

## Board Notes — April 10, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Education of Newton Unified School District 373 convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023, in the Board of Education meeting room located at a 308 E 1<sup>st</sup>, Newton, KS.

**Members Present:** Luke Edwards, Brenna Haines, Mallory Morton, Andy Ortiz, Melissa Schreiber, Dayna Steinmetz, and Matt Treaster

**Others Present:** Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Assistant Superintendent Sheila Wendling, Director of Business/Human Resources Jane Nichols, Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz, and Director of Communications Carly Stavola

### 1. Opening of Meeting

Mallory Morton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mallory Morton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

### 2. Presentations/Reports

#### Sunset Elementary Update

Sunset Elementary Principal, Teresa Tosh, and teachers, Ronna Hammel and Amy Schmidt, presented an update to the board on what has been happening at Sunset highlighting activities from each grade level.

### 3. Comments from the Public

#### Public Comment

Ian Long, Julia Long, Steven Johnson, John Esau, Dean Davis and Sara Getchell addressed the board regarding recent decisions about Walton Rural Life Center.

### 4. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the March 27, 2023 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the April 10, 2023 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Pracht	Kirstyn	Teacher	SF	5/26/2023		x
Morales	Angelica	Custodian	NHS	3/24/2023		x
Nicholsen	Sheri	Administrative Assistant	SB	6/6/2023		x
Flores	Staci	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	4/5/2023		x
Gilmore	Bryan	Teacher	NHS	5/26/2023		x
Hofstetter	Sonia	Teacher	NR	5/26/2023		x
Kessler	Shanna	Head Start Aide	Cooper	4/10/2023	x	
Boese	Ray	Alternative School Teacher/FB Coach-Defensive Coordinator	NHS	8/1/2023	x	
Weatherby	Seth	Asst. Track Coach	NHS	4/5/2023	x	
McGuire	Rebecca	Psychologist	NHS	8/1/2023	x	

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer
Polley	Catherine	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	5/25/2023	Substitute Teacher @ District Wide
Cheney	Aryn	Substitute Teacher	Dist.-Wide	4/3/2023	Perm. Building Sub @ SF
Schneider	Justin	Teacher	CMS	3/31/2023	Add Railer Power Hr & Connections
Rende	Miki	Long Term Sub.	CMS	8/1/2023	IR Sped Teacher @ CMS
Yoder	Jim	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	4/3/2023	From 4 hrs/day to 5 hrs/day
Branson	Amy	Teacher	NR	4/4/2023	Add Braille Transcriber
Weaver	Kendrick	Substitute Teacher	Dist.-Wide	4/10/2023	Sp. Ed. Para @ CMS
VanBuren	Michelle	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	3/30/2023	Sp Ed Para 1.17 hrs/day / Aide 5.5 hrs/day
McDermid	Shelley	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	3/30/2023	Sp Ed Para 2 hrs/day / Aide 2.5 hrs/day
Epp	Naomi	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	3/30/2023	ED Sp. Ed. Para 4.17 hrs/day / Aide 2.33 hrs/day
Mans	Lena	Head Start Aide	Cooper	3/6/2023	from 6.75 hrs/day to 8 hrs/day
Wieberg	Marsha	Head Start Aide	Cooper	3/6/2023	from 8 hrs/day to 6.5 hrs/day

Resignation/Termination/Transfer/Change of Assignment shall be deemed accepted upon approval of this report by the Board of Education.

- Approve the purchase for technology upgrades as presented.
- Approve the purchase of furniture for Santa Fe as part of capital outlay.

## 5. Old Business

### Curriculum Design Update

Ryan Kopper, Newton High School English teacher, gave an update on the curriculum design work that the English department has been working on this school year.

## 6. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Amy Curiel	Northridge Elem.	Donation to cover all school field trip and provide for an all staff lunch	\$1,000.00
Nathan & Marissa Murphy	Northridge Elem.	Donation for greenhouse project	\$500.00

- Approve request for use of the contingency reserve fund to cover costs associated with the network security incident on March 28, 2023.

### BOE Appointment to the NRC Board

Tim Marlar has been serving as the board appointed representative on the Newton Recreation Commission board and his term expires in June 2023. He is willing to continue another term on the board. After discussion, there was board consensus to reappoint him to continue in this capacity.

### Curriculum Adoptions for 2023-2024

Sheila Wendling presented information on curriculum adoptions for 2023-24 for NHS French, German, Journalism, Psychology and Santa Fe Social Studies. Administration will be recommending approval at the May 8 board meeting.

**Endowment Committee Information**

Information on the district's endowments and committee membership was presented to the board. The board discussed options for membership and the potential need for updating the Memo of Organization. Further information will come to the board.

**Discussion on Starting Meetings with a Prayer**

At the request of board member Andy Ortiz, the board discussed starting meetings with a prayer. Information from legal counsel was reviewed. No decision was made at this time.

**7. PK-Elem and Department Reports**

Building reports for Cooper, Northridge, Slate Creek, South Breeze, Sunset, Walton Rural Life center, HR/Payroll/Business and Maintenance/Facilities were provided to board members.

**8. Closing of Meeting****Board Comments**

Time was provided for each board member to comment. Mallory Morton commented on the summer camp opportunities offered by the Wichita State University College of Engineering.

**Adjournment**

Move to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Background information on agenda items may be found in BoardDocs at:  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/usd373/Board.nsf/Public>