



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) November 2, 2020

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 (*Attended via Zoom*)
Bill Fletcher (*Attended via Zoom*)
John Gagnat
Danielle Heikes
Stephanie Makalous (*Attended via Zoom*)
Ashley Spaulding
Rachele Zade

Others Present: Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative & Educational Services
Steve Deghand, Director of Facilities
Wendy Denham, Board Clerk
Carrie Handy, Director of Human Resources/Elementary
Lee Hanson, Director of Special Services
Dr. Frank Harwood, Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Hite, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction/Accreditation
Dr. Joe Kelly, Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction/Title
Sam Ruff, Principal, De Soto High School
Brian Schwanz, Director of Human Resources/Secondary
Dr. Cindy Swartz, Career & Technical Education Coordinator

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 53092 from Consent Agenda item "D. Approve payment of bills and transfer of funds" for approval separately.

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

Mrs. Rachele Zade seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Minutes of the October 5th regular meeting.
2. Payment of bills and issuance of checks numbered 52944 – 52998, 53000 – 53061, 53063 – 53091, 53093 – 53117 and 53126 – 53218.
3. Transfer of funds as follows:
 - a. \$900,000.00 from General (Fund 06) to Special Education (Fund 30)
 - b. \$6,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to State Pre-K (Fund 11)
 - c. \$210,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to At-Risk K-12 (Fund 13)
 - d. \$40,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Bi-Lingual (Fund 14)
 - e. \$164,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Vocational Education (Fund 34)
4. Personnel recommendations as follows:

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

Gayle Moriarity, Vocal Music Director, LTMS

Employment – Certified

Dr. Cameron Carlson, Forensics/Debate Teacher, MVHS

Resignations – Classified

Shiney Edwards, Paraprofessional, BE

Dylan Gowin, Rule 10 Assistant Wrestling Coach, DHS

Malinda McGuire, Paraprofessional, RE

Cindy Ottesen, Student Nutrition Assistant, MTMS

Employment – Classified

Thomas Alspaugh, Substitute Custodian, Districtwide

Kayla Dailey, 5th Grade Teacher (long-term substitute), CCE

Christine Goode, Center Based Paraprofessional, ME

Devon Handy, Substitute Custodian, Districtwide

Jamee Lorfing, Student Nutrition Cashier, MTMS

Stefanie Marshall, Center Based Paraprofessional, DHS

Camren McCall, Math Aide, CCE

Jamie Menees, Paraprofessional, LTMS

Kirsten Pierce, Lunchroom Aide, CCE

Kylie Pierce, Lunchroom Aide, RE

Elizabeth Stratton, Paraprofessional, LTMS

Deborah Umbarger, Student Nutrition Assistant, MTMS

5. Revisions for the 2020-2021 Special Education Related Service Employee Handbook as presented.
6. Declaration of the following items as surplus:
 - List of library books and materials
 - Monticello Trails Middle School athletic uniform items: **Football** – ten (10) shoulder pads, eighty (80) knee pads and **Wrestling** – forty (40) singlets, forty (40) warm-up pants and thirty-eight (38) warm-up t-shirts
 - De Soto High School weight room equipment: One (1) Jammer Extension and one (1) Calf Raise Machine
7. Acceptance of the following donations:
 - \$400.00 from Rob Rainbolt, Burns & McDonnell, to the USD 232 Early Childhood Department.
 - \$300.00 from Erik and Heather Anderson to the Mill Valley High School Band program.

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

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding moved to approve payment to Kansas Land Management, LLC in the amount of \$16,026.36 with check number 53092.

Mr. John Gagnat seconded.

Carried 6/0.

Bill Fletcher returned to the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

GOOD NEWS.

Student Recognition. Art teachers from each school annually select artwork from among their students to become part of the permanent collection on display at the USD 232 Administrative Office. The following students' designs were presented to the board and each student received a Certificate of Achievement:

1. Belmont Elementary – Courtney Brading
2. Clear Creek Elementary – Kate Culbertson
3. Horizon Elementary – Paige Wittmer
4. Mize Elementary – Nora Cunningham
5. Prairie Ridge Elementary – Rowan Walker
6. Riverview Elementary – Taryn Round
7. Starside Elementary – Addison Easter
8. Lexington Trails Middle School – Maya Rajapakse
9. Mill Creek Middle School – Ayden Brown
10. Monticello Trails Middle School – Madelyn Janak
11. De Soto High School – Erica Hoelting
12. Mill Valley High School – Megan Overbaugh

Staff Member Recognition. Mill Creek Middle School staff members Laura Decedue, 8th Grade Science Teacher, and Debbie Anson, Student Nutrition Kitchen Manager, along with Horizon Elementary School staff members Katie Wolfe, Kindergarten Teacher, and Sara Johnson, Building Secretary, and were recognized for outstanding service in their district roles.

