

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
HERINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 487  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
201 EAST HAWLEY  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2006**

David Powell called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of U.S.D. 487 at 5:31 p.m., September 18, 2006, at the Herington Elementary School. Board members and other staff present were: Bret Beye, Steve Biehler, Rod Erickson, Rich DeMont, Rick Hagerman (at the elementary only), Gene Geissert, Superintendent Scott Carter and Board Clerk Anna Gustafson. Phil Brockmeier arrived at 6:55 p.m. Paula Bigham and Diana Floyd were absent.

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Carter changed item 13-B to “Action on Classified and Administrative”. Bret Beye moved (Erickson) to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried 4-0.

**2. TOUR OF FACILITIES**

The tour started at 5:00 p.m. at the elementary school with Principal Rich DeMont conducting the tour. Also present for the tour of facilities were members of the District Planning Task Force, including Georgia Rucker, Alicia Novotny, Leo Schlesener, Shelly Idelman, Dennis Vahsholtz, Beverly Bayes, Terry Hilliard, and Shawn Baird and Matt Krause.

Comments and suggestions:

- Kitchen/cafeteria remodel
- Gym roof – ongoing leaking problem
- Playground equipment needs updated
- Asbestos throughout the building
- Hardware on emergency doors makes doors difficult to open – parts unavailable.

**High School** – Principal Marlo Klassen and Mr. Carter conducted the tour.

- Water drain in front of high school needs to be filled in and water drained away from building.
- Ceiling – blown in asbestos
- While touring the ITV room, Mr. Carter explained the benefits to students and teachers of the available technology.
- Lab tables are not ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant.
- Asbestos floor tile throughout building
- FACS Room – Received facelift last summer with new countertops and other upgrades, including electricity

- Much of kitchen equipment needs to be updated, e.g., dishwasher
- Wall separation in kitchen – not structural problem
- Library needs new carpet/paint. Also considering opening the library two nights per week to the public. Mr. Baird asked about computer use by the public.
- Mr. Carter pointed out the new Computers on Wheels (COW)
- Mr. Carter pointed out that the bleachers in the gym have passed a safety inspection and that there is new tile in the entryway to the high school gym.
- Mr. Geissert stated that the exhaust fans in the gym have been repaired and now close properly.
- Thermostat box in high school south hallway is duct taped. Another means of attaching the box to the wall needs to be found.
- Mr. Carter explained the drainage system that has helped to eliminate water from pooling at the south exit of the connecting corridor.
- Mr. Carter pointed out that the mirrors and pads along walls in the wrestling training room were donated by the Herington Wrestling Club.

**Middle School** – Principal Marlo Klassen and Mr. Carter conducted the tour.

- Recent replacement of gym floor was discussed and an exhaust fan installed in the bleachers to eliminate moisture problem.
- Mr. Carter pointed out the grading work west of middle school that was done for drainage purposes, has been completed.
- North middle school gym doors and west doors going outside will not close. Repairs needed.
- It was suggested that visual cameras in the middle school halls be used.
- Computer lab has all new computer equipment. The lab also has new keyboarding instructors.
- No more noise from the air handling unit in the middle school science room after repair.
- Middle school door latches need to be replaced.
- Heater unit outside Mr. Emig’s room is loose.

The tour of facilities concluded at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Carter thanked members of the District Planning Task Force for taking time to take the tour.

The Board of Education meeting reconvened at 7:10 p.m. at the City/school offices.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bret Beye moved (Erickson) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 21, 2006 and special meetings of August 16, 2006 and September 1, 2006. Motion carried 5-0.

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

No one chose to speak.

**5. PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

Mr. DeMont thanked Kris Burkholder, Craig Albrecht and Jon Utech for MAPs training. The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) donated \$200 to each teacher to use for supplies.

Mr. Klassen reported the following:

- Out of 80 students, Josh Brunner and Chance Berndt finished in 10<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place respectfully in the State Fair spelling bee, September 14.
- The Middle School remembered 9-11 by honoring the Herington Police, Fire, and Rescue departments and EMS. Students also have an opportunity to hang a heart with red, white and blue ribbons if they have a sibling, parent or relative who is active in the military, or a heart with yellow ribbon if they are currently deployed.
- Preparations are underway for the high school musical “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. Currently 27 students are involved.
- Middle School league vocal is scheduled for October 16th in Council Grove.
- The high school student council attended a retreat at Camp Alexander east of Emporia.
- Chris Mueller medaled at the Kaw Valley Cross Country Invitational. The team finished in fourth place.
- TEEN has completed its renovation of going from an analog system to a digital system in the high school ITV room.

