

# Minutes

## **Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Unified School District No. 473, Chapman, KS**

**February 13, 2023**

**Brenda Edleston, School Board President, called the Regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 pm at the Education Center located at 822 N. Marshall, Chapman, KS.**

**Board Members Present: Vice-President Brian Rock, Jerry Wright, Betsy Edwards, Mike Rutz, Kelly Kuntz and Todd Frieze**

**Also Present: Kevin Suther - Superintendent, Michele Sutter - Board Clerk Jordan Rose, Cheri Simpson, Afton Diehl, Kate Thornton, Clint Merritt, Mary Wright, Jennifer Tiller, Tanith Elliott, Justin Wisner-McLane, Samuel Elliott, Heidi Diercks, Grace Merritt, Sara Merritt, Carly Rothfuss, Nick Anderson and Jamie Bonnema**

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**Mike Rutz made the motion to adopt the agenda. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**Brian Rock made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Jerry Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

### **Consent Agenda**

- 3.01 Approve the Minutes from the Regular January 9th, 2023 BOE Meeting*
- 3.02 Financial Reports: Treasurer, Food Service, Petty Cash*
- 3.03 Payment of Bills*
- 3.04 Public Participation*

### **SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS**

**Heidi Diercks, Scholars' Bowl Coach, brought several students last night to talk about their year with a re-cap of the season. They included:**

#### Juniors:

Mark Buus  
Tanith Elliott  
Hunter Taphorn

#### Sophomore:

Kallie Bergamo  
Gabbie Diercks

**What is Scholars' Bowl? It is a KSHSAA varsity and jr. varsity activity in**

which teams of 3 to 5 students compete head-to-head to answer 16 academic questions from all areas of knowledge. Each student brings something to the table with the knowledge they have. They all have their strengths and even their weaknesses, so it's a well-rounded team with a wealth of knowledge. The questions come from language arts, science and health, social science and math. Also, two come from fine arts. This year they only had one senior on the team but next year they should have a very strong JV and Varsity team due to upcoming underclassman according to Mrs. Diercks. This year they competed in 9 meets all over Kansas while placing 2nd in the NCKL. Mrs. Diercks said it was a very good experience and the kids had a lot of fun.

Kate Thornton was next up showcasing several of her seniors who each are taking their own path to graduation and they are all different from one another. Here are just a few stories...

Nick Anderson - He spoke about the college classes he's taking through Cloud County Community College. Most classes are 3 college hours and he took 20 hours of concurrent classes. These classes were challenging and provided a head start in college.

Grace Merritt - She spoke about the CEO Program she's involved with which stands for "Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities." Grace spoke about several projects they completed this year and how she has been given many real world experiences. Her project is to start a photography business. CHS is hosting a trade show on April 24th at the High School.

Carly Rothfuss - She is doing a "Work Based Learning" program by working at the Spring Valley Vet office. She is allowed to leave early from school in order to go and get real world experience by working.

Justin Wisner-McLane - He is participating in a health science internship at Memorial Hospital in Abilene which is the final class of the Health Pathway. They shadow health professionals and even get to watch some surgeries. His goal is to become an RN.

Sam Elliott - He attends Salina Vo-Tech and is doing the welding program. When he graduates, Sam will have his welding certification at the same time as his high school diploma. He was encouraged during his Freshman and Sophomore years by his Ag Instructors to pursue welding and Sam applied for and received a full scholarship for this opportunity.

Next, Mrs. Thornton along with Clint Merritt, spoke about what happens on Fridays during Advisory at CHS. They call it, "Post-Secondary Success Friday". Friday afternoon in advisory time is the block schedule. They have re-branded the advisory time to include:

Literacy - Every Advisory Teacher has their own book club. There are 21 or 22 currently.

**Attendance - The BLT teachers assigned standards for attendance to qualify.**

**Individual Plans of Study - Starting with the 8th and 9th graders, students are creating a digital e-portfolio for future scholarships and jobs.**

**Their final goal at CHS is to get every student in an activity and also participate in community service.**

**Mr. Merritt said they presented this in their KESA presentation last week for accreditation.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**There was no old business.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Superintendent Suther presented the District's enrollment information (to date). Our enrollment has increased. Last year we were at 1,087 students. This fall we enrolled 1,134.**

**Driver's Ed - We are staying with the Greenbush program again this summer. The prices have again increased and since we've been at \$225 a student, Superintendent Suther requested we increase to \$250 a student to help offset some of the higher cost. Last year we had 59 students and they all completed the course. We needed 3 drivers to tackle this. After this year, we will have 2 additional drivers who will have become certified to teach the course within the district through the Fort Hays State University Driver's Education certification program. This year's Driver's Ed meeting for parents is Wednesday, March 1st.**

**Jerry Wright made the motion to accept the donation from Astra Bank for their Chappy debit card program in the amount of \$1,397.52. Betsy Wright seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**Brian Rock made the motion to declare (2) 18 passenger buses and (2) 72 passenger buses as surplus. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**Brenda Edleston talked about the Board of Education Service awards that will once again be honoring two outstanding employees of the District. One for "Outstanding Service to District" and one for "Outstanding Service to Students." These are peer nominated awards and can be anyone who is employed by USD 473. Board Clerk Michele Sutter will send out a Google form for nominations on Tuesday, February 14th that will be due back to her on Thursday, March 9th. During the March 20th meeting, the Board of Education will go over the forms in Executive Session and will make their selections. Those chosen will be honored at the April 12th Employee**

## **Appreciation Dinner.**

### **Board Self-Evaluation Tool:**

**Superintendent Suther designed a new form for the Board to use last year. It is Board Policy to do this annually. We will send the self-evaluation form out to the Board on Tuesday, February 14th and it is to be returned to Brenda Edleston no later than Tuesday, February 28th. She will compile the results and present them at the March 20th Board meeting for discussion.**

**Kelly Kuntz made the motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for (20) 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 8:28 pm. The Board will first take a break from 8:03 pm to 8:08 pm before beginning the session. Superintendent Suther was invited into the session. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**The Board returned to open session at 8:28 pm**

**Brian Rock made the motion to extend the following Administrator's contracts for (1) additional year:**

**Kate Thornton - CHS Principal**

**Clint Merritt - CHS Asst. Principal and Athletic Director**

**Mary Wright - CMS Principal**

**Afton Diehl - BR & ENT Elementary Principal**

**Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**Jerry Wright made the motion to approve the personnel changes that were presented to the Board. Todd Frieze seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0. They were:**

#### **Resignations:**

Merissa Hiatt - Middle School English Teacher

#### **Transfers:**

Diana June - Transfer from 2nd Grade Enterprise Elementary to 6th Grade Language Arts CMS

#### **New Hires:**

Wade Chamberlin - Custodian

**Todd Frieze made the motion to adjourn. Betsy Edwards seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.**

**Meeting Adjourned - 8:31 pm**

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**Brenda Edleston; School Board President**

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**Michele L. Sutter; Board Clerk**