

USD 237 Board of Education Regular Meeting
Board Minutes for Monday August 14 , 2023
216 S. Jefferson, Smith Center, KS 66967
Smith Center Board of Education Meeting Room

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Theron Haresnape called the meeting to order.

7:02 PM

Present for the call to order President Theron Haresnape, board members Jessica Weltmer, Bob Dietz, Marty Hanson, Libby McDonald, Sara Pruden and Steve Overmiller. Principals Greg Koelsch and Michelle Stamm, Superintendent Dustin McEwen, Board Clerk Roberta Reinking and Kelli Armknecht.

ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - ADD/DELETE

Steve Overmiller made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

7:03 PM

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF CONSENSUS ITEMS

- a. July 10, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- b. July 19, 2023 Negotiations Meeting Minutes
- c. August 10, 2023 Statements
- d. Petty Cash report
- e. Review Activity Fund Accounts.

Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve the Consensus items, Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

7:05 PM

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF USE OF TRANSPORTATION FOR RACE TO THE CENTER ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2023.

Kelli Armknecht is requesting the use of 2 buses for Transportation for Race to the Center that will be on September 9. She would like to have one bus available at 9:15 and the seconded one at 10:00, this would be for approximately 2-3 hours. The board asked if this was paid for by the Race to the Center, Kelli said in the past there have been years she didn't pay, the last few years she has paid, she is fine with paying for the bus usage.

Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve using 2 buses for Race to the Center, with the organization paying \$2/mile and 2-3 hours for the bus drivers. Sara Pruden seconded the motion, the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

7:09 PM

ITEM 5. APPROVAL FOR CROSS COUNTRY TEAM TO GO ON CAMPING TRIP

Kelli Armknecht asked the board if she could take the cross-country team to Wilson lake for the weekend, they would be hiking, swimming and kayaking. There would be 18 students and 5 adults going on the trip. The Board asked if she was wanting to use the school suburban's, she had made arrangements for other vehicles, using the suburbans would make the trip easier.

Steve Overmiller made a motion to approve the use of 3 suburban's, if available, to travel to Wilson Lake, Jessica Weltmer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **9:16 PM**

Kelli Armknecht left the meeting.

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF FUND RAISER FOR WEIGHT ROOM IMPROVEMENTS

Mike Rogers would like to have a fundraiser to help improve the weight room. Currently the weight room is comprised of 6 power racks, 3 bench presses and 3 clean platforms. There is a small assortment of other supplemental machines. The plan would be to add 7 additional power racks and eliminate the bench press and clean platforms. Power racks are very multifunctional enabling a group to do their entire program in 1 spot. The addition of the 7 rack would require 10 adjustable benches as well. He would like to add some free weights and bumper weights in order to supply the additional racks. The improvements that he is looking at will run around \$40,000. Mr. Rogers provided information to the board on what he would like to see added to the weight room.

Bob Dietz made a motion to approve moving forward on the fundraiser, Jessica Weltmer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **7:21 PM**

ITEM 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – NEGOTIATIONS

Steve Overmiller made a motion to go into Executive Session – Negotiations pursuant to KOMA for 5 minutes to resume at 7:27 PM, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **7:22 PM**

The board asked Mr. McEwen to remain in the meeting.

Roberta Reinking left the meeting.

Roberta Reinking returned to the meeting. **7:27 PM**

ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF MASTER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Bob Dietz made a motion to approved the Master Collective Bargaining Agreement, Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. **7:28 PM**

ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF NEGOTIATED CLASSIFIED CONTRACT

Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve an increase of 0.50 per hour for all classified/hourly employees and 4% for classified salary and 6% for Transportation director. Marty Hanson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 7-0 vote. **7:29 PM**

ITEM 10. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTS

Jessica Weltmer made a motion for approve a 4% increase for Administration, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

7:30 PM

ITEM 11. BUILDING NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Michelle Stamm spoke about the Elementary need's assessment, last fall Michelle put ideas together what she felt was needed. In the spring all the staff and site counsel went over what they felt the needs of the building were.

They discussed Kindergarten readiness, thanks to the Administration and the Board for the effort to improve the Preschool program. They are still short on Para's.

The heating and cooling has been an issue hoping to see that improved.

They really appreciate the increase for all the employees.

