



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) March 1, 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 Gagnat
Danielle Heikes
Stephanie Makalous
Ashley Spaulding
Rachele Zade

Others Present: Jolyn Baldner, Director of Student Nutrition
Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative & Educational Services
Steve Deghand, Director of Facilities
Carrie Handy, Director of Human Resources/Elementary
Dr. Frank Harwood, Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Hite, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction/Accreditation
Dr. Joe Kelly, Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction/Title Programs
Ken Larsen, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations
Brandon Riffel, Director of Technology
Sam Ruff, Principal, De Soto High School
Brian Schwanz, Director of Human Resources/Secondary

Danielle Heikes moved to appoint Carrie Handy to serve as Acting Clerk during this meeting.

John Gagnat seconded.

Carried 7/0.

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. Bill Fletcher asked to remove check number 54079 from Consent Agenda item "C. Approve payment of bills and transfer of funds" for approval separately.

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

Stephanie Makalous seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Minutes of the February 1st regular meeting.
2. Payment of bills and issuance of checks numbered 53994 – 54052, 54055 – 54078, 54080 – 54115, and 54122 - 54241.
3. Transfer of funds as follows:
 - a. \$937,000.00 from General (Fund 06) to Special Education (Fund 30)
 - b. \$5,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to State Pre-K (Fund 11)
 - c. \$219,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to At-Risk (Fund 13)
 - d. \$35,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Bi-Lingual (Fund 14)
 - e. \$17,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Parents as Teachers (Fund 28)
 - f. \$167,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Vocational Education (Fund 34)
4. Personnel recommendations as follows:

Resignations – Certified (at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year)

Brian Forbes, 8th Grade Pathways Teacher, MTMS

Ian Nichols, Social Studies Teacher, MVHS

Abbie Roser, 2nd Grade Teacher, CCE

Myra Williams, 1st Grade Teacher, RE

Employment – Certified (effective for the 2021-22 school year)

Haley Adams, Teacher Substitute, CCE

Jared Baugh, CAPS/Manufacturing Teacher, CTEC

Payton Bendure, Special Education Teacher, MTMS

Sydney Hall, 4th Grade Teacher, RE

Olivia Higgins, School Counselor, MCMS

Lisa Julian, Elementary Education, location TBD

Allison Maddux, 2nd Grade Teacher, RE

Debbie Reischman, Parents as Teachers Educator, BE

Danielle Small, Speech Language Pathologist, location TBD

Rebecca Stepek, Special Education Teacher, MCMS

Resignations – Classified

Madalyn Gerber, Resource Paraprofessional, BE

Jeremy Knapp, Evening Custodian, DHS

Nathaniel May, Evening Custodian, MVHS
Crystal Robins, Rule 10 Dance Coach, DHS

Retirement – Classified

Linda Plouvier, Kitchen Manager, CCE (*effective 05/28/21*)

Employment – Classified

Monica Allen, Resource Paraprofessional, BE
Melody Erickson, Center Based Paraprofessional, DHS
Genoveva Marquez-Acosta, Evening Custodian, DHS
Connor Mayfield, Paraprofessional, RE
Logan Roberts, Paraprofessional Substitute, BE Early Childhood
Amy Roy, Reading Aide 0.5 FTE, CCE
Leslie Sherman, Human Resources Administrative Assistant
Rachel Sikorski, Resource Paraprofessional, SE
Lori Walker, Student Nutrition Assistant, RE

5. An Independent Auditor Contract with Karlin & Long, LLC for fiscal year 2021 at a rate of \$12,000.00.
6. Acceptance of the following bids:
 - Switzer Brothers Painting in the amount of \$108,500.00 for interior painting at Clear Creek Elementary School.
 - Dayco Painting in the amount of \$103,646.00 for interior painting at Monticello Trails Middle School.
 - Epoxy Coating Specialist in the amount of \$324,749.00 for resinous flooring at Belmont Elementary School, Horizon Elementary School, Prairie Ridge Elementary School, Riverview Elementary School, Mill Creek Middle School, the Transportation Building and the District Service Center.
 - Zimmerman Construction in the amount of \$102,500.00 for repair of a foundation wall at Mill Creek Middle School.
 - Reed Jeep Chrysler Dodge Ram in the amount of \$63,201.00 for a new 1-Ton Dump Truck.
7. Declared list of technology equipment (computer devices, monitors, printers, televisions and miscellaneous parts) as surplus.
8. Acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$550.00 from Renee and Daniel Gier to the De Soto High School Track & Field Program.

Bill Fletcher declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Stephanie Makalous moved to approve payment to Kansas Land Management, LLC in the amount of \$4,927.35 with check number 54079.

Danielle Heikes seconded.

Carried 6/0.

Bill Fletcher returned to the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

GOOD NEWS.

