

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HERINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 487
CITY/SCHOOL OFFICES
19 NORTH BROADWAY
Monday, October 20, 2008
6:30 P.M.**

Mrs. Diana Floyd called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of U.S.D. 487 at 6:30 p.m. October 20, 2008. Board members and other staff present were: Mr. Alan Stuart, Mr. Phil Brockmeier, Mr. Bret Beye, Mrs. Stacey Berndt, Mr. Rod Erickson, Superintendent John Thissen, and Clerk of the Board Robyn Heitfield. Mr. David Powell was absent.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Bret Beye moved (Berndt) to adopt the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A correction was requested in the minutes of September 15, 2008. **Agenda Item 2C, High School, Areas Still Needing Work** to read *Vent area in lunchroom needs to be painted*. Stacey Berndt moved (Beye) to approve the minutes of September 15, 2008 as amended. Motion carried 6-0.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

4. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

Mr. Jon Utech reported the following:

- End of the first nine weeks gave way to Parent/Teacher conferences
- Teachers are using the newly purchased laptops for conferences
- Positive staff and parent feedback on Skyward software

Mr. Steve Mies reported on the following activities at the Middle/High School:

- AYP for 2007-08 year improved over previous year's numbers
- Met AYP in Math and Reading as a building at Middle/High School
- Teacher evaluation in progress
- KU Honors banquet at Rock Springs Ranch will be held November 5. Seniors ranking in the top 10% of the class are honored. They are: Kady Albrecht, Ashley Evans, Crysta Brockmeier, Amanda Vargason, Torey Berndt and Kylie Kilmer
- An assembly addressing drug and alcohol issues is planned October 23 for students

Mr. Rich DeMont reported on the following activities at the Elementary:

- Red Ribbon week will run October 27-31
- A military liaison officer will be present at Parent/Teacher conferences
- Mr. DeMont attended MTSS training which replaces what was previously referred to as the Student Improvement Team (SIT program). MTSS will allow every child to have an individualized educational plan (IEP)
- Attained AYP as a building for 2007-08

Mr. Thissen took this opportunity to introduce Ms. Brandi Hendrix, the new TEEN director, to the Board. Ms. Hendrix informed the Board it is her intention to visit with principals and technology personnel throughout TEEN's five district area so as to bring the communities into the IDL network.

5. HERINGTON COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (Virtual School & Home School)

Virtual School: A brief update was given by Mr. Thissen regarding two individuals that showed interest in the virtual school program. They are utilizing Hutchinson's virtual school program at this time. A decision needs to be made prior to September 20, 2009 student count as to whether Herington would provide this service.

Home School: One individual previously showed interest in this program but no further contact has been made by the individual. A decision would be needed prior to the September 20, 2009 count as well. A request was made for Mr. Thissen to provide the Board with policies from surrounding schools regarding both issues.

6. SECRETARIAL SUBSTITUTES (Job Description)

Concern was expressed during previous classified meetings as to secretary substitutes at the buildings. Ideas and suggestions were provided during discussion. The Board directed Mr. Thissen to review the ideas and provide a recommendation at the November board meeting.

7. WIRELESS ASSETS

Clearwire, the company working with Independent Spectrum on the purchase of the District's wireless assets was recently purchased by Sprint. This action has halted the process of the purchase. Unison has since then contacted Mr. Thissen and may make another offer.

8. RECOGNITION OF GREAT PLAINS GIFT

Six boxes of welding wire were given to the District by Land Pride, a division of Great Plains Manufacturing in Abilene. Stacey Berndt moved (Brockmeier) to accept the gift. Motion carried 6-0. A formal "thank you" will be sent to Land Pride.

9. BOARD POLICY AUDIT

Mr. Thissen met with Paul Getto with KASB. Mr. Getto, in briefly reviewing the District's current policy, believes the district would benefit greatly by having KASB audit the District's policies. Estimated cost of \$5,000 over two years would audit all policies and building handbooks. A previous payment of \$950.00 will be applied to the total cost. Phil Brockmeier made a motion (Beye) to engage KASB to conduct and audit on Board policy. Motion carried 6-0.

