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Board of Education Minutes
Wichita Public Schools · USD 259
Wichita, Kansas
March 7, 2022

Roll Call	The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 259, Sedgwick County, Kansas, met in regular session in the Wichita High School North Lecture Hall, 1437 Rochester, Wichita, Kansas, at approximately 6 p.m., on March 7, 2022, with President Stan Reeser presiding. Present: Diane Albert, Julie Hedrick, Ernestine Krehbiel, Sheril Logan, Stan Reeser, and Kathy Bond. Absent: Hazel Stabler
Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance	The business portion of the meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by the Marshall Middle School JROTC Cadets.
Reports – Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SuperSAC)	Reporter – Jace Nelson, Northwest High School. Topic: ESSER funding
Reports – Good News	2022 Scholastic Art Awards Contact(s): Shawn Chastain The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards is the oldest and most prestigious recognition program for creative teenagers in the United States. Each work is reviewed by a panel of arts professionals for originality, technical skill, and an emergence of professional vision and voice. The Alliance also partners with art institutes, colleges, and universities to earmark scholarships for college-bound Scholastic Awards recipients. This year, 125 works from all 8 WPS High Schools and one Middle School were selected for the Eastern Kansas Scholastic Art Awards. Winning categories include American Vision, Gold Key, Silver Key and Honorable Mention. This exhibition is on display at Mark Arts, 1307 N. Rock Road, until March 26th, 2022.

Reports – Good News *(continued)*	WPS Magnet School Recognitions Contact(s): Jesse Milne and Phyllis Cottner The Magnet Office recognizes the following schools and individuals for their recent achievements: • Jardine STEM and Career Explorations Academy – Magnet Schools of America National Merit Award. • Matt Malget, Principal at Earhart – Magnet Schools of America Principal of the Year Award. • Hyde Leadership and International Explorations Magnet – Leader in Me "Lighthouse" demonstration school. • Gammon Elementary - Leader in Me "Lighthouse" demonstration school. Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Contact(s): Michele Ingenthron Zerrin Oelze, a science teacher at McLean Science and Technology Magnet Elementary School, has received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This award honors the dedication, hard work, and important role that America's teachers and mentors play in supporting learners who will be future STEM professionals, including climate scientists, mathematicians, innovators, space explorers, and engineers. Established in 1983, PAEMST is the highest award kindergarten through 12th grade mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers can receive from the U.S. government. Nominees complete a rigorous application process that allows them to demonstrate deep content knowledge and their ability to adapt to a broad range of learners and teaching environments. A panel of distinguished mathematicians, scientists and educators at the state and national levels assess the applications before recommending nominees to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Teachers are selected based on their distinction in the classroom and dedication to improving STEM education.
Reports – Service Employees International (SEIU)	Esau Freeman, SEIU Business Representative. Topic: Compensation.
Reports – United Teachers of Wichita (UTW)	Brent Lewis, United Teachers of Wichita President. Topic: Teaching as a career.
Public Communications	Kathy Wilson, 1240 W. 34th St. N, Wichita, KS 67204. Topic: BOE Responsibility Bihlah Bengi, 151 S. Athenian, Wichita, KS 67213. Topic: SRG Grading Kari Sue Vosburgh, 7625 E. Dublin, Wichita, KS 67206. Topic: Masks

Education	
Coleman Middle School – Environmental Magnet Middle School Proposal	Jesse Milne, Magnet Program Specialist, and Phyllis White-Cottner, Magnet Program Specialist, briefed the Board on Coleman Middle School's proposed transition to a magnet program. Magnet programs of interest provide school choice throughout Wichita Public Schools and are defined as schools that offer a specialized focus or a unique teaching style that will attract diverse attendance. Tonight's presentation provides an overview of a proposal to magnetize Coleman Middle School. The presentation will include historical data, current feedback, timelines, rationale, and steps taken thus far to generate this concept. Per policy #1217, the Board must approve the proposed implementation of a magnet program and that approval must happen by March of a calendar year for implementation the following school year. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information and discussion. Ms. Hedrick (Ms. Krehbiel) moved the Board approve to implement the proposed magnet programming and implementation timeline at Coleman Middle School thereby creating W.C. Coleman Environmental Magnet Middle School. The motion passed 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent.
COVID-19 Protocols and Mask Mandate	Terri Moses, Director of Safety and Environmental Services, briefed the Board on the district's COVID-19 protocols. Information was delivered related to environmental safety priorities, healthy learning and work environments, the district's response timeline, and online learning limits. Data on positive COVID cases and quarantines was also presented. All protocols and data are available online at www.usd259.net/WPSadvance. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information and discussion. Ms. Bond (Ms. Albert) moved the Board drop the district mask mandate effective immediately instead of waiting until March 10, while keeping in place continued measures of safety with hand washing, offering compassion for those who wish to continue wearing a mask and making available extra masks in each school building. The motion failed 2-4, with Board members Ernestine Krehbiel, Stan Reeser, Julie Hedrick, and Sheril Logan voting no and Hazel Stabler absent. Ms. Logan (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board amend the Board action taken on February 22 to encourage but no longer require masks to be worn on district buses. The motion passed 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent. Ms. Albert (Ms. Bond) moved the Board remove all signage related to COVID-19 protocols from WPS buildings. The motion failed 3-3, with Stan Reeser, Julie Hedrick, and Sheril Logan voting no and Hazel Stabler absent.

