

Board Notes — November 13, 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, November 13, 2023, in the board room at McKinley Administrative Center, 308 E 1st, 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 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

Slate Creek Playground Update

Tenae Alfaro, along with Joanna Bjerum, gave an update on the All Together Now fundraising for the inclusive playground at Slate Creek Elementary.

Chisholm Middle School Recognitions

Joey Menninga presented a certificate to Madison Murphy for her 2024 Horizon Award Nomination. He also recognized Chad Nulik for being named the Kansas 2023-24 Assistant Principal of the Year.

Constitution Essay Contest

Mike Fellows and Carson Matile, NHS teacher, presented information on a Constitution Essay Contest held at the high school. There were 8 students that participated and the students who received the top three places were recognized. Mr. Fellows anticipates this to become an annual event among the schools in Harvey County.

3. Comments from the Public

Ian Long addressed the board on working together to do what's best for students and trusting each other. Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs shared a NHS graduate success story.

4. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the October 9, 2023 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the November 13, 2023 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Forbes	Crystal	Food Service	CMS	9/11/2023		x
Kessler	Shanna	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	10/11/2023		x
Gomez	Gabriela	Food Service	SS	10/20/2023		x
Old	Ronni	Administrative Assistant	NR	10/27/2023		x
Fuller	Terrie	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	10/23/2023		x
Payan-Hernandez	Valeria	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	10/20/2023		x

Bronke	Kristin	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	10/23/2023		x
Moses	Jamie	Counselor	NHS	12/22/2023		x
Cotton	Amber	Reg. Ed. Aide	OA	12/21/2023		x
Meyer	Heather	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	11/17/2023		x
Duncan	Lona	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	11/8/2023		x
Walters	Rebecca	Custodian	NHS	11/17/2023		x
Calder	Logan	Math Teacher	NHS	1/3/2024	x	
Tollette	Destiny	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	11/6/2023	x	
Wallace	Tanner	Sub. Tchr/Asst. Boys BB Coach	District-Wide	11/26/2023	x	
Patton	Harriet "Diana"	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	11/7/2023	x	
Malone	Jordan	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	10/25/2023	x	
Klein	Brogan	Asst. Girls Wrestling Coach	NHS	11/13/2023	x	
Sydow	Craig	Custodian	NHS	10/19/2023	x	
Hitt	Erica	Head Start Aide	Cooper	10/16/2023	x	
Dirks	Juli	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	10/11/2023	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Saltzman	Bonnie	Food Service	CMS	11/6/2023	From 4 hrs/day to 5.75 hrs/day @ SS	
Vigil	Lynne	Permanent Bldg Substitute	NR	11/8/2023	Substitute Teacher @ District-Wide	
Krehbiel	Amber	ELL Aide	CMS	11/6/2023	From 6.75 hrs/day to 6.25 hrs/day	
Young	Emma	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	11/1/2023	From IR Para to ED Para @ SF	
Gerstenberger	Stephanie	Food Service	CMS	10/2/2023	From 4.5 hrs/day to 4 hrs/day	
Rossiter	Aryanna	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	8/17/2023	From 20 hrs/wk to 33.75 hrs/wk	
King	Allison	Teacher	SC	10/3/2023	Add Athletic Event Worker	
Zook	Lu Ann	Teacher/Coach	CMS	10/16/2023	Teacher Only	
Peugh	Jessica	Food Service	NR	10/2/2023	From 1.5 hrs to 1.25 hrs per day	
Stallbaumer	Patty	Food Service	NR	10/3/2023	From 4 hrs/day to 4.25 hrs a day	
Llamas	Lee	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	10/18/2023	Add PM Bus Aide	
Dick	Sara	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	10/27/2023	Permanent Substitute @ NHS	
Graf	Lisa	Food Service	SB	11/6/2023	From 6.25 hrs/day to 5.75 hrs/day	
Negrete	Olivia	Food Service	SB	10/16/2023	From 5.25 hrs/day to 5 hrs/day	
Reimer	Courtney	Reg. Ed. Aide/Bus Aide	NR	10/30/2023	Administrative Assistant @ NR only	
Gomez	Nichole	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	10/16/2023	Substitute Teacher @ District-Wide	
Ochoa	Tanya	Head Start Aide	Cooper	10/24/2023	Add Translating	
Deckert	Lydia	Teacher/Coach	NHS	10/20/2023	Teacher only	
Moates	Megan	Teacher	CMS	10/26/2023	Add Math Counts Coach	
Wallace	Tanner	Substitute Teacher/Coach	District-Wide	11/26/2023	Add Railer Power Hr/Connections@CMS	
Boese	Ray	Teacher/Coach	NHS	10/30/2023	Add Athletic Event Worker	
Tovar	Andrew	Teacher/Coach	NHS	11/13/2023	Add Asst. Boys Swim Coach @ NHS	
Carter	Patti	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	11/6/2023	IDD LTS @ NR	

