

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

December 9, 2009

President Kent Grieder called the Regular Meeting of the Southern Lyon County USD #252 Board of Education to order at 6:05 p.m., on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at the Olpe Chicken House in Olpe, Kansas.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kent Grieder, Craig Clark, Kevin Flott, Kenny Hamman, Jeanette Schmidt and Charles Steffes

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bill Veatch

SUPERINTENDENT:

Michael Argabright

CLERK:

Brenda Redeker

VISITORS:

Curtis Simons, Bill Warner, Shane Clark, Michael Langley, Bob Bezek and Jettie Bezek

Jeanette Schmidt (Kevin Flott) moved to recess for dinner at 6:06 p.m. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Meeting Resumed at 7:04 p.m. at the Olpe High School Computer Lab.

VISITORS:

Curtis Simons, Bill Warner, Shane Clark, Michael Langley, Bob Bezek, Jettie Bezek, Tom Thomas, Michelle Barnhart, Debbie J. Redeker, Jenny Schmidt, Sara Pearson, Haley Rhoads, Karen Belford, Kimberly York and Phyllis Krueger

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to approve the Agenda as presented with additions to **Item 3 e.** Substitute and Emergency Substitute Teachers – *Eric Holmes and Brian Harp* and an addition **Item 6 b.** *Olpe Activity Accounts*. Motion Passed. (6-0)

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approved the Minutes from the November 11, 2009 Regular Meeting
- b. Approved Bills Due and Payable and Journal Entries
- c. Approved Payrolls for November 20, 2009 and December 4, 2009
- d. Approved Supplemental Contract for Signature - *Yvonne Gardner* for the 2009-10 school year
- e. Approved Substitute and Emergency Substitute Teachers for the 2009-10 school year – *Angela Blaufuss, Jerry Troxell, Eric Holmes and Brian Harp*
- f. Approved *Articles of Agreement to Maintain a Comprehensive Special Education Cooperative* including Guidelines, procedures, and clarification of Financial responsibilities.

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

President Grieder informed the public that individuals and spokespersons would be allowed 3 minutes to speak to the Board with no duplications of information.

Karen Belford from Seamless Data Systems spoke to the Board about the letter they received from the District canceling the contract of internet connectivity with their company.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Superintendent Argabright presented the Financial Reports and explained the difference between district funds, those that are restricted accounts and those that are not. Superintendent Argabright told the Board that the second half of November State Aid was received on December 2nd and the first half of December State Aid was received December 4th with no known date available for the disbursement of the second half of December State Aid.

Jeanette Schmidt (Charles Steffes) moved to approve the Financial Reports as presented.
Motion Passed. (6-0)

Principal Warner presented information on the Technology Rich Classroom Grant that the District has applied for. This is the fourth year that the Grant has been applied for with hopes of receiving a grant this year.

Gil Gardner, Mirel Howard and Jesse Howard arrived at the meeting 7:22 p.m.

Superintendent Argabright presented a letter to the Jones Trust to apply for a grant to help the District with Technology items.

ITEM 6 d. OLPE ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

Principal Clark presented a letter to the Board requesting the moving of past Class Account balances to the Olpe Activity Account. They would be spent on class composites, stage curtains and other items/projects needed for the school. Superintendent Argabright informed the Board that classes need to specify by vote before Graduation their intent of unused class funds. After graduation they become funds of the District.

Charles Steffes (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to authorize Principal Clark to move \$7,956.21 to the Olpe Activity Fund from the Classes of 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008 and 2009. Motion Passed. (6-0)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Tom Thomas presented the 2008-09 District Audit Report and answered questions from the Board.

Kenny Hamman (Kevin Flott) moved to approve the 2008-09 Audit as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Tom Thomas and Bob Bezek left the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Bob Bezek returned to the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

2010-11 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent Argabright informed the Board that the Calendar Committee had met and recommended Calendar "A" for the tentative 2010-11 Calendar. The Committee did discuss a four day school week but only one parent committee member was present to share comments.

Patron Sara Pearson asked the Board of the savings to the district from a four day school week. Those exact savings are not known at this time but would only be savings in classified staff and possibly utilities depending on activities held at the schools.

Charles Steffes (Kevin Flott) moved to approve the 2010-11 tentative School Calendar as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

President Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to recess for a five minute break. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Meeting resumed at 7:38 p.m.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Superintendent Argabright told the Board that they will be making some extremely painful and difficult decisions for the District and to keep the kids in the forefront in those decisions.