Greg Koelsch the teachers broke out into groups and worked on different areas that needed improvement. They are aware of the difficulty in getting good qualified teachers and keeping them. Look at the state testing scores.

Communication Factor, social media, text alerts have helped to keep the community informed.

The before and after school program has been a success and many students attend.

Certifications, IPS this has helped teachers, parents and students.

Program to grow our own teachers with CTE pathway.

Graduation rate

Chronic absenteeism.

ITEM 12. STATE ASSESSMENT REVIEW FOR BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Dustin McEwen discussed the state assessment for the budget. Moving students from level 1 to level 2 and keep them moving up the levels.

ITEM 13. PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing tonight

ITEM 14. REPORTS

Libby McDonald, NCKSEC they have agreed to 4% pay increase and full single health insurance premium and a 1-time retention for licensed personnel in September.

Greg Koelsch, SCHS Principal, he has nothing to add to his report. The enrollment is up 5 students from last year.

Michelle Stamm, SCE Principal, the elementary lost 11 students last year but gained 12 this year. All teachers have been back in the building getting ready for the first day of school.

Mr. McEwen, Superintendent, asked the board to cook and help serve the meal at teacher in-service on Monday August 21.

The Hubbard memorial has been set at the complex, it looks very nice.

Nurse Hayley Moll set up CPR/AED training for the coaching staff with the Smith County EMS. There were 3 different times offered for the training.

During the KESA kick-off meeting held by KDSE three things all systems are accountable for doing this year: 1. Gather and store data and evidence of work to impact student outcomes. 2. Meet with KSDE KSEA Lead for a one-on-one discussion in Spring 2024. 3. Engage in "Peer Preview" (formerly known as OVT) throughout the 2023-224 school year. Currently they plan to work with Smoky Hill Education Service Center to set up the "Peer Review" model.

Purple Wave sold #11 big bus and it brought \$5,600, #8 little bus brought \$1,700, the Welder brought \$1,450 and the football van will be listed in a later auction.

Thanks to the generous support of Smith Center Nazarene Church and Smith County Drug and Alcohol Council the Rachel's Challenge organization will speak to our students. Rachel's Challenge envisions schools full of hope, free from harassment, violence and self-harm, where teachers are free to teach and students are inspired to learn. According to the Rachel's Challenge Website 30 million students, educators, parents have been trained, 150 lives are saved annually and 20+ thousand schools have been spoken at.

The district has been working to get an AED at Hubbard Field sport complex and have a floater that can be taken to different locations. Matt Haack helped write the grant through The Peoples Bank. A couple of weeks ago EMS notified us they had finally received the AED's.

The board discussed Hunters Safety in the schools, with Mr. Rogers moving to the we might move the class up to the 7th grade with Mike since he is now at the Jr. Sr High School.

Michelle Stamm and Greg Koelsch left the meeting.

8:12 PM

ITEM 15. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Sara Pruden made a motion to go into Executive Session - Personnel, pursuant to KOMA for 10 minutes to resume at 8:23 PM, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

8:13 PM

The board asked Mr. McEwen to remain in the closed meeting.

Roberta Reinking left the meeting.

Roberta Reinking returned to the meeting.

8:23 PM

Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve the contract for David Edell as Elementary Para, Spanish monitor and working at the complex, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:25 PM

ITEM 16. BOARD COMMENTS

The board signed the Thank you to John Overmiller.

They discussed the Mexican restaurant, they offered to do more fundraisers for the school.

Kenny Jacobs has mentioned to some of the board members about the traffic from the school to the road going to the hospital and Sun Porch. There is a barricade that could be removed and this could be used as an access road. There didn't seem to be any reason that it can't be removed and the commissioners have discussed this.

ITEM 17. ADJOURN

Jessica Weltmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:39 PM

....."it shall be my constant endeavor to devote time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a school board member so that I may render effective and credible service....."

School Board Member Code of Ethics

Theron Haresnape, President

Roberta Reinking, Clerk

USD #237 Smith Center does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicap, or age in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Any questions regarding the compliance with Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 may be directed to Mr. Dustin McEwen, Title IX Coordinator, who can be reached at (785)-282-6665, 216 South Jefferson, Smith Center, Kansas 66967.