



Unified School District 232

De Soto – Shawnee – Lenexa – Olathe

www.usd232.org

USD 232 BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICIAL MINUTES --REGULAR MEETING

Administrative Offices (35200 West 91st Street, De Soto, KS)

April 19, 2021

YouTube channel: <https://bitly.com/usd232youtube>

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Board President, Danielle Heikes. A quorum of the Board was present. Attendance was as follows:

Board Members Present: Rick Amos
Bill Fletcher
John Gaignat
Danielle Heikes
Stephanie Makalous
Ashley Spaulding

Absent: Rachele Zade

Others Present: Jolyn Baldner, Director of Student Nutrition
Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative & Educational Services
Steve Deghand, Director of Facilities
Wendy Denham, Board Clerk/Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Carrie Handy, Director of Human Resources/Elementary
Lee Hanson, Director of Special Education
Dr. Frank Harwood, Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Hite, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction/Accreditation
Dr. Joe Kelly, Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction/Title Programs
Brandon Riffel, Director of Technology
Sam Ruff, Principal, De Soto High School
Brian Schwanz, Director of Human Resources/Secondary

Alvie Cater led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He then briefly explained how the meeting will progress from one agenda item to the next.

President Heikes asked if there were any changes to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. No changes were made.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to adopt the Agenda and approve the Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous seconded.

Carried 6/0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Minutes of the April 5th regular meeting.
2. Payment of bills and issuance of checks numbered 54634 – 54704 and 54709 – 54772.
3. Personnel recommendations as follows:
 - Resignations – Administration *(at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year)*
 - Melissa Hansen, Principal, MTMS
 - Jerald VanRheen, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, MVHS
 - Resignations – Certified *(at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year)*
 - Brandi Michaels, 5th Grade Teacher, SE
 - Colby Scanlon, Reading Specialist, SE
 - Employment – Certified *(effective for the 2021-2022 school year)*
 - Reva Bell, Special Education Teacher, ME
 - Jordyn Johnson, 5th Grade Teacher, PRE
 - Jason Pendleton, Social Studies Teacher, MVHS
 - Samantha Proehl, 4th Grade Teacher, PRE
 - Resignations – Classified
 - Terri Dombrowski, Paraprofessional, MCMS
 - Katherine Fanning, Secretary, CCE
 - Kelli Keeler, Reading Aide, CCE
 - Marcie Partlow-Williams, Secretary, DHS
 - Kirsten Pierce, Lunchroom Aide, CCE
 - Nora Sturdy, Reading Aide, PRE
 - Retirement – Classified
 - Jackie Smith, Lead Custodian, Countryside Learning Center
 - Termination – Classified
 - Rachel Sikorski, Paraprofessional, SE
 - Employment – Classified
 - Jordan Anderson, Paraprofessional, SE
 - Jenna Barber, ESY Paraprofessional, MVHS
 - Kimberly Harris, Secretary, MVHS
 - Misty Kulas, Assistant Volleyball Coach, DHS
 - Erin Reed, Paraprofessional Substitute, BE
 - Kayla St. Cyr, Center Based Professional, DHS
 - Kristen Whitley, Lunchroom Aide Substitute, SE
4. The revised Facility Use Fee Schedule.
5. Acceptance of a bid from Heartland Construction in the amount of \$55,888.21 for two (2) Hoop Houses.
6. One (1) Hobart Floor Mixer, Model # D 300 T, declared as surplus.

7. Acceptance of a donation from Scott Boxx in the amount of \$1,641.50 to the De Soto High School Softball Program.

GOOD NEWS.

Student Recognition. Mill Valley High School Wrestlers Brody Scott, Senior, Ethan Kremer, Senior, and Caiden Casella, Senior, were each recognized for having won the Kansas Class 5A State Wrestling Championship in their weight class. The team collectively took second place at State.

ACTION ITEMS.

Bridge Renovation Bids. Steve Deghand, Director of Facilities, explained that in mid-March bid specifications were written and a legal advertisement was published for renovation of the Bridge facility and both high school fieldhouses, all 2018 bond projects. He said sealed bids for these projects were due April 13th; six bids were submitted for Bridge renovation ranging from \$220,300 to \$290,000, with Trinium Construction submitting the lowest bid. He noted that Trinium was awarded the Starside Elementary cafeteria expansion project earlier this year and has very good references. Mr. Deghand also pointed out that bids came in well under estimates.