Consent: Disposal of Routine Business	Ms. Hedrick (Ms. Bond) moved the Board of Education approve the following items of routine business. The motion passed 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent.
Human Resources Report	Board approval.
Treasury Warrants: February 2021	Board approval.
Monthly Finance Report: January 2022	Provided for the Board's information
Purchasing Consent	Board approval.
ConvergeOne – Switch Network Hardware (Layer 3)	Approve the proposal submitted by ConvergeOne (Overland Park, KS), in the amount not to exceed $ 971,396, be approved for the purchase of local area network hardware.
Cox Communications – Leased Dark Fiber Services	Board member Diane Albert pulled this item for discussion. Please see "Action on Pulled Consent Items" on Page 5.
Consulting Services: Facilities Condition Assessment	Enter an agreement with Schaefer, Johnson, Cox, Frey Architecture for an amount not to exceed $938,640, to provide the district's Facilities Condition Assessment.
Generator Addition – Seltzer Elementary School FEMA Shelter	Approve an amount not to exceed $224,137, which includes the above base bid and a contingency amount of 17,000 with Piping & Equipment Company, Inc., to replace the emergency start system and provide a FEMA rated enclosure for the generator at the Seltzer Elementary School FEMA Shelter.
Generator Replacement: Clark Elementary School	Approve an amount not to exceed $102,716 which includes the above base bid, alternate #1, and a contingency amount of $8,000 with Piping & Equipment Company, Inc. for the Generator Replacement at Clark Elementary School.
SNAP Cloud-Based School Nursing Software	Board member Kathy Bond pulled this item for discussion. Please see "Action on Pulled Consent Items" on Page 5.
ConvergeOne – Switch Network Hardware (Layer 2)	Approve the proposal submitted by ConvergeOne (Overland Park, KS) in the amount not to exceed $5,634,470 for the purchase of local area network hardware and installation. The Master Services Agreement governs all services provided by ConvergeOne and specifically governs the scope of work provided by bid number 22082, which includes switching equipment and installation at various sites.
North Central Kansas Technical College - Microsoft Imagine Academy	Authorize use of $25,000 of Perkins Reserve Funds for the NCKTC professional development support.
BOE Meeting Minutes for February 7	Board approval.
BOE Meeting Minutes for February 22	Board approval.
Class of 2022 Graduation Ceremonies	Approve payments to Koch Arena and Century II for the class of 2022 July Graduations not to exceed $40,000.
HVAC Equipment: Coleman Middle School	Approve an amount not to exceed $1,332,906, with Building Controls and Services, Inc. to purchase material for the HVAC Upgrade/Replacement project at Coleman Middle School.
HVAC Upgrade: North End of Caldwell Elementary School	Approve an amount not to exceed $1,000,409, which includes the above base bid, alternate 1, and a contingency amount of $74,000 with The Waldinger Corporation for North End HVAC Upgrades to Caldwell Elementary School.

Legal Services: Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and McDonald Tinker PA	Authorize payment for legal services and expenses for Civil Litigation and Worker's Compensation under the school district's self-insured programs for January 2022 in the amount of $9,153.50 to Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch, LLC and the amount of $9,314.53 to McDonald Tinker PA.
Roof Replacement – Grove Campus at East High School	Approve $133,719 to be distributed to Reconstruction Services, LLC for repair and replacement of Grove Campus Building B's roof.
Action on Pulled Consent Items	Pulled items are presented in the order of the BOE Agenda.
Cox Communications – Leased Dark Fiber Services	At Ms. Albert's request, the recommendation to approve this item removed the term "annually" after $500,000. Ms. Albert (Ms. Krehbiel) moved the Board approve the proposal submitted by Cox Communications (Wichita, KS), in the amount not to exceed $500,000 for a term of 60 months with 2 additional option terms. The motion passed, 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent.
SNAP Cloud-Based School Nursing Software	At Ms. Bond's request, Dr. Thompson confirmed and explained student personal health information (PHI) is shredded and disposed of in accordance with applicable privacy laws. Ms. Bond (Ms. Hedrick) moved the Board approve a payment not to exceed $82,352 to Professional Software for Nurses, Inc. which includes the one-time cost of $13,455 for the upgrade to cloud services for SNAP and annual renewal of SNAP software cost of $68,897. The motion passed 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent.
Policy	None submitted.
Operations	None submitted.
Finance	Susan Willis, Chief Financial Officer, provided the Board with an update on the budget. Ms. Willis noted student full-time equivalents (FTE) is the primary revenue driver for the district and declining enrollment presents a challenge. Options for budgeting include strategic staff reductions through attrition, reductions in spending based on FTE, limited use of one-time funds to balance the budget, and limit new initiatives unless funded through reductions in spending. WPS continues to monitor legislative activity and financial impacts, making appropriate adjustments. The Budgeting department also continues to refine revenue estimates and will present a first estimate of fixed cost increases in late April or sometime in May. An ESSER utilization update will be provided sometime in May after the March 31 reporting period, and a revenue neutral rate recommendation will be presented to the Board in late June or early July. The complete presentation is included in the archival copies of this BOE Agenda and Minutes. This presentation was provided for the Board's information.

