



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) October 5, 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 Gaignat
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
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
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.

Bill Fletcher asked to remove check number 52893 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 September 14th regular meeting and September 28th special meeting.
2. Payment of bills and issuance of checks numbered 52731 – 52751, 52753 – 52846, 52851 - 52892 and 52894 – 52943.
3. Personnel recommendations as follows:
 - Resignations – Certified
Sahra Go, Special Education Teacher, MCMS
 - Resignation – Classified
Connie VanLerberg, Student Nutrition Kitchen Manager, MTMS
 - Employment – Classified
Laura Blickenstaff, Center Based Paraprofessional, ME
Tonya Burke, Math Aide, HE
Derek Greer, Evening Custodian, MVHS
Samantha Mauricio, Evening Custodian, SE
Kaila Powers, Paraprofessional, MVHS
Hayden Ribordy, Center Based Paraprofessional, ME
Karie Tindle, Paraprofessional Substitute, Districtwide
4. The USD 232 2020-21 Site Council Roster.
5. Acceptance of the following donations:
 - \$2,000.00 from the Northeast Kansas Library System (School Covid Relief Grant) to Prairie Ridge Elementary School.
 - \$320.00 from James Shaw Jr./Thailes American Books to the Mill Valley High School Band program.

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

Mr. John Gagnat moved to approve payment to Kansas Land Management, LLC in the amount of \$10,702.35 with check number 52893.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 6/0.

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

GOOD NEWS. Clear Creek Elementary School staff members Courtney Arnote, Kindergarten Teacher, and Kelli Keeler, Reading Aide, and Lexington Trails Middle School staff members Kassidy Alexander, Paraprofessional, and Nikki Leisten, Media Specialist, were recognized for outstanding service in their district roles.

ACTION ITEM.

Coming Back Together Update. Superintendent Harwood reviewed recommended changes to the Coming Back Together plan. The changes are as follows:

- Page 3 – Introduction, On-Site Model
 - Removed “Johnson County Department of Health & Environment” and replaced it with “Kansas State Department of Education”
 - Added the following statement: In order to balance class sizes and maximize social distancing, newly enrolled students may be required to attend a school other than the school designated for their attendance area.
- Page 8 – Public Health and Safety, Definitions
 - Changed infectious period from 2 days to 3
 - Added additional language to define close contact
- Page 10 – Public Health and Safety, School Response to Student or Employee in Isolation or Quarantine
 - Changed infectious period from 2 days to 3
- Page 16 – Classroom Spaces, Attendance Standards
 - Removed “daily logs” language
- Page 18 – Maintaining Healthy Environments in Common Spaces
 - Removed barrier between bathroom sinks language
- Page 35 – Facilities, School Facility Rentals
 - Adjusted language for indoor facility use
- Page 40 – Transportation, Sanitation
 - Replaced the word “daily” with “regularly”
- Page 42 – Remote Learning Environment Guidelines, Introduction
 - Language for Optional Remote Learning was adjusted
- Pages 44 – 45, 49 – Learning Guidelines
 - Replaced the word “SeeSaw” with “SchoolWork”

- Page 57 – Optional Remote Learning Program
 - Removed “Daily Log” language
 - Replaced the word “log” with “engage”
- Page 64 – Hybrid Learning
 - Removed “daily log” language

He asked Board members if they had any questions about the proposed changes.

Rachele Zade asked why the bus sanitization schedule was being changed from daily to regularly. Superintendent Harwood explained that the chemicals First Student uses work for an extended period of time so daily sanitizing would not be necessary.

In response to a question Stephanie Makalous had about denying students enrollment in the school whose boundary they reside in, Superintendent Harwood explained that the administration will do everything possible to avoid having to do this, but needs to be able to balance class sizes if necessary.

Danielle Heikes asked if someone without a mask was found to have come within 6’ of an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 would be quarantined. Superintendent Harwood explained that if someone were within 6’ of a COVID-19 positive person for more than ten minutes without a mask on they could be quarantined. He said that if everyone is following protocols, this is only likely to happen during lunch and snack time when students are not wearing masks while eating. He added that if there is known exposure, especially with secretions, quarantine will likely happen.

Ashley Spaulding asked how transportation would work if a student does get assigned to a school other than the one whose boundary they reside in. Superintendent Harwood said it will be looked at case by case and the administration will work with families on accommodations.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous moved to approve amendments to the Coming Back Together: USD 232 Learning Guidelines for 2020-21 as discussed.

Mr. John Gaignat seconded.

Carried 7/0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Enrollment Update. Superintendent Harwood reviewed the preliminary September 21st (official count day for funding purposes) enrollment numbers in the early childhood program, at the elementary/middle school/high school levels broken down by building, in district programs (Virtual Education, The Bridge and Outside 232) and concluded with a review of district totals. Total district enrollment has decreased by 389 students, 5.1%. He noted that this year’s budget will be figured using last year’s count.

Ashley Spaulding asked about putting Seminar back into the schedule. Superintendent Harwood said even with students back on site full time Seminar couldn't be done in the same manner it has been done due to a large number of students potentially showing up in the classroom at once. He shared that Seminar time has been distributed into each class period. He also detailed other efforts underway at the high schools to help students be more successful.

District Goal Update – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative & Educational Services, shared the definition of Diversity (which refers to population demographics), Inclusion (which refers to equal participation across demographics) and Equity (which requires diversity and inclusion and organizes the full participation of every demographic in the range of services offered within the organization). He said the district has recently become aware of an Equity Cohort opportunity, sponsored by Kauffman Foundation at no cost. He explained that through the Equity Cohort an Equity Audit will be done to examine numerous data, including the relationship between each student subgroup and academic performance. It will allow the district to identify best practices to create more inclusive school communities. Mr. Cater said there is an informational meeting on October 21st he and others will attend and if the administration believes the opportunity supports the district goal he will share with the Kauffman Foundation our desire to participate. In addition, Mr. Cater said the administration will move forward with creating a Parent Advisory Group to assist the district in reaching this goal and would like to include up two board members in the group. He asked the board to let him or Dr. Harwood know if they are interested.

PATRON INPUT. With no requests to speak to the board submitted to the Clerk, President Heikes moved onto the next agenda item.

ALERT. The following reports were included in the packet for this board meeting with notice that they will require future action by the Board of Education: 1. Bond Projects; and, 2. Proposed Secondary Course Additions.

President Heikes adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

November 2, 2020
Date Approved

Wendy S. Denham
Clerk, Board of Education

David Heikes
President, Board of Education