10. SECTION 1 OF BOARD POLICY

Due to action taken on Agenda Item 9, no discussion or action was taken on this.

11. WHITE CITY AND HERINGTON SOFTBALL

White City's board of education took action at their regular meeting regarding the continuance of the softball agreement with Herington. Phil Brockmeier moved (Beye) to continue the agreement with White City allowing them to participate in Herington's softball program. Discussion followed the motion regarding the number of Herington students participating and playing time these students would see if White City students participated. The motion on the floor was then approved 4-2 with Rod Erickson and Diana Floyd casting the no votes.

12. STUDENT REQUEST FOR EARLY GRADUATION

Seniors Kylie Kilmer and Danielle Zeiler submitted written requests to the board to graduate at semester. Phil Brockmeier moved (Beye) to accept the early graduation requests upon fulfillment of all graduation requirements. Motion passed 6-0.

13. MEALS FOR BUS DRIVERS

Meal reimbursement for bus drivers on activity trips was established about five years ago. Mr. Thissen asked the board to consider an increase to meal reimbursement. The board asked Mr. Thissen to return with a recommendation at the November board meeting.

14. SUBSTITUTE TEACHER PAY

To remain competitive with area Districts, the board reviewed current substitute teacher pay. They asked Mr. Thissen to provide current pay for surrounding districts at the November meeting so further discussion could take place.

15. BOND ELECTION AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Applications received for construction manager on the upcoming Bond Issue were reviewed by three board members. In the event the bond issue passes, three applicants were chosen to be interviewed after the election.

16. SMART START DICKINSON COUNTY GRANT

A grant was written and submitted by Renae Riedy, PAT director, to help with the purchase of supplies for the program. The grant was approved for \$2600. Stacey Berndt made a motion (Beye) to accept the grant from Smart Start of Dickinson County and congratulated Mrs. Riedy for her efforts in obtaining the grant. Motion passed 6-0.

17. CCC KANSAS HISTORY AND ENGLISH LAB MATERIALS

Mr. John Thissen requested the purchase of materials for two classes be approved for the 2008-09 school year. English Lab, a new course, and Kansas History could be purchased and utilized next semester at the Middle School. Phil Brockmeier moved (Stuart) to approve the purchase of materials for both subjects. Motion passed 6-0.

18. PERSONNEL

A. Executive Session

At 8:35 p.m., Stacey Berndt made a motion (Beye) for the Board to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; with the Board returning to the open meeting at 8:45 p.m., and that Mr. Thissen attend. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Motion carried 6-0.

Upon returning to the open meeting, Stacey Berndt 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 8:50 p.m. with Mr. Thissen attending. Motion carried 6-0.

B. New Hire

C. Resignations

D. Action on Personnel

Stacey Berndt moved to hire Tracy Parks as Special Education driver and Troy Biehler as Middle School boys basketball assistant coach to replace Richard Kramer. Motion passed 6-0.

Phil Brockmeier moved (Erickson) to accept the resignation of Nicole Monnington as High School cheerleading sponsor. Motion passed 6-0.

E. Employee Overtime

The Board reviewed the employee overtime report for September 2008 payroll.

19. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Budget

The Board was given the current budget summary through September 2008.

B. Credit Cards

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

C. Students on Site Council

Two students are identified to sit on the High School site council. One student has been selected to sit on the Elementary Site council.

D. MRSA update

No additional cases have been reported since the beginning of the year.

20. VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Mr. Bret Beye (Brockmeier) to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

21. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

A. Bond Election

B. Standard of Excellence/Teacher Recognition

C. Economic Development

D. Eligibility policy update

E. Technology Budget

22. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Acknowledgement was given to Cindy Roberts regarding her email presentation on the upcoming Bond Issue.

23. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:09 p.m. Bret Beye moved (Berndt) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Robyn Heitfield, Clerk of the Board of Education

Attest: _____
Diana Floyd, President

Date: _____