ACTION ITEMS.

Proposed Secondary Course Additions. Dr. Joe Kelly, Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction/Title, talked briefly about a new course called Introduction to Organic Chemistry, a one-semester course that is designed to be taken after successful completion of AP Chemistry. He then introduced Dr. Cindy Swartz, Career & Technical Education Coordinator, who shared information on new Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses proposed for the high schools (Business Communications and Work-Based Learning Courses within Pathways), the District Professional Studies Internship Program, the Kansas Work-Based Learning Continuum, partnerships with Excel in CTE courses through Johnson County Community College (JCCC) and Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC), and courses to be offered at the new Cedar Trails Exploration Center (CTEC) that are connected to three Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) strands (Bioscience, Design and Emerging Technologies).

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous moved to approve proposed courses, effective with the 2021-2022 school year, for De Soto High School, Mill Valley High School and the USD 232 Cedar Trails Exploration Center.

Mrs. Rachele Zade seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The following courses were approved:

De Soto High School/Mill Valley High School

- Business Communications
- Introduction to Organic Chemistry
- Construction and Design Workplace Experience
- Engineering Workplace Experience
- Finance Workplace Experience
- Marketing Workplace Experience
- Biochemistry Workplace Experience
- Programming and Software Development Project Management
- Web and Digital Communications Project Management
- Johnson County Community College (JCCC) Welding I & II (1-year program)
- Kansas City Kansas Community College Technical Education Center (KCKCC TEC) Welding I & II (2-year program)
- Kansas City Kansas Community College Technical Education Center (KCKCC TEC) Diesel Mechanic (2-3 year program)

Cedar Trails Exploration Center (CTEC)

- Applied Biochemistry
- Biomedical Innovations
- Biomedical Research/Workplace Experience
- Principles of Illustration
- Robotics
- Cybersecurity
- Introduction to Welding
- Advanced Production Blueprint Reading
- Mass Production
- Automated Systems
- Research & Design for Manufacturing

Bond Projects. Steve Deghand, Director of Facilities, stated the bid day was October 15th and included projects at De Soto High School (a new fieldhouse, expanded stadium seating, installation of artificial turf on the soccer field, construction of a baseball field, renovation of the current softball field, installation of artificial turf on the baseball and softball field and relocation of throwing events for track and field) and Mill Valley High School (construction of a softball field, renovation of the current baseball field, installation of artificial turf on the baseball and softball fields and relocation of throwing events for track and field). He said six general contractors submitted bids, with AL Huber submitting the lowest most responsible bid. Scott Hazlett and Charley Sexton with HTK Architects reviewed drawings showing project designs and site plans. Mr. Deghand reviewed the alternates and recommended the Board approve alternates for press boxes at three fields and two shade structure bull pens.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to accept the base bid as well as alternates 1, 3, 6, 9 and 10 from A.L. Huber in a total amount of \$13,424,000.00.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 7/0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Summer 2020 Bond Projects Update. Steve Deghand let the Board know that the following bond projects have been completed in the last 14 months:

- Four resinous flooring projects (Administrative Office; Clear Creek, Mize and Starside elementary schools)
- Four new playgrounds (Belmont, Horizon, Prairie Ridge and Riverview elementary schools)
- Mill Valley High School projects:
 - Installation of artificial turf on the soccer field
 - Track resurfacing

- Stadium expansion
- New press box
- Addition of storage space under stadium bleachers
- New fieldhouse located on the south end of the stadium
- New concessions/bathroom structure on the south end of the stadium
- New LED dancing lights at the stadium
- Renovated the wrestling room, weight room, existing theatre, cardio room, two locker rooms and auxiliary gym
- New competition gymnasium
- New performing arts center
- De Soto High School projects:
 - Addition of over 230 new parking spaces
 - New access road between 87th Street and parking lot expansion

A video produced by Mill Valley High School students Emma Hookstra and Emily Feuerborn was shared showing all of the completed projects at Mill Valley High School. Mr. Deghand shared a video shot by a drone that showed the new parking lot and road expansion at De Soto High School. Mr. Deghand also shared pictures of the new playground at Horizon Elementary, projects on the campus of Mill Creek Middle School (the middle school's new fieldhouse, the new district warehouse and the Cedar Trails Exploration Center) and the storage containers used in construction of the fieldhouse at Mill Valley High School.