Superintendent Argabright informed the Board of the intentions from the Administrators to volunteer for a reduction in salary. Letters of intent were presented.

Superintendent Argabright volunteered for a 5% reduction in salary of the balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school year and Principal Clark and Principal Simons volunteered a 3% reduction in salary of the balance of their contracts for the 2009-10 school and Principal Warner volunteered to eliminate his Summer School Stipend of \$4,000.00 if the Summer School Program was eliminated or a 3% salary reduction of the balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school year. Reductions would generate approximately \$7,696.00. This would be effective January 18, 2010.

Jeanette Schmidt thanked the Administrators for their offers and reminded the Board that Superintendent Argabright didn't accept a raise last year as well as the volunteered reduction in salary.

Kent Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to accept the salary reduction of 5% from Superintendent Argabright for the remaining balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school effective January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kent Grieder (Craig Clark) moved to accept the salary reduction of 3% from Principal Curtis Simons for the remaining balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school effective January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kent Grieder (Craig Clark) moved to accept the salary reduction of 3% from Principal Shane Clark for the remaining balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school effective January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kent Grieder (Craig) moved to accept the forfeit of summer school stipend for Principal Bill Warner if the Summer School Program was eliminated or a 3% salary reduction for the remaining balance of his contract for the 2009-10 school effective January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Shane Clark left the meeting at 8:02 p.m. and returned at 8:08 p.m.

Superintendent Argabright presented and discussed a list of 13 possible cost saving items to the Board. **Item 1:** Shut off utilities at Neosho Rapids ole Jr. High Building and brown metal building “Barn” at an estimated savings of **\$4,500.00**; **Item 2:** Adjust Bus Routes – reduce two afternoon routes (1 each side, 20 hours/wk) and students over 2.5 miles at an estimated savings of **\$5,175.00**; **Item 3:** Delay/reduce Rotation Plans to utilize LOB on salaries (recommended to reduce rotation plans \$25,000.00) with an estimated savings of **\$25,000.00**; **Item 4:** pay for mowers out of Capital Outlay Fund in necessary in June with an estimated savings of **\$6,537.00**; **Items 5:** Reduce Building Budgets at an estimated savings of **\$30,000.00**; **Item 6:** Delay 2010-11 Purchases (we prepay most membership and supplies in June of each year) no estimated savings available; **Item 7:** Eliminate Blue Slips (Extra Duty Pay)December to June – Lunch (Administrators, Counselors, Aides); Activities: Secure Volunteers (Certified staff may exchange extra duty hours for work days hours on the following days: January 4 and March 12 (12:00-4:00 p.m.) -Extra duty slips are to be turned into the Building Principal to approve and log hours; Supervision – (Utilize work schedules which reflect the workday – before and after school supervision on a rotation basis); Tutoring will continue through At-Risk (Principal Warner will try and reduce the total without jeopardizing the help for students in need of assistance) with an estimated savings of **\$15,832.00**; **Item 8:** Summer Divers Education (examine the possibility of moving this to next semester (during the school year) and set fees at \$100.00) with an estimated savings of **\$5,000.00**; **Item 9:** Summer School (eliminate this program paid for out of At-Risk to utilize these funds for salaries. Principal Warner is paid \$4,000.00 stipend and he has agreed to eliminate this from his salary with contractual release time in June to be worked out with Superintendent Argabright) with an estimated savings of **\$10,216.00**; **Item 10:** Do not fill open positions (HS Track at Hartford and extra track coaches at Olpe) for an estimated savings of **\$4,802.00**; **Item 11:** Professional Development (utilize title II Highly Qualified – for those registrations already made will be honored; Carl Perkins will be allowed, paperwork must be completed in advance; Jones Institute, ESU, Emporia and State Required meetings allowed; Title allowable funds may be utilized (MTSS & Title I); no expenses from General for Professional Development the remainder of the year, unless it is a required meeting.) with an estimated savings of **\$1,000.00**; **Item 12:** Field Trips (Lyon County only, unless the trip is prepaid by the PTO, Organizations or parents; one per teacher, prioritize this in each building with a schedule/plan developed – more than one must be prepaid (donated) and approved by the Administration) with an estimated savings of \$900.00; and **Item 13:** Reduce to four school days per week (savings is in classified staff at \$3,117.06/day; bus fuel and mileage at \$.77 equals \$477.40/day; no savings in licensed staff, may require an inservice and shut down the majority of the buildings for a long weekend) with an estimated savings **\$14,377.00**.

