

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023 REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
CHOCTAW/NICOMA PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Ind. Dist. 4, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma

Place of Meeting

James Griffith Intermediate School, 1861 S. Indian Meridian, Choctaw, OK 73020

Elizabeth Parker, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. President Parker called roll to establish the following members present: Jason Ross, Clerk, Janice Modisette, Assistant Clerk and Don Alsup, Member. Board Vice President, Pamela Matherly was absent.

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

Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Alsup to approve the January 9, 2023 board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous.

Ambra Smith, ACT President, stated that ACT was very thankful for the bad weather days and stated we still have 3 days remaining which is very good. Ms. Smith continued stating that she wanted to highlight some of our teacher teachers that are doing amazing things in our district. She reported that Cheryl Card is a counselor at NPI and she is on the Trauma Cadre with the Oklahoma Educators Association. She added she is able to do this through a national grant. Ms. Smith added that Ms. Card will be presenting “Beyond Trauma” to two of our elementary schools on February 20th. Next, Crystal Rheis a 5th grade teacher at Westfall and she presented at a National Conference last week for the Space Exploration Educator’s Conference. Ms. Smith added that she just learned that Crystal was also very instrumental in helping to fund the Family Stem Night that will be held later this month by writing and receiving a grant through the Education Foundation.

There were no comments from the floor regarding agenda items.

Superintendent Reid gave the following report:

- Last Wednesday was the first-year anniversary of the passage of the 2022 CNP Schools Bond issue. We sent out a quick video update of the progress of the projects. Todd will give a little more information during his designated time, but I wanted to once again publicly say thank you to the community for investing in our current and future students.
- 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 this week or in the very near future.
- The musical “Matilda” is set to begin. As always, this production includes students, staff, and patrons from throughout the community. Performance dates are February 24, 25 & 26 as well as March 10, 11, and 12. 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. I will be attending weekly briefings and meetings with legislators about bills that could have an effect on public education. I will keep everyone up-to-date as they arise.

The following safety and security updates were given by Todd Dilbeck, Director of Bond Oversight & Security. On Friday, January 13, 2023, Midwest Drilling took core samples of old tennis courts. On Tuesday, January 17th, a meeting was held with companies to determine scope of work on the following Jensen Field Upgrades: track, turf, and stadium lights. On February 20th at 9:00 a.m., we reviewed CHS new addition and had pre-construction meeting with representatives from CWA, Manhattan and CHS Principals, faculty members and Central Administration team. Discussed handicapped parking, parent pick up, bus lanes and staff parking. On Thursday, January 26th a review was conducted of McCharen Center renovations, the Multipurpose Facility, the New West Elementary and the Softball/Baseball Facilities. On Thursday, February 2nd, a review, update and discussion was held regarding the Show Barn. The issue to bid for CHS will be the middle of February 2023 and bid opening will be in middle of March. Mr. Dilbeck closed with the following security update. On Tuesday, January 31st, a meeting was held with the District IT Department and reviewed and discussed camera systems for our school sites.

There were no comments by the board members.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Mr. Ross to approve an out of state trip for the CHS winter guard to travel to Winter Guard International (WGI) qualifying reginal in Dallas, TX on March 18, 2023. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Alsup to approve an out of state trip for CHS winter guard to travel to Dayton, Ohio on April 12-15, 2023 to attend Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette, to approve an out of state trip for CHS baseball to travel to Pensacola, FL for the Tate Classic Baseball Tournament on March 11-17, 2023. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the 2023-24 Instructional Calendar. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Alsup to approve a policy revision to policy FE – Student Transfers. The vote was unanimous.

Kevin Berry, Chief Financial Officer reported that there are few things to report on the finance side of the district. He stated that January is typically our biggest revenue month, which it was. He added that we received over \$11 million dollars in the general fund. Revenues are coming in as budgeted or maybe slightly a little above. He added that the issue is to hold off on the expenditure side that continues to increase with inflation so we will keep a close eye on expenditures. Mr. Berry added that last year was the first year that we received funding from the Redbud Fund. Last year we were allocated \$200,000 and this year we received \$15,000 which is a big difference. However, we should be making up the \$200,000 in June and we look forward to receiving that.

Mrs. Modisette moved and seconded by Mr. Ross to approve encumbrances. Approved were the following: Fund 11 – #'s 727 -828 - \$89,575.59; Fund 21 – #'s 143-146 - \$15,300.00; Fund 22 - # 82 - \$33.35; and Fund 86 -#'s 22 -24 - \$110,950.00. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Berry stated that Amy Ziemba, from our auditing company, was present this evening. Mr. Berry reported that we were very sad to hear of the passing of Jerry Putnam, who was the owner of our auditing firm. He stated that Amy will continue this year's auditing process and will be working under another CPA. Mr. Berry asked Amy to give a brief overview of the audit. Ms. Ziemba gave the following report. Due to the recent death of Jerry Putnam, she explained the process of being assigned under another accounting firm to complete this year's audit. Amy reported that overall the audit was very good with a few typical findings regarding invoice/purchase order dates and paying from a statement versus an invoice. She did add that there is a deficiency noted regarding two employees not being paid their contract amount. She concluded that the district has since corrected and made payment to the employees.

Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Alsup to approve the financial audit for school year 2021-22. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the District Hazard Mitigation Plan. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Mr. Ross to approve a new activity fund account – CMS Spirit Club. The vote was unanimous.