President Heikes declared a four-minute break at 7:00 p.m.

The Board returned to open session and President Heikes called the meeting back to order at 7:04 p.m.

Coming Back Together Update. Superintendent Harwood noted that the Board directed him to form the COVID Advisory Committee to advise him on the Kansas Schools Gating Criteria. He reminded the Board that recommendations made by the committee do not bind the Board in anyway, nor require the board to meet. The purpose of the committee is to collect well-rounded input (including from experts in the medical field). Dr. Harwood then talked about a survey the district released last week to parents, students and teachers to gather feedback on learning experience, noting that 3,500 responses had already been submitted. He shared information on various data the committee will consider (Social, Emotional, & Character Development (SECD), quarter grades, FastBridge data for each grade level, COVID testing and contact tracing). Dr. Harwood reviewed how the committee analyzes the Kansas Schools Gating Criteria. He pointed out that Johnson County Department of Health & Environment (JCDHE) recommended that schools not hold winter sports, but noted that the school board chose to continue sports. Unless the Board approves a change, winter sports will take place as planned. Dr. Harwood noted that each Thursday COVID-19 data is collected for the previous week and updated on the district's dashboard.

Superintendent Harwood said the district will no longer conduct temperature checks of all students as they come into school, but will continue with temperature checks for all adults entering the schools and

some students in classes. He said JCDHE has provided the district with 250 saliva PCR tests and the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) is sending 2,000 Rapid Antigen tests to use for survey testing. Dr. Harwood explained how they will be used for symptomatic students or staff, on a voluntary basis.

Superintendent Harwood also shared updates regarding the Hybrid model. He explained that with input from secondary principals a strong consensus was reached for moving to an every-other-day (AB) model, which will eliminate the remote learning (C) day. High schools will still continue to use the block schedule and students will be required to check-in on their off-site learning days. This decreases the time between students seeing a teacher and is logistically more feasible than an AM/PM model. Dr. Harwood said the secondary principals would like to start the new Hybrid model the week of November 9th. Noting that a downside to the AB model will be an increase in need for contact tracing, he said the district has hired two contact tracers and Johnson County will be providing a contact tracer, at least up to winter break.

At the request of President Heikes, Superintendent Harwood clarified that the district will remain in the yellow category of the Kansas Schools Gating Criteria until the Board takes action to change it.

Superintendent Harwood said the administration is looking at the idea of having remote learning (C) days on inclement weather days. He said the option could work with planning and advance notice. There are additional details to work out with the schedule.

Superintendent Harwood noted that it is the district's intention to offer optional remote in second semester and families will be given an opportunity to change current learning models for their children.

On November 3rd information will be shared with secondary families on the new Hybrid model.

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

Jennifer Wackerla, Olathe, and a teacher at Lexington Trails Middle School, shared her thoughts on how the current Hybrid model is not working, encouraged the district to look at the middle schools and high schools separately and asked the Board to bring students back in phases, starting with 6th grade.

Kathy Kappes-Sum, Shawnee, and a teacher at Mill Creek and Monticello Trails middle schools, asked the Board to consider risk to teachers (many of whom have years of professional experience in the field) who are in close contact with students in the classroom before considering a move to full-time on site learning.

Rob Daniels, De Soto, spoke to the Board with concern about the Hybrid model and weighting of the gating criteria. He encouraged getting the students back in the classroom.

Tracy Warren, Shawnee, urged the Board to start listening to their staff (teachers and administrators) who in August recommended the district open with the virtual model.

Scott Ainley, Shawnee, noted that a group of mental health professionals have developed a survey to gauge the mental health of our students and shared the results of that survey. He asked the Board to conduct their own survey to gauge mental health.

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. 2021 Capital Outlay.

FYI REPORTS. The following information reports were included in the packet for this board meeting: 1. District Goal Update – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, 2. Transportation Services; and, 3. DHS Theatre/Starside Café Expansion.

President Heikes adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

11/2/2020
Date Approved

Wendy S. Denham
Clerk, Board of Education

Carol Heikes
President, Board of Education