

Minutes

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

March 18, 2024

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.

Other Board Members Present: Kelly Kuntz, Mike Rutz, Dana Obermeyer, Jessica Murphy and Jennifer Elliott (Betsy Edwards, Vice-President, in at 7:39 pm)

Also Present: Kevin Suther - Superintendent, Michele Sutter - Board Clerk Kate Thornton, Kyle Cook, Kara Wilkins, Joseph Raat, Marcus Reed, Drew Elliott, Michael Wahlmeier, Melissa & Addie Sherraden, Robin Schlesener, Cheri Simpson, Ashley Stearns, Genevieve Arveson, Erin & Clara Hamilton, Susan Steinour, Dusty Heller, Afton Diehl and Mary Wright (*guests introduced themselves*)

Jennifer Elliott made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

3.01 Approve the minutes from Regular February 12th, 2024 BOE meeting

3.02 Financial reports: Treasurer, Food Service, Petty Cash

3.03 Payment of Bills

3.04 Public Participation

SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS:

CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY WRITING PRESENTATION

The third grade teachers at Chapman Elementary School, Mrs. Arveson and Ms. Schlesener, presented how they incorporate writing from the Blue Band of the Open Court Curriculum. They brought along (2) students to read their "fantasy" stories.

Clara Hamilton read her story, "Me and the Zombie Apocalypse" and Addie Sherraden read her story, "The Crystal". They were both entertaining and the board thoroughly enjoyed them.

Mrs. Arveson expressed how thankful they are with the new schedule the last two years to have a dedicated block of time between 90 to 120 minutes depending on the grade level for ELA/writing. The new curriculum called Open Court has provided the need resources to help with the lessons. It has been a district focus this year to instill much more emphasis on writing which can truly help with comprehension skills.

CHAPMAN HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS, "GEOMETRY IN CONSTRUCTION CLASS"

A new class opportunity that took place starting this school year was presented by Chapman High School math teacher, Mr. Wahlmeier and woods teacher, Mr. Raat. They brought along a couple of students to talk about what they've have gotten out of the new class format and projects.

Mrs. Kate Thornton explained that this came to be when Mr. Raat saw the idea of Geometry in Construction while at a conference. Mrs. Thornton looked into the idea and found a grant that completely funded the start up of the program. They both went to a training in Lawrence for one week. They received a ton of information that got them excited about teaching the class with a hands on approach. They double-blocked the class to be 2nd and 3rd hour for 90 minutes each day. Mr. Wahlmeier teaches the technical part of math and Mr. Raat teaches the construction side. Currently there are 18 students enrolled in this class. Technical Math has been approved to count for a credit towards their graduation requirements. It is also approved by the clearinghouse to be used for eligibility for an NCAA athlete.

On Mr. Raat's side, they start out learning how to draw and create blue prints. As the math gets more difficult, so do the construction projects. The grant they received purchased a couple of Pitsco kits. This allowed students to design and build a small interior of a house. They are now building a full shed from start to finish which is being transported to a house just across the street from the High School to be used.

Marcus Reed, CHS student, shared that he enjoys working hands on, being outside, landscaping and being able to build something. He was really surprised to discover how much of what he loves takes geometry

skills and knowledge. Marcus is really enjoying the class.

Drew Elliott, CHS student, said that this class is preparing him for the "real" world. He loved making the small scaled house and appreciates having math integrated into the class instead of being separate.

Mrs. Thornton said that this is the implementation year and both instructors learned a lot. Mr. Raat will be going this summer to get his NCCER certification so the students can leave with an approved certification in the CTE pathway.

Mr. Wahlmeier said they are going to adapt the curriculum next year to incorporate more ACT prep so they are ready in the spring for the test.

The plan is to finish up the shed project by the end of the year so they can break down the panels to reconstruct in the yard for Mrs. Jennifer Tiller who purchased all the supplies. The teachers stated they will be looking for someone who may have an interest in working with the class for another project build for the 2024-25 school year.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

E-RATE APPLICATION

Kyle Cook explained to the Board about the E-rate application. We contract with Smoky Hill Learning Center to help with the process. There are two parts, Category 1 and Category 2. For Category 2, the money is set aside on a 5 year term. Once you begin using it, you have 5 years to use the amount provided. It is the infrastructure side like switches, connections, wiring and much more. We have approximately \$294,000 set aside from the federal government we can utilize but USD 473 must match dollar for dollar.

