

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 467  
WICHITA COUNTY  
LEOTI, KANSAS

Meeting Time and Place

1. The Board of Education of Unified School District #467, Wichita County, Kansas met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 9, 2018 in Leoti.

People Present

2. Members present were: Brian Gerstberger, Jason Koehn, Jim Myers, Tammy Simons, Farrin Watt, Brandon Whalen, and Josh Young.

Also present were: Superintendent, Keith Higgins; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt; Maintenance/Transportation Director, Ed Simon; and Guests: Nate Brown, Julie Conard, Betsy Breitreutz, Aaron Ridder, Rene Santillana, Diana Kirk, Charlie Ayers, and Janelle Downs.

Approved Consent Agenda

1. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, Brian Gerstberger moved and Brandon Whalen seconded to approve the consent agenda consisting of:
  - A. Agenda for the meeting.
  - B. Minutes of the March 8, 2018 BOE meeting.
  - C. Payments of bills.
  - D. Personnel Actions:
    1. Accept a resignation from Mirna Jimenez, WCES custodian, effective March 23, 2018.
    2. Accept a resignation from Martha Myers effective at the end of the current school year.
    3. Accept a resignation from Cale Warden effective at the end of the current school year.
    4. Accept a resignation from Kendall Knobbe as high school co-cheerleading sponsor.
    5. Accept a resignation from Tyler Masters effective at the end of the current school year.
    6. Accept a resignation from Leslie Niswonger as Head Forensics coach at the end of the current school year.
    7. Accept a resignation from Jeannine Hassell as Asst. Forensics coach at the end of the current school year.

8. Approve offering a contract to Nicole Fischer as WCJSHS Math and Science teacher for the 2018-2019 school year.
9. Approve offering a contract to Brant Douglas as WCJSHS math teacher for the 2018-2019 school year.
- E. Accept a donation of \$1,200 from the Wichita County Arts Alliance for the remainder of the WCES Art Program for this school year.
- F. Approve a request for the annual KAY trip in June to Wichita or Denver.

Motion passed 7-0.

#### Wichita County Arts Alliance

2. Charlie Ayers, Janelle Downs, and Julie Conard presented information about the Wichita County Arts Alliance funding an art teacher at the elementary school. The Arts Alliance has funded and/or requested grant money to allow the elementary school to have an art program for approximately the last eighteen years. The Arts Alliance would like the school district to take over the responsibility of the art program in the future. The Arts Alliance has committed to funding the program for the 2018-2019 school year. Discussion was held.

#### Science Olympiad Demonstrations

3. Mrs. Breitreutz, high school math/science teacher, Aaron Ridder, and Rene Santillana presented some of the projects from the State Science Olympiad competition. Rene Santillana flew his 4 gram helicopter that flew for 55 seconds at State and medaled 2<sup>nd</sup> place. He also showed his hovercraft that moves on a cushion of air from a computer fan. Aaron Ridder demonstrated his mousetrap car that went forward and then reversed. He also showed his 29 gram tower that broke at State after holding 14,000 grams of weight and earned him 5<sup>th</sup> place. The board thanked the students and Mrs. Breitreutz for the demonstrations and for her service to the science program during her teaching career. Mrs. Breitreutz, Rene Santillana, Aaron Ridder, Janelle Downs, Charlie Ayers, and Julie Conard left the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

## Principals' Reports

4. WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt, updated the board on the activities at the Junior-Senior high school. Regional Music Solos and Small Ensembles were held on April 7<sup>th</sup> with 29 students qualifying for state competition. Students competed at State Science Olympiad with several medaling. Students attended the High Plains Art Festival at Southwestern Heights with Madison Harbin medaling. Prom is April 14<sup>th</sup>. The Junior High students are taking a field trip to Colorado on April 17<sup>th</sup>. State Music Large Groups is April 19<sup>th</sup>. The Junior High Spring Concert is on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. May 12<sup>th</sup> is the high school graduation.
5. WCES Principal, Mr. Higgins, reported on the grade school. The grade school is still doing state testing. So far, it has gone well with few computer issues. Testing should be completed by April 25<sup>th</sup>. Parent/teacher conferences were the week after Spring Break with ninety-eight percent parent attendance. There will be a lot of activities and field trips coming up for the grade school as the school year comes to a close.

## Superintendent's Report

6. Superintendent, Mr. Higgins, presented the current budget information for the schools and district. Approximately three-fourths of the school year has passed and the school district has thirty seven percent of the budget remaining. The schools are currently purchasing classroom supplies for next school year. It was recently asked if the rec commission could possibly advertise upcoming sport seasons and announcements. The state said that it can be advertised, but if we charge for advertisement, we will need to apply for a special permit. With the current events in the Legislation, there will possibly be an increase in funding to schools.

