

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
CHOCTAW/NICOMA PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ind. Dist. 4, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma

Place of Meeting
Administration Office, 12880 NE 10th, Choctaw, OK 73020

Janice Modisette, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call established members present: Elizabeth Parker, Clerk, Pamela Matherly, Asst. Clerk and Daryl Crusoe, Member. Vice President, Don Alsup was absent.

Mrs. Modisette called for consideration and approval of the agenda. Mr. Crusoe moved and Ms. Parker seconded to approve the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Matherly moved and Mr. Crusoe seconded, to approve the August 10, 2020 board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

Amber Spradlin, ACT President, stated that she was honored to stand before the board this evening and report on how the teachers are doing. A month in to the school year, the teachers are happy, and she has heard lots of praise regarding the A&B schedule. She also assured the board that social distancing is occurring at school. She stated that the teachers are using Wednesdays to email parents and students, teach coursework and also learning about Edmentum, Moby Max, etc. Mrs. Spradlin reported that several teachers were nervous across the district last Friday and praying that the county covid map would return to orange. Mrs. Spradlin added that teachers are feeling overworked, and they are overthinking things to try and make sure that everything that they are doing is good. Mrs. Spradlin stated that the teachers will continue to do what's best for the students and parents as they always have, and they are just asking for everyone to be flexible. They have been required to learn so many new things this year but the challenges have been met head on, and they will continue to push forward. Mrs. Spradlin stated that she is so grateful for everything that the teachers have done this year. She added that never have we had this type of a school year, but everyone is pushing through. Mrs. Spradlin, in closing, asked that everyone continue to praise and lift teachers up.

Under the comments from the floor section, Superintendent Reid reported that CNP Schools patron, Mark Kesner, was present at the August school board meeting. Prior to tonight's board meeting, Mr. Kesner contacted the Administration office to inquire on public comments and speaking at the board meeting. After discussions with Board President Janice Modisette, Mr. Kesner was notified that he could speak for 5 minutes to the board members. Mr. Kesner introduced himself to the board members and stated that he was representing a growing group of parents in support of going back to school 5 days a week. Mr. Kesner expressed his concerns for students only being in school for 2 days a week. He stated that it makes a huge difference for his 2nd grader. Mr. Kesner gave the board examples of various school districts that are attending 5 days a week and hoped that the board would reassess the situation. President Modisette thanked Mr. Kesner for his comments and assured him that the only agenda our board members have is doing what is best for our students.

Superintendent Reid made the following comments:

- We are beginning the fourth week of school and rolling along with the first quarter of the school year. Students have settled in to their "new" routine and student progress reports will be going out soon.
- All schools have had successful open houses and parent orientation programs. It looks different than previous years, but our teachers and administrators just have a way of making things work.
- The board will vote on all employee group contracts this evening including ACT, ESPO, Central Office, support staff and site administrators. Again, negotiations went very smoothly. We have an excellent relationship with all our employee groups and appreciate their leadership and communication during negotiations.
- Kevin will present the 2020/21 district budget this evening. It is a challenge starting with approximately 1.8 million dollars less than last year. Add that to the growth of virtual schools across the state and we can expect another fairly large hit at mid-term. This is a year we will certainly dip into our fund balance, but Kevin has been doing a great job of protecting our fund balance as much as possible.
- Homecoming will be Friday, October 7th. Due to impossible social distancing and other protocols, we will be cancelling the parade this year. Cindy Rogers and Dustin Johnson are working with groups to submit short videos of their groups which Cindy will compile as a replacement for this year's parade. Other homecoming activities such as dress up days and door decorating contests will continue as normal.
- CNP's Covid-19 numbers have surged. This is not unexpected due to Labor Day activities. I am hopeful the numbers will fall back down into a more moderate range. I know our parents, teachers, and administrators all desire to be back in session five days a week when it is safe to do so.
- EDGE update – All of our grade levels now have access to their online curriculum platform. There are some learning curves still being maneuvered, but under the circumstances, Debbie Worley, our site administrators, counselors, and EDGE teachers are doing a terrific job.