Jeanette Schmidt (Kevin Flott) moved to approve cost saving Items 1 through 12 for an approximate savings of \$108,962.00. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Michael Langley left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Superintendent Argabright asked for direction from the Board for end of the year cash balances in funds.

President Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to recess into executive session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 20 minutes with the Board, Superintendent, Principals and Board Attorney present.

Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker, Michelle Barnhart, Debbie J. Redeker, Jenny Schmidt, Michael Langley, Sara Pearson, Haley Rhoads, Karen Belford, Kimberly York, Jettie Bezek, Phyllis Krueger, Gil Gardner, Mirel Howard and Jesse Howard left the room.

Kimberly York, Mirel Howard and Jesse Howard left the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

At 9:05 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning. President Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to recess into executive session at 9:06 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 10 minutes with the Board, Superintendent, Principals and Board Attorney present. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:16 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to recess into executive session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 10 minutes with the Board, Superintendent, Principals and Board Attorney present. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:27 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Grieder (Jeanette Schmidt) moved to recess into executive session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 10 minutes with the Board, Superintendent, Principals and Board Attorney present. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

Jenny Schmidt and Michelle Barnhart left the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

At 9:38 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Debbie J. Redeker, Sara Pearson, Haley Rhoads, Karen Belford, Jettie Bezek, Phyllis Krueger and Gil Gardner returning.

Kent Grieder (Kenny Hamman) moved to eliminate seven classified positions with proper notifications. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kent Grieder (Charles Steffes) moved to reduce Classified hourly staff 1% in pay with proper notification with an effective date of January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kent Grieder (Kevin Flott) moved to reduce Classified salary staff 2% in pay with proper notification with an effective date of January 18, 2010. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Superintendent Argabright presented a KASB Enrollment Projection Report prepared for USD #252 and estimated budget numbers for next school year. Six option plans for restructuring were shared for cost savings. **Option 1:** Reduce the number of attendance centers from three to two. Move to two K-12 attendance centers to maintain the integrity of both High Schools and Programs; **Option 2:** Maintain 7-12 core classed (required) and programs at each secondary building: reading, math, social studies, science and PE and share elective programs and classes: Family and consumer Science (FACS), Industrial Technology (Woods/Shop), Art, Business, Music, counseling and elective PE; **Option 3:** Consolidate both High Schools into one and determine the location. This option has the highest potential for reducing expenditures as staffing in core and elective areas can be reduced; **Option 4:** Combination of Options 1 and 2; **Option 5:** Reduce the number of attendance centers from three to two – move to one K-12 attendance center and one K-8 attendance center; and **Option 6:** Reduce the number of attendance centers from three to two – move to

one K-5/9-12 attendance center and one K-5/6-8 attendance center. Options were tabled for a Special Board meeting to narrow down to three options. Board Attorney Bob Bezek recommended putting together plans for options including the District's current financial status with the Budget.

Moved to ITEM 14 DISTRICT INTERNET SERVICE

Superintendent Argabright presented information from Matt Walker, District Technology Technician with regards to the current internet service of the District.

President Grieder moved to recess into executive session at 10:35 p.m. for consultation with our attorney on a matter protected by the attorney-client privilege in order to protect the privilege and the Board's position in (litigation, potential litigation, administrative proceedings, etc.) to be discussed for 10 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Board Attorney present. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker, Bill Warner, Curtis Simons, Shane Clark, Debbie J. Redeker, Sara Pearson, Jettie Bezek, Karen Belford and Phyllis Krueger left the room.

Debbie Redeker and Sara Pearson left the meeting at 10:35 p.m.

Haley Rhoads, Gil Gardner, Jettie Bezek, and Phyllis Krueger left the meeting at 10:36 p.m.

At 10:45 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Bill Warner, Curtis Simons, Shane Clark and Karen Belford returning.

PERSONNEL

No discussion.

Bob Bezek and Karen Belford left the meeting at 10:47 p.m.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Principal Simons present the Building Improvement plans for Hartford High School. Math has shown improvement with the new textbooks facilitating the needs to meet the state standards.

President Grieder (Kenny Hamman) moved to approve the Building Improvement plan for the Hartford High School as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Principal Clark presented the Building Improvement plans for Olpe Jr./Sr. High School with the targeted areas of Math and Reading aligning with the state standards.

