

Board Notes — March 25, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Education of Newton Unified School District 373 convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 25, 2024, in the board room at McKinley Administrative Center, 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

Members Present: Brenna Haines, Ian Long, Mallory Morton, Andy Ortiz, Melissa Schreiber, and Erica Stevens (via phone)

Members Absent: Dayna Steinmetz

Others Present: Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Director of Business/Human Resources Jane Nichols, Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz, and Director of Communications Carly Stavola

1. Opening of Meeting

Melissa Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

2. Presentations/Reports

Information, Reports: A. McCownGordon and Gravity Works Presentation

Staff from Gravity Works and McCownGordon gave a presentation on the Santa Fe campus remodel completion and final numbers of the bond funding.

3. Comments from the Public

No comments.

4. Executive Session

Action: A. Convene in Executive Session - Negotiations

— Move that the board convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations pursuant to the KOMA exception regarding employer-employee negotiations and that the board return to the open meeting in this room at 7:25 p.m. Fred Van Ranken is invited to join the executive session.

5. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the March 4, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the March 25, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	F Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Anderson	Lindsay	3rd Grade Teacher	SB	5/24/2024		x
Last Name	F Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Hiebert	Page	PE Teacher/Coach	CMS	3/21/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Thompson	Caren	Bus Aide	Service Ctr	3/25/2024	From 4.5 hrs/wk to 3.75 hrs/wk	
Baeza	Leticia	Food Service	CMS	4/4/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ SB	
Smith	Kendall	ELL Coordinator	Dist-Wide	3/25/2024	Add Part-Time Interventionist@St. Mary	
Martinez	Kaylee	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	3/18/2024	From 33.75 hrs/week to 13.5	
Pfannenstiel	Valorie	6th Gr Soc Studies-Sci Tchr	SF	8/1/2024	STEAM Teacher @ SF	

Resignation/Termination/Transfer/Change of Assignment shall be deemed accepted upon approval of this report by the Board of Education.

- Approve the McDonald Hopkins invoice from February 2024.
- Approve membership in the KASB Legal Assistance Fund at a cost of \$2,750.00 for the 2024-25 fiscal year.
- Approve the proposal from DH Pace for hardware replacement on doors at NHS.
- Approve the January 2024 Treasurer's Report.

6. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve revisions to policies EBBD, EE, GARID, JBH, JGFGBA and new policies GARIA and JDDAA as presented.
- Approve that the Superintendent's contract be ratified.
- Approve the 2024-25 Student Fees as presented.
- Approve the Head Start Continuation Grant application for 2024-25 as presented.
- Approve the appointment of Lori Barnes from Arkansas City to the KSHSAA Appeal Board as per the official KSHSAA ballot as presented.

Planning for Next Year-continuation of the discussion

Superintendent Van Ranken suggested scheduling a special board work session to continue discussion on planning for next year in regards to staffing needs and fiscal planning. Dates were discussed but no decision made at this time.

7. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Millennium Machine & Tool	Newton High School CTE	Machine materials & maintenance	\$5,000.00
Millennium Machine & Tool	Newton High School CTE	CTE Scholarship Funds	\$1,500.00
Anonymous	Harvey County Special Education	Donation of Digital Magnifier	\$800.00
First Presbyterian Women	USD 373	Meal Assistance Fund	\$500.00

- Approve the early graduation requests from Opportunity Academy.

8. Reports

BOE Committee Reports

- Mallory Morton thanked the board for approving the Head Start continuation grant.
- Andy Ortiz attended a Harvey County Special Education Board meeting and reported there is a need for special education teachers, the all inclusive playground is nearing the end of their fundraising and Superintendent Van Ranken and Reagan Seidl are meeting with Prairie View to see that those students have the support needed.
- Melissa Schreiber wasn't able to attend the last ICC meeting.

Building Reports

Building reports are provided for Santa Fe 5/6, Chisholm Middle, Newton High, Opportunity Academy and 373 Athletics.

9. Closing of Meeting

BOE Review of Self-Evaluation

Board members were reminded to complete their self-evaluation before leaving the meeting.

Board Comments

Board members were given time for comments.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

Background information on agenda items may be found in BoardDocs at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/usd373/Board.nsf/Public>