

## Board Notes — April 8, 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, April 8, 2024, in the board room at McKinley Administrative Center, 308 E 1<sup>st</sup>, Newton, KS.

**Members Present:** Brenna Haines, Ian Long, Mallory Morton, Andy Ortiz, Melissa Schreiber, Dayna Steinmetz and Ercia Stevens

**Others Present:** Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Assistant Superintendent Sheila Wendling, Director of Business/Human Resources Jane Nichols, Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz, and Director of Technology Brenda Thompson

### 1. Opening of Meeting

Melissa Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

### 2. Presentations/Reports

Chisholm Middle School Principal Joey Menninga reported on community partnerships with Jr. Rainers and Wyldlife. Joel Smith updated the board on the activities that Jr. Rainers are doing with all students and Loren Kurtz talked about how Wyldlife is connecting with Chisholm students.

### 3. Comments from the Public

There were no comments.

### 4. Executive Session

#### Action: A. Convene in Executive Session - Personnel

— Move that the board convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing issues concerning an employee pursuant to the KOMA exception regarding personnel matters of non-elected personnel and that the board return to the open meeting in this room at 7:30 p.m. Fred Van Ranken is invited to join the executive session.

### 5. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the March 21 and 25, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the April 8, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Simon	Monica	Speech Lang Pathologist	HCSEC	5/24/2024		x
Helsper	Sandra	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	5/22/2024		x
Estrada	Patricia	Custodian	Dist Office	6/28/2024		x
McCoy	Tommy	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	4/2/2024		x
Seuser	Kevin	Custodian	NHS	6/28/2024		x
Smalley	Jayne	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	4/8/2024		x
Carrion	Casandra	Admin Assistant	NHS	4/22/2024		x
Claassen	Samuel	Asst MS Boys Tennis Coach	CMS	4/8/2024	x	
Sample	Joseph	Asst Superintendent	McKinley	7/1/2024	x	

Rossiter	Susie	Reg. Ed. Aide	Cooper	4/8/2024	x	
Pracht Weibert	Kirstyn	6th Gr Sci/SS Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	x	
Baeza	Lorraina	Custodian	CMS	4/3/2024	x	
Orchard	Bethany	5th Gr ELA Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	x	
Day	Riley	Orchestra Teacher	NHS/SF	8/1/2024	x	
Pimentel Anton	Joaquin	Substitute Teacher	Dist-Wide	3/27/2024	x	
Starwalt	Joseph	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	3/27/2024	x	
Smalley	Jayne	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	3/27/2024	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Fisher	Kenneth	Transportation	Service Ctr	4/2/2024	From 6 hrs/week to 4 hrs/week	
Block	Kristina	Transportation	Service Ctr	4/2/2024	From 4 hrs/week to 6 hrs/week	
Thompson	Caren	Transportation	Service Ctr	4/4/2024	Add Sub Van Driver	
Menninga	Joseph	Principal	CMS	7/1/2024	Principal @ SB	
Jarrell	Carmen	PE Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	College&Career Advocate @ NHS	
Burdick	Barbie	7th Gr Math Teacher	CMS	4/2/2024	Add Railer Power Hr/Connections	
Foster	Justin	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	4/3/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Copeland	Dominque	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	4/3/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Geyer	Desirae	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	4/3/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Robb	Faith	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	4/8/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ SF	
Bledsoe	William	Tchr & girls basketball coach	NHS	4/8/2024	Resign girls basketball coach-NHS only	

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

- Approve the Special Education Title VI-B Assurances and Certification as presented.
- Approve the MOU with ESSDACK for the secondary virtual student program for the 2024-25 school year.
- Approve the buyback quote from Total Technology for end of life laptops.

## 6. Old Business 2024-25 Planning

There is a work session scheduled for April 10, 2024 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. to continue discussion on planning for the 2024-25 school year. Superintendent Van Ranken will be providing information on the legislative action as it relates to our funding.

- Move that the Board adopt the attached Resolution, Contract For Transfer of Real Estate and Notice of Intention to Dispose of Building.

## 7. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Millennium Machine & Tool	NHS RaileRobotics	Assist with supplies & competition expenses	\$1,000.00
Blaser Swisslube	NHS Machining Program	55 Gal. drum of machine coolant	\$3,414.32

Harvey County United Way	Cooper Early Ed Center	Grant to purchase ipads for use with parents of Infant-Toddler Program	\$5,000.00
Prestressed Concrete	NHS CTE	CTE Scholarship Fund	\$500.00

— Approve the job description for the Special Education Instruction/IEP Coach.

**Open Enrollment-Initial District Capacity**

The open enrollment policy goes into effect this coming school year. Administrators have met to look at proposed capacities within USD 373 which was provided to the board for review. This document will need to be approved at the April 22, 2024 meeting and then posted on our website.

**Curriculum Adoptions Beginning in 2024-2025**

Sheila Wendling provided information on upcoming curriculum/resource adoptions for the 2024-25 school year through the 2029-30 school year. These adoptions will be on the May 13 board agenda for approval.

**Professional Learning Evaluations for January & February 2024**

Evaluations from January-February, 2024 Professional Learning days were shared with the Board of Education.

**8. BOE Committee and Building Reports**

**BOE Committee Reports**

- Mallory Morton reported on Head Start policy council meeting she attended.
- Ericia Stevens has been in conversation with Brenda Thompson regarding the scheduling of a Technology Committee.

**Building/Department Reports**

Reports were provided for Cooper Early Ed Center/Head Start, Northridge Elementary, Slate Creek Elementary, South Breeze Elementary, and Sunset Elementary.

Department reports were provided for Facilities/Maintenance, Business/HR/Payroll and Technology Services.

**9. Closing of Meeting**

**BOE Review of Self-Evaluation**

BOE self-evaluation feedback was provided to board members.

**Board Comments**

Board comments included a reminder of all the spring activities happening in our buildings, the importance of reaching out to legislators and the upcoming legislative update here at McKinley on April 13, appreciation for the Chisholm update with community partnerships and the need for the board coming together for consensus. A reminder was made to complete board self-evaluations before leaving the meeting.

**Adjournment**

Move to adjourn at 8:04 p.m.

Background information on agenda items may be found in BoardDocs at:  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/usd373/Board.nsf/Public>