## Kindergarten Classes

7. Farrin Watt moved and Jason Koehn seconded to approve the kindergarten to start school two days late due to the new state requirements for Kindergarten Readiness Reporting. This will allow the kindergarten teachers to test students per the requirements. Motion passed 7-0.

District-Wide Random Drug Testing

8. Mr. Schmidt presented information on implementing a district-wide random drug testing program for the Junior-Senior high school students. He has visited with other schools that have this policy in place and presented a proposed policy. Discussion was held. The school attorney has not completed looking over the documents. There are still some items of the proposed policy that need to be changed or addressed before the board can make a decision. It will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

District Wide Tobacco Policy

9. The board reviewed the proposed district wide tobacco policy proposing a tobacco free campus on or in any school property for all students, staff, and visitors. Tammy Simons moved and Josh Young seconded to approve the district wide tobacco free policy beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

2018-2019 WCJSHS Curriculum Handbook

10. Tammy Simons moved and Brian Gerstberger seconded to approve the 2018-2019 WCJSHS Curriculum Handbook. Motion passed 7-0.

2018-2019 WCJSHS Student Handbook

11. Brian Gerstberger moved and Brandon Whalen seconded to approve the 2018-2019 WCJSHS Student Handbook. Motion passed 7-0.

Wellness Committee Update

12. Mr. Higgins presented the different options Ped Net has suggested to improve the flow of traffic during drop off and pick up for students.

- a. Bulb outs across Broadway at the east side of Indian and the east side of Wyoming.
- b. Reverse the layout of the parking lot/drop off on the east side of the school and eliminate the parking on the west side of this lot.
- c. Create a concrete drop off area north of the grade school for parents similar to the existing bus drop off area.
- d. Eliminate the parking on Indian road in front of the high school and use this area as a parent pickup/drop off area.

Discussion was held. Diana Kirk answered questions. The board would like the second option with additional parking available on the south side of the Jr.-Sr. High school. Diana will visit with the grant foundation to see if this is an option. Diana Kirk left

the meeting at 9:15 p.m. The board took a fifteen minute break.

Transportation Discussion

13. Activity bus bids were presented from Kansas Truck and Thomas. Jason Koehn moved and Farrin Watt seconded to lease a new activity bus from Kansas Truck for \$176,000. Motion passed 7-0.
14. State bids were presented for an Expedition and a Suburban. The board would like the lease option to be explored.

Maintenance

15. Ed Simon presented information on replacing the high school water heater. The cost will be approximately \$28,000 or \$35,000. One lawnmower needs replaced. Replacement cost will be approximately \$17,000-\$21,000. Discussion was held.

KASB Membership

16. Tammy Simons moved and Brian Gerstberger seconded to approve membership for the 2018-2019 school year with the Kansas Association of School Boards. Motion passed 7-0.

KASB Legal Assistance Fund

17. Brian Gerstberger moved and Brandon Whalen seconded to approve membership in the KASB Legal Assistance fund for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

BOE Meeting Dates

18. Jason Koehn moved and Josh young seconded to approve the board meeting dates for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

District Goals

19. The board discussed the districts goals: Academic Success, Civic Engagement, and Effective Communication. Academic success is being addressed with the establishment of a technology committee. The committee will discuss the needs assessment for the district and establish what will help the district in regards to technology related matters. This will be presented to the board. Civic engagement is improving with the student of the month program. The students must meet certain criteria and be nominated by their teacher. Effective communication has improved with the addition of school district Twitter and Instagram accounts to

inform the public on current and upcoming events in the school district. Jana Simon has also started an adult ESL class in the evenings with the help of Isabel Cardenas and SanJuanita Salazar. There are 24 participants and they will meet twice per week for approximately two months. Ed Simon and Nate Brown left the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Executive Session for Personnel

20. Jason Koehn moved and Brandon Whalen seconded to enter executive session, with Mr. Higgins and Mr. Schmidt present, to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 10:46 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Column Movement

21. The regular meeting resumed at 10:46 p.m. Jason Koehn moved and Brian Gerstberger seconded to allow Haydon Parks to move three columns on the salary schedule after he has completed his Masters program in May of 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

Extend Mr. Higgins Contract

22. Jim Myers moved and Farrin Watt seconded to approve a contract through the 2019-2020 school year for Mr. Higgins. Motion passed 7-0.

Executive Session for Negotiations

23. Brian Gerstberger moved and Brandon Whalen seconded to enter executive session, with Mr. Higgins and Mr. Schmidt present, to discuss possible proposals for negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 11:00p.m.

24. The regular meeting resumed at 11:00p.m. No action was taken.

Adjournment

25. Jim Myers officially adjourned the meeting at 11:03 p.m.

Board of Education  
Unified School District #467  
Wichita County, Kansas

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Jim Myers, President

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Tammy Mason, Clerk of the Board

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