Mr. Rick Amos moved to approve a bid from Trinium Construction in the amount of \$220,300.00 for renovation of The Bridge.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes seconded.

Carried 6/0.

DHS & MVHS Fieldhouse Renovation Bids. Steve Deghand said that ten bids were received for the fieldhouse renovations ranging from \$654,000 to \$898,000, with Zimmerman Construction submitting the lowest bid. Mr. Deghand noted that Zimmerman has completed several projects for the district in the past and has always performed well.

Danielle Heikes asked Mr. Deghand to explain why the projects were bid separate versus together. He said the fieldhouses were mirror images of each other and the Bridge project was different so HTK Architects recommended that they be bid separately. Mrs. Heikes also asked if the administration was getting advice from the architects on the projects and Mr. Deghand said absolutely, the architects designed them.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding moved to approve a bid from Zimmerman Construction in the amount of \$654,000.00 for renovation of existing fieldhouses at De Soto High School and Mill Valley High School.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous seconded.

Carried 6/0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Coming Back Together. Superintendent Harwood presented the Board with the following information:

Current KSGC Data. USD 232 data for the week beginning February 28th through April 4th was shared (Absenteeism, Percent Positivity, Two Week Cumulative County Incidence Rate, One Week County Incidence Rate Trend and Regional Hospital). Dr. Harwood noted that it continues to look good with everything remaining constant except for the incidence rate trend line, which moved from the “green” category to the “yellow”. He said the incidence rate continues to decrease, but at a much slower rate, and has now leveled off and is expected to stabilize for the remainder of the school year.

Mask Wearing. Dr. Harwood said the district has seen an uptick in student COVID-19 cases, mostly due to some students failing to use masks properly. He said one student has been hospitalized and several others are home with severe symptoms.

Vaccination Clinics. Dr. Harwood let the Board know that the District shared information on voluntary vaccination clinics for students older than 16, sponsored by Children’s Mercy, that would be hosted at Children’s Mercy South and other Johnson County facilities. He said the district has chosen to not offer vaccination clinics on-site during the school year, but will continue to work with the county on distribution and may offer clinics during the summer.

Letters. Dr. Harwood explained the difference between General, Low Risk, Moderate Risk and High Risk letters that are being sent home with students at-risk due to exposure to COVID-19. He said that the Moderate Risk Letters used at the secondary level do not require exclusion and students receiving this letter are given the option to get tested six days after exposure. Dr. Harwood noted the district is keeping track of who gets moderate risk letters to see if they develop symptoms within fourteen days.

Optional Remote Students & End of Year Events. Dr. Harwood said the district has received requests to allow optional remote learners to participate in end of year events like 5th grade farewell and Field Day. He said plans are being made at the elementary to hold these events outside with parents attending, but if weather causes events to be moved indoors the events will be live streamed. Dr. Harwood also let the Board know that the district is not planning on offering optional remote to students next year.

Elementary & Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER). Superintendent Harwood said the ESSER funds are part of a larger national COVID relief funding. It is broken down into three categories: 1. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – ESSER I (March 2020), 2. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplement Appropriations Act, ESSER II (December 2020); and, 3. American Rescue Plan, ESSER III (March 2021). Dr. Harwood shared detail on how these relief funds will flow from the federal level, to the state of Kansas and then to USD 232. The District is expected to receive approximately \$6.2 million over the course of the next three years.

Dr. Harwood then shared a list of ESSER Fund allowable expenses and talked about how the district plans to spend the funds. He said principals and other school leaders will be provided with resources to address individual school needs; and investments will be made in mental health/health services and supports (including the hiring of additional nurses, contact tracers and a new Social Worker), planning and implementing summer learning and supplemental after-school programs, and addressing learning

loss among students/vulnerable populations (including the hiring of additional Student Instructional Support staff and District Instructional Specialists). Other allowable expenses planned include supplemental materials: simulation software, curriculum/literacy, professional development and improved connectivity. He said the district could also seek reimbursement on expenses already incurred for contact tracers and software purchases made due to COVID-19.

PATRON INPUT. President Heikes opened the floor for patron input. With no requests to speak submitted she moved onto the next agenda item.

ALERT. The following report was included in the packet for this board meeting with notice that it will require future action by the Board of Education: 1. School Resource Officer Program Agreement.

President Heikes adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

May 3, 2021
Date Approved

Wendy S. Denham
Clerk, Board of Education

Daniel Heikes
President, Board of Education