Student Recognition. Mill Valley High School Journalism students were recognized for having won the 2020 6A State Journalism Championship and individual accomplishments in the competition. In addition, all four of Mill Valley's productions (MVTV, the JagWire newsmagazine, Mill Valley News Online and the 2019 JAG yearbook) earned All-Kansas rankings, the highest honor given in the state's critique service. Class advisors are Kathy Habiger and Dorothy Swafford. Students recognized were Tatum Elliott, Avery Liby, Ben Wieland, Annie Bogard, Anna Owsley, Abby White, Grace McLeod, Sophie Lecuru, Hannah Chern, Aiden Burke, Sammie Volkamer, Anna Rold, Livi Soell, Allison Gourd, Taylir Charest, Steven Curto and Andrew Tow.

Staff Recognition. Melissa Miller, Student Nutrition District Manager, was recognized for successful completion of over 120 hours of Kansas State Department of Education Child Nutrition & Wellness management level classes and earning the Kansas Certificate in Child Nutrition Management.

ACTION ITEMS.

Bond Sale & Refunding of 2011-A Callable Bonds. Ken Larsen, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations, said a new bond sale is necessary to support payment of the building projects already approved and other various district projects. He recommended a bond sale of remaining 2018 bond authority in the amount of \$15 million. Mr. Larsen said in addition to the new money bond sale, he is also recommending that the district refund (refinance) the callable portion of the 2011-A bonds totaling \$4.5 million, which will save the district approximately \$150,000.00. Board members were asked to approve a Resolution to authorize the recommended bond sale.

Rachele Zade moved to approve a Resolution authorizing the offering for sale of General Obligation Bonds of Unified School District No. 232, Johnson County, Kansas (De Soto).

Stephanie Makalous seconded.

Carried 7/0.

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

Current KSCG Data. USD 232 data for the week beginning January 10th through February 14th was shared (Absenteeism, Percent Positivity, Two Week Cumulative County Incidence Rate, One Week County Incidence Rate Trend and Regional Hospitals). Dr. Harwood said the weekly percentage of Quarantines and Isolations was down to 0.85%. The district remains in the Green Category.

Vaccinations. Dr. Harwood said all staff members who indicated they wanted the vaccine will receive their first dose by March 13th and their second by April 3rd. Staff members that do get the vaccination will no longer be recommended for quarantine if exposed.

Exclusion for Recommended Isolation/Quarantine. Dr. Harwood explained that exclusion for recommended isolation will occur if a student has a positive Covid-19 diagnosis or is presumed positive/symptomatic, whether tested or not. He said that exclusion for recommended quarantine will occur if a student has close contact with someone diagnosed with Covid-19 (within 6 feet for 10 minutes in a 24-hour period) or if there are multiple positive/presumed positive diagnoses in a whole class, large group gathering or activity. He said the Johnson County Health Department is not currently recommending quarantine if it is determined that masks are appropriately worn by all parties.

Contact Tracing. Dr. Harwood said contact tracing is crucial if students are on-site full time. He noted that it is time consuming due to the wait for test results and exclusion during tracing may be necessary.

Learning During Exclusion. Dr. Harwood said that when a whole class is excluded the teacher will teach remotely. If a single student or a few students in a class are excluded it is at the teacher's discretion to teach remotely. He said Canvas will be key in helping students keep up with learning while missing school.

Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE)/Kansas State Gating Criteria (KSGC) Changes – Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines. Both the Kansas Department of Education and the CDC have recently made changes to their school gating criteria. At this time, it is recommended that USD 232 continues with the current gating criteria.

Change in COVID Symptom List. Based on recent CDC recommendations, the Board was asked to amend the symptoms list in the Coming Back Together plan. There are now three primary symptoms: New Cough, Difficulty Breathing, Loss of Taste or Smell. People showing these symptoms will be assumed positive for COVID-19 and excluded if one is present.

Adult Staff Temperature Check Change. It was recommended that USD 232 staff members start to self-screen daily in lieu of having temperatures taken upon entry into a school facility.

Spring Sports Guidelines and Outdoor Facility Use. Dr. Harwood said the recommendation for Spring Sports is that each participant will be allowed up to four (4) spectators based on facility capacity. The same rule will apply for outdoor sports rentals – the number of spectators is limited to four (4) tickets per participant.

Ashley Spaulding moved to approve changes to the Coming Back Together Plan as discussed.

Rick Amos seconded.

Carried 7/0.

PATRON INPUT. President Heikes opened the floor for patron input.

Victoria Mahaffey, a USD 232 teacher, spoke to the Board with concern for teacher safety with students in the classroom full time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Negotiations.

Danielle Heikes moved to go into executive session at 6:50 p.m. for a period of ten minutes with Frank Harwood, Alvie Cater, Ken Larsen, Brian Schwanz, Carrie Handy, and Sam Ruff to discuss the Notification of Negotiations letter pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and return to open session at 7:00 p.m. at this location.

Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The Board returned to open session and President Heikes called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m.

Non-Elected Personnel.

Danielle Heikes moved to go into executive session at 7:01 p.m. for a period of five minutes with Frank Harwood, Brian Schwanz and Carrie Handy to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and return to open session at 7:06 p.m. at this location.

Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The Board returned to open session and President Heikes called the meeting back to order at 7:06 p.m.

President Heikes adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

March 22, 2021
Date Approved

Wendy S. Denham
Clerk, Board of Education

Danielle Heikes
President, Board of Education