Superintendent Reid stated that he asked our Maintenance Director, Brian Cannon, to attend this evening's meeting and present a report on the maintenance department. Mr. Cannon stated that he was very happy to report that all employees in the maintenance department are healthy. He stated that a lot of the maintenance employees are in the at-risk group due to their age. Mr. Cannon gave a brief overview of the 9 maintenance department employees and stated that between these employees they take care of one million square feet of facilities in the district. He added that he is very proud of his department and even though they will never be completely caught up they take care of things as quickly as possible. Mr. Cannon stated that much of his duties over the summer were spent researching what the maintenance staff would need to do to provide the safest environment possible for our students and staff. He researched and purchased the disinfectant spray machines and provided training to the custodial staff. Mr. Cannon stated that he would like to publicly commend our site custodial staff for their positive attitudes and willingness to provide the disinfecting services to their sites. If custodial staff are not available to disinfect their school site, the maintenance staff takes care of the disinfecting. Mr. Cannon stated that another high priority task was making sure that all of the heat and air filters were changed out prior to school starting. Mr. Cannon stated that, as usual, the HVAC systems are a continuous struggle. He reported that we have lost both of our HVAC technicians so most major HVAC jobs are being contracted out. With older facilities and equipment, he is hoping that at some point through school bond issues, we will be able to upgrade and change out the older systems. Mr. Cannon reported that over a year ago, the roof was damaged at the PE gym on the campus of Choctaw Middle School. Due to building codes and working with engineers, the repair process has been lengthy. In closing, Mr. Cannon stated that we are still waiting on the water bottle filling stations that have been on back order for 3 months. He stated that as soon as they arrive, the maintenance department will make the installation a priority.

Under board member comments, Pamela Matherly thanked Mr. Cannon and the maintenance department and stated they are doing an excellent job. Elizabeth Parker also thanked Superintendent Reid for the email updates and said they are very much appreciated.

Kevin Berry, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the 2019/20 fiscal year has been officially closed out and complete focus will now be on the 2020/21 fiscal year. Mr. Berry reported that a new change in policy for the Child Nutrition program has allowed for any student under the age of 18 to receive free meals through December. Mr. Berry stated that he would like to serve as many students as possible with the free meals being provided. He added that he has visited the cafeterias of several school sites since the beginning of the school year and things are going very well. He stated that CHS added a third lunch period this year to assist with social distancing efforts. Mr. Berry stated that he was very pleased that the high school staff has been able to get all students through the lunch line each lunch period within 15 minutes. He commended the staff at the middle schools for doing a wonderful job of social distancing students during the lunch period.

Ms. Parker moved and seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve encumbrances. Approved were the following: Fund 11 - #'s 279 -384 - \$335,362.68; Fund 21 - #'s 083-101 - \$43,153.54; Fund 22 - #'s 066 - 074 - \$1,527.35; and Fund 86 - #'s 25-31 - \$40,608.34. The vote was unanimous.

Chief Financial Officer, Kevin Berry, opened the budget hearing. Mr. Berry had prepared a booklet containing the budget documents and estimate of needs for board members to review. Mr. Berry explained that the budget hearing is required by law and provides the opportunity to present our budget to the board in a public forum where they may comment or ask questions. Mr. Berry stated that this year's budget was a very challenging budget. Due to loss in weighted ADM and a state revenue downfall our budget is down \$1.8 million from last fiscal year. Mr. Berry explained that one big key issue regarding our decreased budget is the growth in charter schools. Mr. Berry reported that he is anticipating the charter schools will take all mid-term monies. Mr. Berry stated that the district currently has a 2.2-million-dollar fund balance which will help us. Also, we have some funds available in our insurance recovery fund. Mr. Berry added that he is presenting a balanced budget this evening; however, the true budget will not occur until after mid-term. Mr. Berry explained when our weighted ADM is down it means losses in other areas. Mr. Berry closed stating that it will be a tough and difficult budget year. He asked the board if they had any questions for him regarding the budget hearing. Ms. Matherly asked when we would receive our mid-term numbers and Mr. Berry gave the response of mid-January. Mr. Berry closed the budget hearing.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Mr. Crusoe to approve the Estimate of Needs for FY 2020/21. The vote was unanimous.

Kelli Hosford, Executive Director of Student Services reported that great things have been happening. Mrs. Hosford stated that she has been visiting all school sites and conducting small team meetings. Mrs. Hosford stated that it is important to visit the sites and see the students and teachers in action. Mrs. Hosford stated that there are several new student IEP's completed, and she would like to praise the site staff for going above and beyond. Mrs. Hosford stated that she has been participating in several Zoom meetings regarding the upcoming child count. Currently, the district has 878 students that are on IEP's. There have been some issues with the WAVE reporting system so not all IEP's are currently being recognized in the WAVE. Mrs. Hosford also reported that she has been participating in 1st year director's meetings

and has been assigned a mentor for this school year. Mrs. Hosford stated that she would like to praise the special education teams across the district and all the transportation department for working so hard with our special education students. In closing, Mrs. Hosford stated that she will be publishing the very first Student Services newsletter this week and will continue to publish on a quarterly basis.