Miscellaneous	
Superintendent's Report	None submitted.
Board of Education Reports/Requests	Diane Albert - Attended Distinguished Classroom Teacher Awards (DCTA) at Gordon Parks Elementary with Mr. Reeser and Dr. Thompson and recognized three outstanding teachers. Commented on great principal, great teachers, and great students she interacted with at a school assembly. Stan Reeser - Attended DCTA at Gordon Parks with Ms. Albert and Dr. Thompson and noted further details are available on his Facebook page. Julie Hedrick - Attended DCTA at Southeast High and Coleman Middle School. Was able to meet a new baby lamb at Coleman and interact with great teachers and students. - Served on team interviewing honorary JROTC Cadets in 6th grade. - Attended All-City choir concert at Century II and watched performance written by WPS alum Dan Overholt and his mother Mimi Overholt titled "We Learn in Possibilities". The performance was composed in honor of 150 years of education in WPS. - Met with BOE policy committee on February 28 to review 0100 series of BOE policies. No amendments at this time. Kathy Bond - Attended KCTA at Mayberry Middle School and gave a shout-out to social studies teacher Kimberlee Hughes. - Attended All-City 5th Grade and Middle School choir concert, and notes it was nostalgic to her as her sons participated when they were WPS students. - Attended American citizenship naturalization ceremony at WSU Metroplex. The Hamilton JROTC presented colors at the event. - Donated blood at McLean Middle School. - Shout-out to Delano's Diner restaurant and general manager Amber Almos for hiring WPS students to work weekends. Noted the restaurant is interested in partnering with WPS on projects. - Thanked Sean Hudspeth, CHRO, for report on custodian master certifications and requested he follow-up with her when affected custodians are master certified. - Requests information on standards-referenced grading (SRG) and whether this comes from the state or local level with the Board; whether SRG creates inconsistency for the district; what is the superintendent's agenda for SRGs; whether it is difficult to return to the former way of standard grading; and why are we lowering the standards. - Requests if parents are sent a survey to evaluate their child's school, administration, and staff during a school year; if students have ever been given a survey to evaluate their school; and if educators have ever been given a survey to evaluate their administrators.

Board of Education Reports/Requests *(continued)*	Sheril Logan - Thankful to have WPS students back in attendance at meetings to recognize them in-person for accomplishments. - Noted Board member Hazel Stabler is absent from the meeting and has a request she will make on behalf of Ms. Stabler. - Requests information on what initiatives WPS has taken to support mental health issues for our students and staff; what the current progress is; how initiatives are monitored for success; and that, if possible, a report on this be brought back to the Board at the April meeting.
New Business	Ernestine Krehbiel - Notes BOE requests requiring more than two hours require the Superintendent to seek Board approval for the use of staff time and resources. Kathy Bond - Notes WPS has two Ukrainian students and suggests the Pennies for Peace program as a way for the district to show support for those affected by the current Russo-Ukrainian conflict.
Executive Session: Employer-Employee Negotiations	At approximately 9:05 p.m., Ms. Hedrick (Mr. Reeser) moved the Board recess into an executive session to discuss matters relating to employer-employee negotiations. The motion passed 6-0, with Hazel Stabler absent. At approximately 9:10 p.m., the Board went into Executive Session.
Reconvene Meeting	At approximately 9:31 p.m., Board President Reeser reconvened the meeting.
Adjournment	Ms. Hedrick (Ms. Logan) moved the meeting adjourn. The motion passed 5-0, with Diane Albert, Stan Reeser, Julie Hedrick, Kathy Bond, and Sheril Logan voting. At approximately 9:32 p.m., the meeting adjourned.