

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HERINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 487
CITY/SCHOOL OFFICES
19 NORTH BROADWAY
Monday, January 19, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

Diana Floyd called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of U.S.D. 487 at 6:30 p.m. January 19, 2009. Board members and other staff present were: Bret Beye, David Powell, Rod Erickson, Superintendent John Thissen, and Clerk of the Board Robyn Heitfield. Stacey Berndt joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Alan Stuart and Phil Brockmeier were absent.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

David Powell made a motion (Erickson) to add Item 16A. *EXECUTIVE SESSION* to the agenda and adopt as amended. Motion carried 4-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rod Erickson moved (Beye) to approve the minutes of December 15, 2008 and the special meeting of January 14, 2009 as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Several community members spoke on behalf of the churches with regards to late night practice on Wednesday. Current policy states Wednesday evening activities must stop by 8:00 p.m. This has become a struggle for many pastors and religious directors getting students to attend and keeping them involved in church activities. It has become a problem on Sundays as well as different school activities are held in the afternoon and evenings. Members asked the Board to look into a “compromise.”

4. ADMINISTRATORS’ REPORTS

Rich DeMont reported on the following activities at the Elementary:

- The elementary mission statement was revised. Belief statements were added and handed out to parents at the winter program to review and comment and submitted to the site council for approval.
- The spelling bee was held on January 7th. Kobe Monnington was the winner and Mary Cosculluela was runner up. Both will proceed to the county spelling bee.
- Students in grades 3-5 will attend a Blending Assessment Instruction Program (BAIP) on January 21st at the High School.
- Parent involvement night has been scheduled by the PTO for January 28th at 7:00 p.m.
- Presentations on new Social Studies curriculum will be heard by staff members from Scott Foresman and McGraw Hill.

Jon Utech reported on the following:

- Preparation has begun as we are approaching state testing season.
- Staff members attended a technology in-service in Marion hosted by TEEN. They took advantage of learning about many tools provided by this district.
- Requests have been made by staff to look at some new software.

Steve Mies and Mark Cook were not available to report on MS/HS activities as both were supervising athletic events.

5. PRESENTATION ON A-LERT ROOF SYSTEMS

Steve Spade, a representative of A-Lert Roof Systems was present to provide information and a free estimate to manufacture and install a standing seam metal roof system over the classroom sections of the High School building. The estimate came in at an approximate cost of \$580,000 to \$630,000.

6. EXECPTION TO RULE AT HERINGTON ADULT LEARNING CENTER

Because Government is not offered this semester at the High School, two new senior students are requesting the use of the Adult Learning Center to complete a government course needed by them to graduate. These students have not previously failed the class nor are they using it as an alternative school. David Powell made a motion (Erickson) to allow the exception so the students can get the necessary credit and graduate in May. Motion carried 5-0.

7. STATE BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Thissen updated the board regarding the latest news on the State Budget as reported by Dale Dennis with KSDE.

8. DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

A new organizational chart was introduced to the Board by John Thissen. The current chart was last approval was in 2005 and several changes were needed. A request will be made at the February board meeting for approval.

9. DEDICATED ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY FUND

Discussion continued regarding technology updates. A possible conclusion is that technology could be regarded the same way as curriculum with a dedicated budget set each year.

10. NEW SCHOLARSHIP FOR HERINGTON GRADUATES

A gift of \$10,000 was given to the District with the request by Joe Sager Jr., Trustee of the Joan B. Sager Stiles Trust that an ongoing scholarship be set up in her name. This scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior each year and include a brief history of Mrs. Sager Stiles' life. The donation will be transferred into a certificate of deposit and the amount of scholarship will be based on interest accrued from the CD each year. The first Joan B. Sager Stiles Scholarship will be awarded in May 2010.

David Powell moved (Beye) to accept the donation with much gratitude. Motion carried 5-0. A written thank you will be sent to Mr. Sager.

11. WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

The current district policy and handbook sections were given to the Board for review. Suggestions were made and some clarification is needed regarding times within the policy. A group of community and religious leaders will meet with Mark Cook and coaches to discuss this policy and come back to the board in February with a recommendation.

12. PUBLIC USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The closing of the Herington Community Building has increased requests by several community members and groups to use the school facilities. The current policy that was last updated and approved in 1989 was reviewed. Changes were suggested and the board asked Mr. Thissen to come to the February board meeting with new recommendations.

13. FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR FACILITIES UPDATING

A summary of the work session on January 14th was distributed to board members for further discussion. The board looked at different scenarios depending on the State's decision regarding the proposed budget cuts.

14. PERSONNEL

A. Executive Session

At 9:00 p.m., Stacey Berndt made a motion (Powell) for the Board to go into executive session after a 5 minute break for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; with the Board returning to the open meeting at 9:25 p.m., and that Mr. Thissen attend. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Bret Beye moved (Berndt) for the Board to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the Board return to the open meeting at 9:30 p.m., with Mr. Thissen attending. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, David Powell 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 return to the open meeting at 9:35 p.m., with Mr. Thissen attending. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Employee Overtime

The Board reviewed the employee overtime report for December 2008.

C. Hiring Food Service Personnel

Stacey Berndt moved (Powell) to hire Jessica Sjudahl for the open Food Service position. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Administrators' Evaluation and Contracts

David Powell announced the Board had received the administration evaluation during Executive Session.

15. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Budget

The Board was given the current budget summary through December 2008. Stacey Berndt and other Board members extended their appreciation to John Thissen and Robyn Heitfield for due diligence.

B. Credit Cards

Credit card statements were supplied for all cardholders for Board review.

C. Board Policy Audit

The first half of the policy audit payment has been made. The information will be sent to KASB the following week.

D. Filing for Board Elections

The filing for board election is fast approaching the January 27th deadline.

E. IBB Meeting February 4th at 6:00 p.m.

16. OUT OF DISTRICT REQUESTS

A. Executive Session

At 9:40 p.m., Bret Beye made a motion (Powell) for the Board to go into executive session for matters relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a person as a student; with the Board returning to the open meeting at 9:45 p.m., and that Mr. Thissen attend. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Stacey Berndt moved (Beye) to accept the out of district request for Adrina Volkman. Motion carried 5-0.

Stacey Berndt moved (Powell) to decline the second out of district request made. Motion carried 5-0.

17. VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Mr. David Powell (Beye) to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

18. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- A. Financial planning for facilities
- B. CCC Social Studies
- C. Art Curriculum presentation-Animation
- D. IBB
- E. Revision of Crisis Response Plan
- F. District Organizational Chart
- G. Budget report
- H. Technology report
- I. Building fees
- J. Wednesday evening activities

19. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- The recreation commission was asking about possible contribution to the concession stand project at the baseball/softball fields.
- Students are filming and broadcasting high school activities on the local cable channel with the camera system provided by Tri County Telephone.
- Contact needs to be made with Smoky Hill Education Services to work out an arrangement for changes to the District's website software (SOCS).

20. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:55 p.m. Bret Beye made a motion (Erickson) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Robyn Heitfield, Clerk of the Board of Education

Attest: _____
Diana Floyd, President

Date: _____