

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2022 REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
CHOCTAW/NICOMA PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ind. Dist. 4, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma

Place of Meeting

Nicoma Park Elementary, School, 1200 N. Hickman, Choctaw, OK 73020

Don Alsup, President, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. following a presentation by Nicoma Park Elementary in their Action Learning Lab. Roll call established the following members present: Elizabeth Parker, Vice President; Daryl Crusoe, Assistant Clerk; Pamela Matherly, Clerk and Janice Modisette, Member.

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

Ms. Parker moved and Mrs. Modisette seconded to approve the January 10, 2022 board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

Superintendent Reid stated that the next item on the agenda was recognition of employees and asked Dr. JeanAnn Gaona, Assistant Superintendent to introduce the employees. Dr. Gaona explained the process and tedious job of unloading and installing the Smart Panels. Dr. Gaona stated that three people were present at this evenings board meeting that she wanted to recognize for their hard work and dedication in helping to make sure that our teachers and students have access to this wonderful new technology that is available to us. First, Dr. Gaona introduced Janna Walters and stated that Janna is the technology guru when it comes to instructional technology within the district. Dr. Gaona stated that Mrs. Walters was key in organizing, ordering and overseeing the taking down of Smart Boards, installation of Smart Panels and making sure that all of the software is up to date. Most importantly, she makes sure that all of the teachers are comfortable enough to turn them on. The tasks and organization of the coordination in ordering and installing 245 Smart Panels has been huge and Dr. Gaona praised Mrs. Walters for this extraordinary task. The other two people in attendance were Chris Brazer, Director of IT and his right-hand man, Randy Bernardi. A third member of the IT Department, David Duke, was not present at the meeting but was acknowledged for his hard work. The IT Department has been instrumental in making sure that our teachers have the laptops and docking stations that were purchased for them to operate the Smart Panels. Dr. Gaona stated that the process between removal and installation of the Smart Boards, Smart Panels and laptops has been amazing. These employees have put in so many hours above their contract hours just to make sure that everything is working properly.

Ambra Smith, ACT President, reported that ACT is very excited that the bond issues passed last Tuesday. She added that several teachers in the district received grants through Donor Choose. Grants that the teachers received were up to \$800.00. Ms. Smith stated that they are very excited about the new technology that is being brought into the schools. She stated that advocacy has started at the capitol and there are at least 13 bills being introduced regarding vouchers so we have a lot of work to do this year.

There were no comments from the floor regarding agenda items.

Superintendent Reid made the following comments:

- We are humbled and excited by the community support for the 2022 CNP Bond Issue. There were roughly 3800 voters on the two propositions and it passed at nearly 3 to 1 or 75%. It shows the faith, trust and support the community has for the school system. We are prepared to begin the long process of predevelopment, design development, issue bids, open bids, and finally construction administration with each of our projects. The initial target date for completion of the upfront projects will be December 2025. The eighth largest project will be the demolition of the old NPI building and expansion of the current NPE. That project will have a construction manager selected for it when CNP West is close to completion.
- We wish the best of luck to the winter sports and fine arts programs as they near the season ending tournaments. It seems crazy, but the spring sports and activities are in full practice mode and begin preseason activities either this week or in the very near future.
- The musical BYE BYE BIRDIE is set to begin. As always, this production includes students, staff, and patrons from throughout the community. Performance dates are February 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27. Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday shows begin at 2:30 p.m.
- The legislative session began last week. As usual, there will be good bills and potentially bad bills that we will be following. We would like to thank Speaker of the House Chuck McCall for declaring voucher bills will not be heard in the House this year. This is significant as Governor Stitt and Senate Pro Temp Greg Treat have vouchers as a top priority. These vouchers would make public school dollars available for private schools. As is true each year, the legislative session is more of a marathon than a sprint. Superintendent Reid added that he

will be attending the legislative briefings weekly and meeting with our senators and representatives advocating for our district and will provide updates as warranted.

- In closing, Superintendent Reid thanked not only everyone present at the meeting, but also to their spouse who understands and either did an early or late Valentine's dinner to accommodate.

There were no comments from board members.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve an out of state trip for CHS band to travel to Dayton, Ohio on April 6th-9th, 2022 to attend Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Mr. Crusoe to approve an out of state trip for CHS baseball to travel to Pensacola, FL for the Tate Classic Baseball Tournament on March 12-19, 2022. The vote was unanimous.

