

Board Notes — June 26, 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, June 26, 2023, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

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

Members Absent: Brenna Haines

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 7:02 p.m.
 Mallory Morton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 — Adopt the agenda as presented.

2. Comments from the Public

No comments.

3. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

- Approve the June 12, 2023 Special Board meeting and Regular Board meeting minutes as presented.
- Approve the bills as presented.
- Approve the June 26, 2023 Personnel Report as presented.

| Last Name | First Name | Position | Location | Effective Date | Hire | Resignation/ Termination |
|---------------|------------|-------------------------------|----------|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| DeWitt | Lisa | Sp. Ed. Para | SS | 5/24/2023 | | x |
| Unruh | Sherry | Web Master | DO | 8/4/2023 | | x |
| Peaney | Kara | Teacher | SB | 6/16/2023 | | x |
| Montano | Alfred | Custodian | NHS | 6/16/2023 | | x |
| Zaldivar-Jaso | Veronica | 5th Gr. Math Teacher | SF | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Ramsey | Emily | Head Start Teacher | Cooper | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Davis | Kathlyn | Head Start Teacher | Cooper | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Becker | Chris | Gr 6 Science/Soc Studies Tchr | SF | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Johnson | Mary | Nurse | SC/NR | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Tovar | Andrew | Business Teacher | NHS | 8/1/2023 | x | |
| Last Name | First Name | Position | Location | Effective Date | Change of Assignment/Transfer | |
| Smith | Kendall | Part-time Teacher | Walton | 8/1/2023 | Part-time ELL Coord. @ District-Wide | |
| Pickens | James | Custodian | NHS | 6/20/2023 | Custodian @ CMS | |

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

- Approve the food service yearly program renewal as presented.
- Approve the adoption of the Member Participation Agreement in the Kansas Association of School Boards Workers Compensation Fund, Inc. as presented.

- Authorize administration to pay year end bills and complete fund transfers as necessary to close FY23.
- Approve the data mining services quote as presented.
- Approve becoming a member of the Equalis Purchasing program.

4. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the revised Newton High School 2023-24 Course Guide.
- Approve the ELA novels as presented.
- Approve the 2023-24 handbooks for Chisholm Staff, Cooper Family, Newton High School Students and Elementary Family as presented.

5. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

| Donation From | To Building/Dept | Description | Value/Amt |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Newton Community Found. Health Grant Cycle | Newton Head Start | For Weekend Food Kits program | \$1,000.00 |

- Approve the ELL Coordinator job description as presented.

Athletic Services Agreement

The contract with Newton Medical Center to provide athletic trainer services for NHS for 2023-24 was presented to the board for review. Administration will be seeking approval of this agreement at the July 10 board meeting.

School Meal Prices for 2023-24

The 2023-24 meal prices were presented to the board. There is an increase in breakfast and milk only purchases. Administration will be seeking approval of the 2023-24 meal prices at the July 10 board meeting.

SRO MOU

The MOU with the City of Newton regarding our SRO program was presented and administration will be seeking approval of this at the July 10 board meeting.

Proposed 2023-2024 BOE Meeting Dates

A draft of the 2023-24 Board of Education meeting dates was presented. The board will approve meeting dates at the July 10 organizational meeting.

Board Appointments to Committees

A review of board committee appointments was provided. Committee appointments for 2023-24 will be made at the July 10 organizational meeting.

6. Closing of Meeting

Board Comments

Time was provided for each board member to comment. President Morton asked about a past conversation regarding the need to find out why families are leaving Newton. It was mentioned using a consultant for this. Administration will check to see what is available and cost of using a consultant for this type of work. President Morton also

asked for an update on district data that Sheila Wendling provided in 2021. President Morton asked for discussion and review of the change in practice of who meets with the superintendent to finalize board agendas. After discussion, there was board consensus to move forward with the vice president being invited to the agenda planning meeting as was board consensus in the minutes for the February 27, 2023 meeting. In addition, there was discussion on how board members can add an item for discussion to the agenda. This can be done during the Board Comment time of board meetings or an email to the superintendent and president with the agenda request. Superintendent Van Ranken suggested that the board might consider developing a board operations manual to assist with procedures and guidelines. Appreciation was given to the maintenance grounds crew for their work in the summer.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 8:48 p.m.

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