

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
HERINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 487  
CITY/SCHOOL OFFICES  
19 NORTH BROADWAY  
Monday, November 15, 2010  
6:30 P.M.**

Bret Beye called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of USD 487 at 6:30 p.m., November 15, 2010. Board members and other staff present were: Alan Stuart, Stacey Berndt, Anna Gustafson, David Powell, Rod Erickson, Superintendent John Thissen, and Clerk of the Board Robyn Heitfield.

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Thissen informed members of a modification to Agenda Item **9 BOE POLICY**. Section JGCB-JS could be approved but Section KLM would not be discussed. An addition was made to Item **11 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**. Item 11E Construction Project was added. David Powell moved (Gustafson) to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 6-0.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Anna Gustafson moved (Powell) to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2010 regular meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

**4. STUDY ISLAND**

Carrie Kickhaefer and Miranda Christner, fourth grade teachers at Herington Elementary, were present to demonstrate the many benefits of a software program purchased last year. Study Island's focus on the Academic Standards enables students to improve their performance in all skill areas tested on the Kansas State Assessments. This program allows students to move through the program step-by-step. Each section has a pre-test and post-test. This benefit allows teachers to identify the individual needs of students and helps them in determining sections that need more work.

**5. NEW BOARD MEMBER**

A letter was received by an individual expressing interest to the open position vacated by long time board member, Phil Brockmeier. In the letter Ben Meyer offered solid representation of the district's patrons and help in continuing the positive direction the board has developed in the last several years. David Powell moved (Berndt) to elect Ben Meyer to the board of education for the remainder of Phil Brockmeier's term, be sworn in and take the position immediately. Motion carried 6-0.

**6. NEW TEEN REPRESENTATIVE**

The resignation of Phil Brockmeier also brought about the resignation of a representative to the TEEN board. This position needs to be filled as soon as possible.

Anna Gustafson offered to take the position temporarily until a permanent member can be found. No further action was taken.

#### **7. SUPPLEMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Athletic director, Mark Cook, presented members with recommendations made by the supplemental committee regarding possible changes to supplementals for the upcoming school year as discussed during negotiations for the 2010-11. All coaches and sponsors were surveyed and hours spent on all extracurricular activities outside of the contractual days were recorded. Length of seasons, number of activities and trips made, time spent on committee work and middle school vs. high were a few of the items looked at. One recommendation made was to pay committee work as extra duty pay and athletics as supplementals. Another recommendation was to eliminate the ITV supplemental. Mr. Cook will email Mr. Thissen all recommended changes and this item will be listed for discussion during negotiations for the 2011-12 school year.

#### **8. NATURE/FITNESS TRAIL**

Diana Floyd was successful in receiving a small planning grant to create a fitness trail in Herington. Six community meetings have taken place and several ideas have been generated in which the District could be affected. The trail could begin at several possible locations south of the District's property and extend into it creating a path students would take when walking or riding their bikes to school. This path would safely keep students living in town off of D Street before and after school. General costs have been identified but would need to be more specific once the funding became available. Other grants could also be utilized by the District as stated by an ESSDACK representative in charge of writing school grants. More discussion will take place in the future.

#### **9. BOE POLICY**

Stacey Berndt moved (Erickson) to adopt BOE Policy JGCB-JS with the changes and additions listed in the October 18, 2010 minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **10. PERSONNEL**

##### **A. Executive Session**

At 7:57 p.m., David Powell made a motion (Berndt) for the Board to go into executive session following a 5 minute break for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; with the Board returning to the open meeting at 8:18 p.m. and invited Mr. Thissen into the meeting. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of identifiable individuals. Motion carried 7-0.

##### **B. Evaluations**

##### **C. Hire**

David Powell moved (Berndt) to hire Nathan Lawrenz as the high school assistant wrestling coach and Josh Lawrenz as the middle school assistant wrestling coach. Motion carried 7-0.

##### **D. Employee Overtime**

The Board reviewed the employee overtime report for October 2010.

**11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Budget**

A summary was provided through October 2010.

**B. Credit Cards**

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

**C. Tractor**

A quote was received from KanEquip of Herington for the purchase of a tractor which includes forks, box blade and front loader. The quote came in under \$20,000. Mr. Thissen informed members he plans on ordering the tractor this month. Consensus by members was to purchase a rear blade instead of the box blade.

**D. Community Track Meet**

A community track meet is being organized and will be held at the new track complex on April 9, 2010.

**E. Construction Project**

A concern regarding the delayed planting of grass in the track and field areas was voiced by a member. Mr. Thissen assured the board the grass was under warranty. During the bi-weekly construction meeting November 11th, Food Service Director Jennifer Lollar was brought in to determine a possible site for a temporary kitchen that will be necessary in April and May due to the construction project.

**12. VOUCHERS**

A motion was made by Alan Stuart (Powell) to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**13. KANSAS JOINT UTILITIES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

A program to help school districts to save money in utilities was looked at 3 years ago. Kansas Joint Utilities Management Program (KJUMP) which is supported by KASB could not be utilized then because an administrator was not available in this area. The program is now benefiting the area and 134 districts are participating. 1.4 billion cubic feet of natural gas is being administered by Seminal Energy for participating high schools. An estimated \$5,000-\$10,000 could be saved yearly if the district chooses to participate. A suggestion was made to contact Atmos Energy to see if they would be willing to match the rate. This item will be put on the December board meeting agenda for action.

**14. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

- A. BOE Policy
- B. Construction Project
- C. Elementary School Resolution
- D. Filtering E-mail
- E. Superintendent Evaluation
- F. KJUMP
- G. KBI update

**15. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:50 p.m., Bret Beye declared the meeting adjourned.

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Robyn Heitfield, Clerk of the Board of Education

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bret Beye, President

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