughout the district. The team was very surprised when they were in their meeting in Topeka that their video was introduced to a legislative committee and the Commissioner of Education. They wanted to show them how USD 473 is a great example of a systematic approach to improving students in reading.

The FastBridge Fall to Winter 2021-22 Growth chart was shared. If our students continue to make gains, there will be substantial growth by the spring. Currently, 75% of students have made either typical or accelerated growth.

Stacy Smiley and Jacqueline Dautel were there to speak on ELA (English/Language Arts adoption) and give a curriculum update. They shared with the Board a video entitled "The Truth About Reading" that was a moving video educating about the number of people who cannot read in our country. The district has used the same K-5 curriculum (Reading Street) for approximately the last (14) years. With a 100% consensus, the team voted to adopt McGraw Hill's "Open Court". The vote was 9-0. It has a 2022 copyright and also meets the Dyslexia initiative plus science of reading objective. The quote for K-5 for (6) years, including some training was \$194,133.71. This amount has been submitted for Federal ESSER III reimbursement for student learning loss during the pandemic. Mike Rutz made the motion to approve the new Reading K-5 Curriculum. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Brian Rock made a motion to approve the donation from Astra Bank. Jerry Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Betsy Edwards made the motion to keep the driver's ed fee at \$225.00. Jerry Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Suther shared all class sizes with the Board and said our enrollment is a solid 1,085. To date we are slightly higher than this but that is the number the state will use to configure our state funding.

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to reschedule the March BOE meeting from the 14th to the 7th since the 14th is during the district's Spring Break. Brian Rock seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Brenda Edleston shared with the Board an idea for "BOE Service Awards". She is asking the Board to consider a yearly award for faculty and staff for service that goes above and beyond. Superintendent Suther is checking the state statute regarding monetary awards. *This will be on the March agenda as an action item.*

The Board Self-Evaluation Tool was discussed. The Board doesn't like this tool because it cannot be measured. Superintendent Suther will reach out to KASB for some other tools or maybe some other sources. We would like a quality tool. Brenda Edleston said that she, Brian Rock, Superintendent Suther and Clerk Michele Sutter will research some other tools and will try to find some options to look at before the March 7th BOE meeting.

Brian Rock made the motion to go into Executive Session for (15) minutes in order to discuss personnel items pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 9:10 pm. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Superintendent Suther was invited in.

(The Board returned to open session at 9:10 pm)

Mike Rutz made the motion to go back into Executive Session for (10) minutes in order to discuss personnel items pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 9:20 pm. Brian Rock seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Superintendent Suther was invited in.

(The Board returned to open session at 9:20 pm)

Brian Rock made the motion to go back into Executive Session for (5) minutes in order to discuss personnel items pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 9:25 pm. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Superintendent Suther was invited in.

(The Board returned to open session at 9:25 pm)

Brian Rock made the motion to approve the personnel items that were presented. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

**Retirement:**

1. Loretta Fisher - CMS Head Secretary

**Resignations:**

1. Matthew Cuadra - CMS Math Teacher & Coaching Positions
2. Wyatt Rutherford - CHS Asst Football Coach
3. Jessica Westfall - ENT Headstart part-time Custodian
4. Clint Merritt - Assistant Football Coach

**NEW Hires:**

1. Perry Wiggins - Baseball Asst. Coach
2. Tim Gottschalk - Baseball Asst. Coach

**Kelly Kuntz made the motion to extend the Administrator's contracts that were presented, through 2024. Jerry Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

Mary Wright - MS Principal  
Rita Hinck - CES Principal  
Afton Diehl - BR & ENT Principal

**Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adjourn. Brian Rock seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.**

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**Brenda Edleston, Board President**

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**Michele Sutter, Board Clerk**