Kevin Berry, Chief Financial Officer, reported that this past month has been concentrated on the bond issue passage and our audit. Mr. Berry reported that our auditor was present this evening and would present the audit later in the meeting. A couple of items of good news, we finally got a funding commitment and a date that we are going to get paid from the federal government for part of their emergency connectivity fund. This is about a \$770,000 reimbursement for several hundred chrome books, lap tops and hot spots. We have been waiting for this for about 7-8 months so we were glad to get the notification for this payment. In regard to Redbud, which is the building equalization funding from the State to try and equalize building funds among schools, we received our allocation for half of it and it was about \$150,000 for the building fund which is sorely needed. Mr. Berry stated that Mr. Cannon needs all the money that he can get to maintain our buildings.

Mrs. Modisette moved and seconded by Ms. Parker to approve encumbrances. Approved were the following: Fund 11 – #'s 690 -767 - \$36,693.45; Fund 21 – #'s 144-149 - \$55,184.92; Fund 22 - # – 054 – 056 - \$431.60; Fund 31 - # 6 - \$6,366.00, and Fund 33 - #3 - \$1,000.00. The vote was unanimous.

The next agenda item is the approval of our 2020-21 financial audit. Mr. Berry stated that we did receive our audit and it was another very good audit. Other than a few minor things which are found each year, it is a very good audit. Mr. Berry stated that Amy Ziemba from Putnam and Company, is here this evening and introduced her to give her report to the school board members. Ms. Ziemba referred to the summary sheet at the front of the audit. She explained the contents of the audit to the board members. She stated that this year the district had to have three reports in the audit, the independent audit report, internal control report and the third report is because we spent more than \$750,000 in federal dollars. Ms. Ziemba explained that the fund balances in the report reflects the balances on June 30th and not the current balances. The general fund balance was at \$876,000 which was down from the previous year. She added that this it is primarily due to many cuts that occurred and also waiting to get reimbursement back from CARES and other programs related to the pandemic. The building fund was at \$52,000 and Child Nutrition as at \$48,000 which was an increase of \$8,800. The sinking fund is at \$467,000 which is up \$121,000. She added that this is very good because it means that the district collected the funds needed to pay for bonds. Bond funds were \$9,590,000 and that was up \$421,000. Insurance fund was \$725,000 and went down \$1,900,000 but there were several projects that was completed with those funds. The activity fund balance was \$223,000 which was down \$22,000. On June 30th, the district had \$26,275,000 in bonds outstanding at that time and of that an additional \$898,000 in interest for those bonds. In July of 2020, we have \$46,000 that came in for expenses spent the prior year that was federal dollars and in July of 2021, a total of \$512,000 funds that came in for expenditures that had been made. This is one reason why the fund balance was lower as the district was waiting to receive these funds. Ms. Ziemba stated that the back page of the audit is where the exceptions are notated and there is really nothing major. She added that it is pretty limited with items that she finds everywhere such as invoice dates. Ms. Ziemba stated she would take any questions that anyone might have. The board members had no questions and thanked Ms. Ziemba for her report.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the financial audit for the 2020-21 school year. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve Putnam and Company to perform the financial audit for FY 2021-22. The vote was unanimous.

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

Kelli Hosford, Executive Director of Student Services reported that there are some incredible things happening in Student Services. First, Ms. Hosford wanted to recognize our principals and special education teachers. She stated that during our three recent snow days they persevered with many of their IEP's so we could stay in compliance with those. Many of the meetings were quite lengthy so I just wanted to express a thank you. Piggy backing what Ambra Smith had reported, we had several special education teachers apply and receive \$800 grants through the State Department of Education. At NPMS, they received text to speech pens and headphones so our struggling readers can check out library books and do assignments on their grade level and it reads it to them as it comes through on their headphones. A teacher at JGI is receiving a GoPro and a tri-pod. She has so many visual learners and they all want to be youtubers. They are talking about videography,

editing skills, self-monitoring, public speaking and team work through this. At CHS, we received some magnification devices for our visually impaired students. One of our elementary classrooms received some sensory lights and Mrs. Hosford passed around some pictures of the kids with the sensory light and how they are working with them in the classroom. Mrs. Hosford stated that this week is kindness week. Counselors week was last week and Mrs. Hosford stated that she wanted to publicly thank our counselors for being the heart beat of their school and all that they do to help us. All sites have celebrated their counselors and we will be celebrating them at the administration office with a breakfast tomorrow morning. The State Department also had a weekly theme and all principals took pictures of their counselors and sent them in to go along with that theme. Testing is a go. Mrs. Hosford reported that our Building Testing Coordinators are doing there training and she has completed her training and they have a plan for EDGE to test this Thursday. This year in the special education department, Mrs. Hosford reported that 134 students have been tested for special services and 125 students have qualified. That is a qualified 93% of those who have been referred for special education. Mrs. Hosford continued by stating that SEARCH is another program in the special services office and she doesn't have a chance to highlight them very often. Mrs. Hosford shared with the board many projects that the teachers and students are working on.