Dr. JeanAnn Gaona, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, reported that elementary teacher committees are working with Terri Warren to realign our report cards with standards and new elements of our Student Information System that produces the report cards. Dr. Gaona stated that they began meeting last year, and she hopes to make this an annual process so that our report cards remain a reflection of state standards that students are learning. Our Choctaw-Nicoma Park Schools Education Foundation recently held their annual grant drive. Many teachers applied and Dr. Gaona stated that she looks forward to reporting in the upcoming months who received grants for classroom projects and materials. Last Friday, sites received an additional 140 Chromebooks divided by attendance numbers at their sites. Our next anticipated delivery will add touch screen Chromebooks for our early elementary students. Every company in the world seems to have backorders on items, and Chromebook deliveries have been affected accordingly. We are ordering more; however, we expect tremendous delays. In addition, approximately 75 hotspots have been distributed to families who have requested the devices. These devices provide Internet services free of charge to qualifying students. Overall, our teachers and administrators continue to work diligently to provide the best possible opportunities we can for our students. September always provides welcome relief as our temperatures begin to drop. Dr. Gaona stated that she thinks it always provides relief for everyone in our buildings. It has been refreshing when walking through sites to see our children and their teachers excited to be in school. Regarding Item A on the agenda, Accreditation was actually suspended for the 2019/20 school year and is expected to resume for the 2020/2021 school year. We did follow all requirements and had anticipated that we would have received full accreditation from the State Department of Education. However, for the 2019/20 school year, we do not have an Accreditation Report for you to approve this evening. I recommend that the board approve item B. Following guidelines of ESSA, districts who select the ACT as their 11th grade Oklahoma State Department of Education assessment must have board approval. The high school has held a required stakeholder meeting with faculty, student, and parent representatives to discuss the selection of either the ACT or SAT for the 11th grade spring test. In addition, Mrs. Harris sent notification to all Choctaw High School parents with an opportunity for feedback via email, but did not receive any response. The selection of the ACT will not affect the educational opportunities that our students are currently receiving. Dr. Gaona stated that the ACT has been providing professional development and feedback data for our district for at least the last 19 years that she has worked here. Dr. Gaona recommended that the board also approve item C. This will allow self-identification of the sites who identified focus areas that qualified in their sites for the Oklahoma State Department of Education's Programs of Excellence as presented to you last month. Dr. Gaona reported that as she mentioned last month, Choctaw-Nicoma Park School is considered a cutting-edge district in this pursuit by our schools. When site report cards return in the fall of 2021, CNP sites who receive your approval will be recognized by the State Department of Education report cards.

Due to the pandemic and not receiving an Accreditation Report no action was taken on agenda item 8A.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve the CHS selection of the ACT as the 11th grade Oklahoma State Department of Education assessment. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Parker moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly, to approve the CNP Schools Programs of Excellence site level focus areas as listed on Attachment A. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous.

At 6:51 p.m., Mr. Crusoe moved and Ms. Matherly seconded to enter executive session. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:45 p.m., Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Mr. Crusoe to return to open session. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve the following support recommendations: Shelley Protzman, effective 7/1/20; Kiersey Rogers, effective 8/12/20; Elyse Gates, effective 7/1/20; Tara Switzer, effective 7/1/20; Sheilah Miller, effective 9/8/20; Mariah Easley, effective 7/1/20; Alisha Albright, effective 7/1/20; Catherine Bowers, effective 9/14/20; Olivia Vernon, effective 7/1/20; Marisol Duhamel, effective 9/3/20; and Ashely Fisher, effective 9/10/20. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve the following support resignations: Jennifer McMillian, effective 6/30/20; Joann Miller, effective 6/20/20; Erin Ramirez, effective 9/11/20; Brad Ives, effective 6/30/20; Ronal Samal; effective 6/30/20; Larry Kirham, effective 6/30/20; Aster Legesse, effective 6/30/20 and Debra Reed, effective 6/30/20. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the ACT contract for the 2020/21 school year. The vote was unanimous.

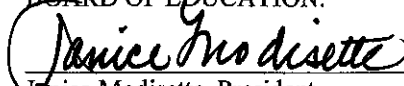
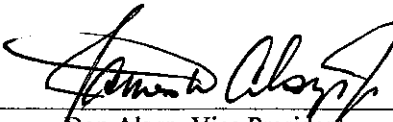
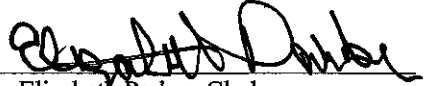
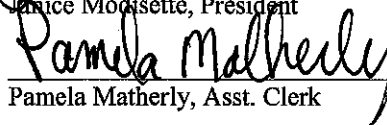

Ms. Parker moved, seconded by Mr. Crusoe to approve the Central Office Support Staff contract for the 2020/21 school year. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve the Administrator/Director/Supervisor contract for the 2020/21 school year. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the ESPO Contract for the 2020/21 school year. The vote was unanimous.

There being no new business, at 7:48 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Matherly and seconded by Ms. Parker to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

 Janice Modisette, President	 Don Alsup, Vice President	 Elizabeth Parker, Clerk
 Pamela Matherly, Asst. Clerk	 Daryl Crusoe, Member	