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

- Approve the September 2023 Treasurer's Report.
- Approve the McDonald Hopkins September 2023 invoice.

- Approve the bid for the parking lot project as approved in as part of the 2023-24 capital outlay.
- Approve the use of contingency funds for CMS and Brooks HVAC units.
- Approve the sale and/or disposal of CTE shop equipment.
- Approve the CTE Cooperating Agreements with Burrton and Halstead school districts.
- Approve the revised 2023-24 Classified Wage Rate as presented.
- Approve the 2023-24 supplemental contracts.
- Approve the annual renewal of CISCO SmartNet maintenance and support for current district network hardware.
- Approve the purchase of Reading Mastery Transformations ELA.

5. Old Business

Railer Time Update

Newton High Principal, Blake Smith, gave an update on Railer Time which was implemented this year and integrates seminar with the lunch time.

- Approve novels to be used in the ELA classrooms as presented.

Open Enrollment Policy—JBCC

Superintendent Van Ranken gave an explanation of this new policy, JBCC—Enrollment of Nonresident Students, during the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. Administration will be seeking approval of the policy at the December 11, 2023 board meeting.

Review Policy JBC—Enrollment

Policy JBC—Enrollment will need to be revised upon the adoption of the new policy JBCC. Administration will recommend approval the revisions at the December 11, 2023 board meeting.

6. New Business

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Wichita Professional Engineering Society	Santa Fe 5/6 Center	Grant to purchase STEAM classroom supplies	\$500.00
Golden Plains Credit Union	Newton High School	Girls basketball backpacks	\$1,200.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas	Cooper Early Ed Center	Grant for weekend backpack meals	\$10,000.00
South Central KS Library System	Slate Creek Elementary	Augmentative and Alternative Communication System	\$500.00
Moridge Mfg.	NHS Robotics Team	Donation for travel expenses and supplies	\$1,000.00
Knights of Columbus	Spec Ed Circle of Friends	Support program expenses	\$1,100.00

Gift Requests Under \$500: For Information Only

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Walmart	Sunset Elementary	School supplies	\$50.00
First Presbyterian Women	USD 373	Donation to assist with student lunch debt	\$300.00
Thomas & Angela Altum	Newton High Robotics Team	Donation for travel expenses and supplies	\$250.00

- Approve early graduation requests from Opportunity Academy and Newton High School.

Graduation Requirements for Class of 2028

Sheila Wendling presented information on the graduation requirements for the Class of 2028 (currently 8th graders). KSDE has adjusted the graduation requirements and building and district level administrators have been meeting to discuss the impact of the requirements and steps to assure that students receive support they need upon graduation.

New Course Proposals for 2024-2025

Sheila Wendling presented information on the new course proposals for 2024-25 for Newton High School and Opportunity Academy. Administration will be seeing approval at the December 11, 2023 board meeting.

2024-25 Capital Outlay Requests

Jane Nichols presented information on the 2024-25 Capital Outlay requests. Administration will be recommending approval at the December 11, 2023 board meeting.

7. Building Reports

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

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

8. Closing of Meeting

Board Comments

Board members were given time to report on various committees and activities they have participated in.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 9:06 p.m.

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