

Minutes

Special Meeting of the Board of Education Unified School District No. 473, Chapman, KS

April 24, 2023

Brenda Edleston, School Board President, called the *Special* meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:00 pm at the Education Center located at 822 N. Marshall, Chapman, KS.

**Board Members Present: President Brenda Edleston, Jerry Wright, Betsy Edwards, Kelly Kuntz, Todd Frieze & Mike Rutz
(Vice President Brian Rock was absent)**

Also Present: Kevin Suther - Superintendent and Michele Sutter - Board Clerk

Afton Diehl, Cheri Simpson, Stacy Smiley, Kate Thornton and Mary Wright

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adopt the agenda. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 5-0.

This was a Work Session for the Board to discuss Social Emotional & Culture. The Board has chosen to have Work Sessions in order to revisit the three goals they set for themselves. This is goal #2. They are:

- 1. Facilities & Safety**
- 2. Social Emotional & Culture**
- 3. Instruction & Professional Development**

All of the Principals who were in attendance provided examples of what they do in their buildings for the *CharacterStrong Curriculum*. Board members and administrators were able to experience some of the activities and discussions that take place at each level. This occurs daily in the elementary schools during morning meeting and weekly for the secondary level during advisory time.

Stacy Smiley presented on the (7) components of MTSS BSEL. It is a way to help our students with behavior and social emotional needs in a systematic way to build relationships, set standards for each building and how to help with interventions. She shared that this Spring has been all structuring work through the District Level Team and Building Level Teams with the help of TASN. The buildings are getting ready for implementation this Fall with the first four components while working towards having all seven in place by the end of the 2023-24 school year. The (7) components are:

- 1. Positive Relationships**
- 2. Structured Expectations**
- 3. Social Emotional Learning**
- 4. Universal Instructional Practices to Increase Engagement**
- 5. Feedback and Response System**
- 6. Data-based Decision Making**
- 7. Tiered Systems of Support**

The Principals shared what their buildings are doing for the "Family Engagement Action Plans".

Some of the examples from the buildings include: better communication to explain how to use programs like powerschool, social media posts, positive post cards home, FFA home visits with all new students, advisory teachers contacting all parents in the first couple weeks to help answer questions plus welcome them and sending newsletters home to inform parents on what is being covered in the curriculum.

Afton Diehl shared about her schools participating in the "2 x 10 - 2 minutes per day for 10 consecutive days - NOT in the classroom". A Teacher meets with a student outside of the classroom with someone who is not in their class. They talk for 2 minutes a day for 10 consecutive days. If the student is absent, they continue until they can accomplish 10 contacts. The idea is to create a connection beyond academics and give a student a sense of belonging. Mrs. Diehl participates in this as well and shared what a wonderful experience it is for both the educator and student to find out new things about each other.

Stacy Smiley showed the data from surveys this year involving the Family Engagement Survey and with the staff called the Inclusive MTSS Implementation Scale.

When it comes to interventions for students with the most need, the process revolves around the method of A B C's.

**"Absenteeism"
"Behavior"
"Course Grades"**

Stacy Smiley shared that in the Fall, quite a bit of time will be devoted to BSEL Development along with our continued focus in both ELA and Math. Superintendent Suther recapped that this is our Goal #2 so we are putting a lot of effort into helping both students and teachers to develop a safe and positive culture.

BOARD'S SELF-EVALUATION RESULTS

Brenda Edleston spoke about the 21-22 Board Self Evaluation. She shared that

according to the scores, they scored very high in all but (2) topics.

1. Increasing relationships with the community

2. Board Academic Purpose - The Board helps foster an academic environment to help students reach their potential. The board writes policy; the administrators implement the procedures needed.

Brenda Edleston wants to know if the Board needs to be evaluated by the employees? She also shared ways to create open communication with scheduled gatherings that could take place and what the focus and purpose would be. The other board members also shared some ideas involving the topic of better communication.

Brenda Edleston shared that we have a potential of having (4) NEW Board members starting in January of 2024. We need to plan ahead to have immediate training with the new members.

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adjourn. Mike Rutz seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned - 8:00 pm

Brenda Edleston; Board President

Michele Sutter; Clerk of the Board