**6. COOPERATIVE SOFTBALL**

Phil Brockmeier moved (Beye) to accept the cooperative softball agreement with White City for a period of two (2) years. Motion carried 5-0.

**7. QUARTERLY INTEREST BASED BARGAINING (IBB) DATE**

The Board agreed on scheduling the quarterly IBB meeting sometime during the week of November 6<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carter will contact John Doern for his schedule.

**8. JOINING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL KANSAS (ESSDACK)**

Mr. Carter explained that he is currently looking outside of Smoky Hill Education Service Center (SHESC) for two reasons:

1. Health insurance rates
2. Comparable or better benefits. SHESC membership fees total \$5,600. Cost to join ESSDACK is \$5,020 with \$2,700 of that reimbursable through the state in-service funding. Mr. Carter stated that the district has to be a member of ESSDACK for one year before they allow us into the health insurance pool.

Steve Biehler asked for: (1) more information on benefits received from SHESC; (2) total cost for one year while not eligible for insurance at ESSDACK, and (3) total cost for one year after going on ESSDACK's insurance, including membership fees and insurance.

**9. BOARD CALENDAR – THE YEAR AHEAD**

Mr. Carter prepared a calendar of Board events by month for September, 2006, through August 2007. Board members asked to add “Evaluation of new teacher(s)” and “Administrative structure review and how working” to November, and to move “Finalize superintendent’s evaluation” from January to February.

**10. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REQUEST**

Brooke Smith returned to address the information requested by the Board at the last meeting. Ms. Smith explained that the audit is done in January and that the district’s money was spent on salary; her job description has changed significantly since it was originally done and she briefed the Board on activities designed to enhance the town and school district. The Board asked that Ms Smith give an update of activities no less than quarterly, in person, to the Board of Education.

**11. HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION UPDATE**

Mr. Klassen reported on the roles of Kris Burkholder and Tammie Svitak as lead teachers. Mr. Klassen praised them for all the work they’ve done. Board was concerned about how their stipend equates to the hours each has to spend as lead teacher. The Board asked Mr. Klassen to keep them updated.

Mr. Carter stated that all the teachers need to be complimented. He continued that they’ve taken this opportunity to strengthen their building and it is appreciated.

**12. SITE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP CONFIRMATION**

Mr. Erickson moved (Beye) to approve site council members for the elementary school, middle school, and high school as presented. During the discussion following the motion, the Board asked Mr. Carter for a copy of each site council’s by-laws. Motion carried 5-0.

**13. PERSONNEL**

**A. Executive Session – Personnel**

At 8:14 p.m., Phil Brockmeier made a motion (Biehler) for the Board to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel

matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board returned to the open meeting at 8:29 p.m., and that Mr. Carter attend. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Mr. Brockmeier moved (Beye) for the Board to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board returns to the open meeting at 8:46 p.m., and that Mr. Carter attend. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Mr. Brockmeier moved (Erickson) for the Board to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board returns to the open meeting at 8:53 p.m., and that Mr. Carter attend. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Mr. Erickson moved (Biehler) for the Board to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board returns to the open meeting at 8:59 p.m., and that Mr. Carter attend. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Mr. Brockmeier moved (Biehler) for the Board to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board returns to the open meeting at 9:10 p.m., and that Mr. Carter attend. Motion carried 5-0.

**B. Action on Classified and Administrative**

Mr. Erickson moved (Beye) to increase Marlo Klassen’s salary to \$65,000 including defined benefit, increase Richard DeMont and Scott Carter’s salaries by \$1,100 each and to give Anna Gustafson a salary increase of 4%. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Action on Leave Request**

Phil Brockmeier moved (Beye) to allow a leave request from Tammie Svitak for two personal days on November 20<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup>. Motion carried 5-0.

**14. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Carter reported on the following:

- A. Enrollment**
- B. Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing**
- C. Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)**
- D. Status of Transition (Kindergarten, 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>)**
- E. Natural Gas Bid**

- F. Architect Facilities Committee**
- G. Kansas Association of School Board (KASB) Update**
- H. Credit Card**
- I. Superintendent To-Do List**

**15. RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT**

No minutes.

**16. VOUCHERS**

There was a short discussion, led by Mr. Brockmeier, on the amount of electricity used in the schools and what is being done to control the usage. After the discussion Mr. Erickson moved (Brockmeier) to allow vouchers. Motion carried 5-0.

**17. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

No comments.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:40 p.m., Phil Brockmeier (Biehler) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

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Anna Gustafson, Clerk of the Board

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
David Powell, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_