

## Board Notes — October 9, 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, October 9, 2023, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1<sup>st</sup>, Newton, KS.

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

**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 Technology Brenda Thompson

### 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. Comments from the Public

Ian Long addressed the board regarding community involvement and working together to do what's best for students. Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs shared a NHS graduate success story.

### 3. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the September 25, 2023 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the October 9, 2023 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Denslow	Karen	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	9/28/2023		x
Castillo	Emily	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	9/29/2023		x
Alexander	Sarah	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	5/11/2023		x
Fernandez	Anthony	Custodian	NHS	10/4/2023		x
Koehn	Amber	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	10/6/2023	x	
Wittman	Taylor	1st Grade Teacher	NR	1/3/2024	x	
Robb	Faith	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	10/4/2023	x	
Cox	Lisa	Athletic Worker	NHS	10/3/2023	x	
McDermed	Rachel	Athletic Worker	NHS	9/28/2023	x	
Toebe	Michael	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	9/28/2023	x	
Anderson	Shirene	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	9/27/2023	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Kessler	Shanna	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	8/21/2023	Reg. Ed. Aide @ SB	
Martinez-Mata	Jesus	Ind. Arts Long Term Sub	CMS	9/26/2023	Add Translating	
Washington	Floretia	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	9/28/2023	From IDD to IR Sp. Ed. Para @ NR	
Montez	Tabitha	Teacher	SF	10/2/2023	Add Railer Power/Connections@CMS	
Krehbiel	Amber	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	10/9/2023	ELL Aide @ CMS	

Koehn	Katelyn	Reg. Ed. Aide	SC	9/1/2023	Add Asst. Cheer @ NHS
Hein	Tony	Teacher	NHS	8/1/2023	Add Asst. Pep Club @ NHS
Coppinger	Kaliana	Reg. Ed. Aide	SC	8/14/2023	From 5.75 hrs/day to 4 hrs/day
Rickard	Brian	CTE Teacher/Coach	NHS	10/5/2023	CTE Teacher only
Antonowich	Lisa	Teacher/Coach	NHS	9/20/2023	Add Athletic Worker
Moses	Jamie	Counselor	NHS	9/25/2023	Add Athletic Worker
Montez	Tabitha	Teacher	SF	10/3/2023	Add Athletic Worker

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

- Approve the July 2023 Treasurer’s Report.
- Approve the August 2023 Treasurer’s Report.
- Approve purchase of a 2019 54-passenger Blue Bird Vision school bus with wheelchair lift.
- Approve the CFC invoice as presented.

#### 4. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the Santa Fe bid package #4 including the three alternates as presented for a total cost of \$728,997.00.

#### USD 373 Board Operations Guide

Superintendent Van Ranken has noted some suggested revisions to this document. Board members discussed the purpose of the operations guide which will be reviewed and discussed at the work session in November.

#### ELA Novel Review for Information

Sheila Wendling presented a list of novels that have been through the ELA Novel Review Committee and recommended to be used in the ELA classrooms. Administration will be seeking approval of these novels at the November 13, 2023 board meeting.

#### 5. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Bunting Magnetics	Newton High School Machining Program	Donation of materials	\$1,500.00
AGCO Corp.	Newton High School Machining Program	15" lathe chuck	\$4,985.00

- Approve the Board Vacancy Resolution No. 2023-10-09:  
WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the membership of the Board of Unified School District No. 373, Harvey County, Kansas; and  
WHEREAS, K.S.A. 25-2022 authorizes a Board of Education to fill such vacancies no sooner than fifteen (15) days following publication of notice in a newspaper having general circulation in the school district.  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the clerk of the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 373, Harvey County, Kansas, shall cause such notice to be published in the Newton Kansan.

After discussion, it was board consensus to fill the opening with the non-incumbent person receiving the most votes after election results are certified. This person would start with the December 11 board meeting.

— Approve the adjustment to the 2023-24 School Calendar to reflect changes in the negotiated agreement as presented.

### **Newton High School Out-of-State Contests**

Newton High School provided information on anticipated out-of-state contests for 2023-24. No funds are requested and this is for information only.

### **BOE Appointment to the PBC**

— Approve appointing Andy Ortiz to serve as the district's representative on the Public Building Commission until January 2024.

### **Open Enrollment Policy Discussion**

Superintendent Van Ranken presented information regarding the new board policy JBCC-Enrollment of Nonresident Students and the corresponding actions for approval, such as, Public Notices and Hearing prior to the adoption of policy. Public Notices will occur the week of October 30 and November 6 with the Public Hearing on November 13 prior to the regular board meeting.

### **Walton Facility Options and Discussion**

Superintendent Van Ranken presented information on three opportunities for the Walton facility and legislative statutory requirements that need to be followed. After discussion, board members consented to contacting the City of Walton to find out more information on their use of the building. There will be ongoing conversations regarding the future use of the Walton facility.

## **6. Building Reports**

Building reports were provided for Cooper Early Ed Center, Northridge Elementary, Slate Creek Elementary, South Breeze Elementary, Sunset Elementary, Santa Fe 5/6 Center, Chisholm Middle, Newton High School, Opportunity Academy, & 373 Athletics.

Department reports were provided for Human Resources/Business, Maintenance and Harvey County Special Education Cooperative.

## **7. Closing of Meeting**

### **Board Comments**

Comments included recognition of the great atmosphere created at Santa Fe and Chisholm over the last couple of years as well as many student activities and sporting events to attend.

### **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>