Based off of the free and reduced numbers, USD 473 receives a 70% discount while the district pays 30% of the internet bill. RFP's are sent out for bids which included this year Enterprise Elementary and the Chapman schools. The district signs 3 year contracts to then be analyzed if more data capability is needed after that time period. The low bid for this year was from Vyve. Next year, the contracts needing to be rebid are Blue Ridge and Rural Center Elementary.

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to accept the low bid from Vyve for internet service for Enterprise Elementary, Chapman Schools based out of the Education Center and the Transportation Building. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

(Betsy Edwards in at 7:39 pm)

SURPLUS

Stacy Smiley, MTSS Coordinator/Curriculum Coordinator, has requested to sell or dispose of the past unused Elementary Math Curriculum and Secondary ELA Textbooks.

Also, below is the list of items that are not usable by the high school shop and Mr. Raat is requesting that they be put on Purple Wave Auction to be sold:

**Large Industrial Grinder
Atlas Lathe
Saw Stop**

Jennifer Elliott made the motion to designate the past unused curriculum and unused shop equipment for surplus. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

DONATIONS

The Lion's Club made a donation to the District for \$862.62 from their Tootsie Roll Fundraiser. These funds are to be shared with the Special Education Departments in USD 473. Kelly Kuntz made the motion to accept this donation. Betsy Edwards seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

KASB LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND CONTRACT

This is the annual contract for renewal with KASB (Kansas Association of School Boards) organization. The membership allows for access to our Board of Education and administrators to call and get provided legal support for up to five different lawyers on staff that specialize in school law. The membership also provides coverage for updating semi-annual on our board policies, support legislatively on issues, and professional development with their KASB+.

Superintendent Suther is recommending to the Board that we again sign

the Membership Renewal for the Season Pass for 2024-25 at a price of \$12,783.11 and also the Legal Assistance Fund Contract for 2024-25 in the amount of \$2750.00; totaling \$15,533.11. Jessica Murphy made a motion to renew another year with the Option 2 Membership Renewal, along with the Season Pass for 2024-25 and also the Legal Assistance Fund Contract for 2024-25. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT DINNER

The recognition dinner will be held on April 10, 2024 @ 6:30 pm in the High School Commons Area. Invitations were mailed out on March 18th to the Board, the honorees and also the Administrators and Directors.

This year we are celebrating (8) retirees, (4) 15 year honorees, (1) 25 year honoree and finally the Outstanding Service to Students and Outstanding Service to the District honorees.

Please RSVP to Michele Sutter as soon as possible.

SET SPRING WORK SESSION DATES FOR BOARD GOAL #2 PLUS THE BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

The discussion led to having the second work session of the year focus directly about the board self-evaluation and how the board works together as a team using the Working Genius survey information.

**The date will be Monday, May 6, 2024 with the following format:
5:30pm meal served
6pm to 8pm Work Session Meeting at the USD 473 Board Room at the Education Center.**

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to have the Work Session on May 6th as discussed. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

EXTEND DIRECTORS AND SUPERVISOR'S CONTRACTS

Brenda Edleston made the motion to extend contracts for one year for the following:

Andrea Koster - Human Resources Director
Kyle Cook - Information Technology Director
Tara Tiernan - School Nurse
Amanda Zook - School Nurse
Rick Hall - Maintenance Director

Carla Mitchell - Head Custodian Supervisor CHS

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

Jennifer Elliott made the motion to approve all Personnel items presented to the Board:

Resignation/Terminations:

Kayla Kinser - Chapman High School SADD Co-Sponsor

Shasta Acheson - Chapman High School SADD Co-Sponsor

Savana Gorman - Chapman High School Fall Musical Assistant Director

Anna Carter - Chapman High School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach

Transfers:

Trent Armstrong - District Transportation Director

Wyatt Rutherford - Instructional Support Specialist (formally called Library Media Specialist)

New Hires:

Christy Bogart - Rural Center PreK Teacher (Half-time)

Adrienne Koehler - Blue Ridge 2nd Grade Teacher

Colleen Rodriguez - Chapman Elementary Music Teacher

Laurie Rutherford - Enterprise Elementary Principal/At Risk Teacher

Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

Kelly Kuntz made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session in order to discuss Personnel items pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and the open meeting will resume in the Board room no later than 8:45 pm. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

(The Board returned to open session at 8:39 pm)

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adjourn at 8:39 pm. Jennifer Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned - 8:39 pm

Brenda Edleston; Board President

Michele Sutter; Board Clerk