Dr. JeanAnn Gaona, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, expressed her thanks to Mrs. Mosely for presenting the NPE Action Lab to everyone before the start of the board meeting. Dr. Gaona reported that Nicoma Park Intermediate, Nicoma Park Middle School, Choctaw Elementary School, Westfall Elementary and Choctaw Middle School have received laptops for teachers and smart panels for their classrooms so far during this installation process. This week the team will complete Indian Meridian Elementary and begin working on James Griffith Intermediate. All sites are expected to be finished by March 8. This included installation of 245 smart panels and laptops and smart TVs at every site for office staff. This has been a very intensive process but the rewards for our students will be many. Dr. Gaona informed the board members that Attachment B in their board packets contained the serial numbers of Smart Boards from IME, Westfall and Choctaw Elementary. These are the out of date boards that have been removed from every teacher's classroom. She added that she recommends approval of the surplus items listed. Dr. Gaona stated that as required by the Oklahoma State Department of Education, each time the Return to Learn Plan for our district is modified, it must receive board approval and it has been placed on this evening's agenda. Dr. Gaona reported that the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) and Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) jointly announced on January 24th that they are moving away from universal case investigation and contact tracing. Two weeks ago, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), the Tulsa County Department of Health (THD), and the Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) said they would follow that guidance and phase out universal case investigation and contact tracing. Oklahoma City Public Schools, Piedmont, Mustang, Yukon, Edmond and other districts around us have stopped extensive contact tracing. The proposed changes of our district's Return to Learn Plan will have a statement under the contact tracing which states: CNP will no longer conduct contact tracing on a case-by-case basis. Instead, we will focus our resources to conduct outbreak or "hot-spot" investigations as necessary. CNP will no longer notify each individual who is identified as a "close contact" or notify a building or campus of a positive case. Instead, CNP will notify families and staff who may be involved in an outbreak or "hot spot" incident. CNP will not require "close contacts" who are not experiencing any symptoms to quarantine following an exposure, regardless of vaccination status. CNP will continue monitoring data, tracing and collecting self-reported positive COVID-19 cases for students and staff. CNP will continue to require anyone who test positive for COVID-19 to isolate for 5 days, regardless of vaccination status. CNP will continue with our enhanced cleaning and disinfection protocols. CNP will continue practicing social distancing to the greatest extent possible. Dr. Gaona closed stating that she recommends these proposed changes to the Choctaw-Nicoma Park Return to Learn Plan for the 2021-22 school year.

Mr. Crusoe moved, seconded by, Ms. Matherly, to declare the items listed on Attachment B – Smart Board Surplus #3 – as surplus items. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Matherly moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the revision to the 2021-22 Return to Learn Plan. The vote was unanimous.

At 6:39 p.m., Ms. Matherly made a motion, Ms. Parker seconded, to enter into executive session. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:29 p.m., by a motion from Mr. Crusoe and a second by Mrs. Modisette, the board voted to return to open session. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the following certified recommendation: Megan DeQuasie, effective 1/3/22. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the following certified resignations: Donna Kraeer (retire), effective 6/30/22; Lori Hardy (retire), effective 6/30/22 and Jayme Martine, effective 6/30/22. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the following support recommendations: Ashley Pittman, effective 1/12/22; Sarah Miller, effective 1/10/22; Ashely Stepuch, effective 1/20/22 and Andrea Murphy, effective 1/25/22. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Ms. Parker to approve the following support resignation: Robert Wilks, effective 2/4/22. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Parker moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly to approve the reemployment of the following Central Office Administrators for the 2022-23 school year (amended from 2021-22 school year): Kevin Berry, Dr. JeanAnn Gaona, Kelli Hosford and Michael James. The vote was unanimous.

There being no new business, at 7:31 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Modisette and seconded by Mr. Crusoe to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Don Alsup, President

Elizabeth Parker, Vice President

Pamela Matherly, Clerk

Daryl Crusoe, Asst. Clerk

Janice Modisette, Member