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

Kelli Hosford, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services reported that last week was School Counselor Week. She expressed her appreciation to each site for the amazing ways that they spoiled their school counselors via lunches, gifts, bulletin board and flowers. A huge thank you to our school counselors who ensure the social and emotional well-being of our students and staff each day. Mrs. Hosford stated that we appreciate all that they do for us. Mrs. Hosford added that this week is Kindness Week. Each of our sites have organized activities for their students and staff centered around kindness. Some examples are: Powered by Kindness: wear a super hero shirt and Team Up for Kindness: wear a sports jersey. In closing, Mrs. Hosford Stated that March 7th is “wear green to honor those with disability day”.

Dr. JeanAnn Gaona, Deputy Superintendent of Academic Affairs reported that last Thursday evening, Title VI elementary students joined author, Wylie Barnes, a Chickasaw citizen, as he read his latest book, “Funny Fani” which won the Oklahoma Book Award. The event on Thursday, February 9, 2023 was hosted in Choctaw Elementary School's media center. Fani' spelled f-a-n-i, the Chickasaw word for squirrel, is the main character of the book. Fani explores the zoo in “Barnes' charming story. “Funny Fani” incorporates Chickasaw culture through language and history. The 88-page book includes an extensive glossary of animals. Barnes spent 18 months writing the glossary incorporating factual and scientific information of animals into the paragraphs provided. Mr. Barnes spent much of his time interacting with students who eagerly shared their favorite animals at the zoo. He patiently answered all questions asked by the students who each received an autographed copy of his book. Dr. Gaona continued stating that tomorrow, she and representatives from each of our secondary English Language Arts program will attend the Oklahoma State Department of Education's textbook caravan to review the language arts books approved by the Oklahoma by the Oklahoma state textbook adoption committee. From these titles, all secondary language arts teachers will vote upon our new textbooks which will be purchased in July. This is an exciting time for our district as it will be the final textbook purchase to completely update curriculum offered in our district through a six-year process. The vote will take place in late February or March determinate upon the decision made by the textbook adoption committee. Dr. Gaona added that Mrs. Worley is

coordinating our district's STEM night for 3rd through 5th grade students on Tuesday, March 8th in the McCharen Activities Center from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. It will be a come and go event that will provide families hands-on activities through discovery stations. This is a leap forward for our district thanks to the direction of Mrs Worley. I believe that you received invitations in your board packets and I hope that you are able to attend if possible. Dr. Gaona stated as the board considers the next agenda item regarding adjunct teachers, that these are teachers that teach a section outside of their general certification area. Adjunct certification allows them to continue to do so. These teachers are qualified in the areas in which they will hopefully, with the board's approval receive adjunct certification. Dr. Gaona introduced Josh Durant, IME-JGI Unified Campus Principal, who spoke about LTRS Training. The Program would cost upwards of \$1500 each if teachers were to sign up individually so it really wonderful that they have this opportunity. We have approximately 50 teachers district wide currently participating in the program. Mr. Durant will be speaking to you regarding the IME/JGI currently participating. Mr. Durant thanked everyone for being at IME/JGI and stated everyone is always welcome. Mr. Durant stated that there are about 16 teachers across the IME/JGI campus that are participating in LTRS training. LTRS Training is essentially like getting another master's degree. It is 70+ hours of work and these wonderful faculty members are doing this on their own time in the evenings, weekends, etc. It is something that is an incredible commitment and Mr. Durant reported that he is so proud to have so many faculty members across the IME/JGI campus doing this. Mr. Durant stated that through this training they become a lot better teachers when it comes to phonics, reading awareness and reading comprehension in general. Mr. Durant added that for our students that are having those gaps in their reading, this program is helping us to reach them at a different level and rate than before. Eight of the sixteen teachers on the IME/JGI campus will finish the LTRS training this year and the others will be soon to follow. In closing, Mr. Durant stated that it is definitely a positive with students across the board and definitely something we are proud of.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Mr. Ross to approve the following for adjunct certifications: approve the following for adjunct certification: Melina Gundersen – 7559 Occup Fam/Cons Sc; Kecia Ferguson – 2001 Art; Kristen Pelletier – 2019 Phys Ed/Hlth/Sfty; Javier Venzor – 6552 World History; Lesli Hart – 2002 American Sign Language and Beverly Woods – 5550 Advanced Mathematics. The vote was unanimous.

At 6:28 p.m., Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to meet in executive session. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:06 p.m., Mr. Ross moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to return to open session. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the following certified recommendations: Garrett Hendley, effective 8/9/23 and Shanna Keiffer, effective 6/30/23. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the following certified resignations: Patricia Dash, effective 2/17/23. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mrs. Modisette to approve the following support recommendations: Bryan Roberts, effective 1/20/23; Christopher Meske, effective 1/13/23; Michele Stanhouse, effective 1/13/23; Erika Riley, effective 1/13/23; Andrea Cramer, effective 1/13/23; Harmony Sullivan, effective 1/23/13; Candice Kirby, effective 1/23/23 and James Tolbert, effective 1/26/23. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Ms. Matherly, to approve the following support resignations: Kenzie DeCamp, effective 3/10/23; George Mainus, effective 1/18/23 and Brittany Hendrix, effective 2/3/23. The vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Modisette moved, seconded by Mr. Alsup to approve Shanna Keiffer as the Assistant Director of Student Services effective July 1, 2023. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Alsup moved, seconded by Mr. Ross to approve the evaluation and reemployment of the follow Central Office Administrators for the 2023/24 school year: Kevin Berry, Dr. JeanAnn, Gaona, Kelli Hosford and Michael James. The vote was unanimous.

There being no further new business, at 7:19 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Modisette and seconded by Mr. Alsup to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Elizabeth Parker, President

Pamela Matherly, Vice President

Jason Ross, Clerk

Janice Modisette, Asst. Clerk

Don Alsup, Member