President Grieder (Craig Clark) moved to approve the Building Improvement plan for the Olpe Jr./Sr. High School as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Principal Warner presented the Building Improvements plans for the Olpe Elementary and Neosho Rapids Elementary Schools with target areas of Reading and Math; focusing on Vocabulary.

President Grieder (Craig Clark) moved to approve the Building Improvement plan for the Neosho Rapids Elementary School as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

President Grieder (Kevin Flott) moved to approve the Building Improvement plan for the Olpe Elementary School as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

OLPE SITE COUNCIL REPORT

Principals Clark and Warner presented their annual Site Council Reports. The Site Councils meet approximately five times a year and deals with issues that come up in the school. It was mentioned to possibly have the Site Councils meet and put together Options for the District to take to the public on restructuring.

President Grieder (Charles Steffes) moved to approve the Olpe Site Council Reports as presented. Motion Passed. (6-0)

DISTRICT INSURANCE

Superintendent Argabright shared our District Insurance policy with the Board and requested the Board's direction on whether to open and let our district insurance out for bid. It is a very detailed process which requires a lot of time. Keeping the same insurance company at this time was discussed. A Crisis Policy has been added to our existing insurance policy.

NEGOTIATIONS

President Grieder (Kevin Flott) moved to recess into executive session at 11:05 p.m. for 5 minutes to discuss negotiations in order to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract with the Board and Superintendent present. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Clerk Redeker, Curtis Simons, Shane Clark and Bill Warner left the room.

At 11:10 p.m. President Grieder declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Curtis Simons, Shane Clark and Bill Warner returning.

FACILITIES

Superintendent Argabright presented updates on the HHS Concession/Locker Room Project. Easements with Westar Energy have been worked out; the pad has been poured; and Superintendent Argabright has received three proposals from Schumann Electric for work at the project site.

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to accept the proposal #1 of \$1,523.00 from Schumann Electric for replacing the existing security light pole on the southeast corner of the Hartford Football field. Motion Passed. (6-0)

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to accept the proposal #2 of \$7,3321.50 from Schumann Electric for the installation of a 400 AMP breaker panel and installation to the Westar transformer. Motion Passed. (6-0)

The Olpe Storage Building Project has been started and corrections to the layout have been made by the contractor.

The Hartford new gym has been painted by the general contractor and looks good. All programs at Neosho Rapids Elementary have been moved to the main building and utilities will be shut down to save on operating expenses. Thanks to the staff and students for their time and efforts in making this

a smooth transition. Maintenance staff will be digging a trench to aide in moving water away from the buildings and sidewalks on the east side of the elementary building.

District trash service price has been increased \$266.00 per month. Principals are to check on number of dumpsters that are needed or could be eliminated.

SCHOOL FOR FAIR FUNDING

Superintendent Argabright reported on the last SFFF meetings and informed the Board that it would probably turn into litigation. Approximately 150,000 students are represented to date and growing.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Argabright congratulated the Olpe Football team and coaches on their accomplishments and congratulations were also given to post season student athletes and coaches. Best wishes were given to the winter sports teams.

Bids closed December 8th on items listed with Purplewave Auction. The results are as follows: Bus #30 - \$1,850.00, Bus #24 - \$1,350.00, Piano - \$55.00, Ovens - \$350.00, Weight Machine - \$425.00, Risers - \$55.00, Radios - \$65.00 and Drill Press - \$35.00.

The Legislative Dinner will be held Wednesday, January 6 at 6:00 p.m. in Paola. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Board office.

Special thanks to the music directors for our student’s participation in the holiday parade. Their encouragement and promotion of the programs at Hartford and Olpe are recognized and appreciated. Thanks and appreciation was given to the Building Principals and Staff for their dedicated efforts with improving academic performances with all students.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

KASB Convention held good workshops with a lot of helpful information. Special thanks to Superintendent Argabright and the Building Principals for their leadership and commitment to our schools and their volunteering for a salary reduction. It is important for all to stick together with the tough road ahead of the District and to make good choices for our students.

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to set a Special Board of Education meeting to be held Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at the Board of Education office in Hartford with the Agenda of 2010-11 Budget, Personnel and Superintendent’s Report. Motion Passed. (6-0)

ADJOURNMENT

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed. (6-0)

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 p.m.

Kent Grieder, President

Date

Brenda J. Redeker, Clerk

Date