

Board Notes — May 13, 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, May 13, 2024, in the board room at McKinley Administrative Center, 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

Members Present: Ian Long, Mallory Morton, Andy Ortiz, Melissa Schreiber, Dayna Steinmetz and Erica 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 Communications Carly Stavola

1. Opening of Meeting

Melissa Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.
— Adopt the agenda as presented.

2. Presentations/Reports

Friends of Education

Gifts were presented to our Friends of Education partners: All Together Now playground committee members Jo Bjerum, Erin McDaniel, Carly Stavola and Chris Conrade, nominated by Tenae Alfaro.

3. Comments from the Public

Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs gave a report on the success of a Newton High School graduate.

4. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

- Approve the April 22, 2024 minutes as presented.
- Approve the bills as presented.
- Approve the May 13, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Smucker	Aimee	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	5/22/2024		x
Frederking	Garrett	Network Administrator	ETC	6/7/2024		x
Martinez	Kaylee	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	4/22/2024		x
Burgess	Lisa	Assistant Principal	SF	6/30/2024		x
Harris	Alayna	3rd Grade	SB	8/1/2024		x
Hanchett	Anna	Sp. Ed. Para	SC	8/1/2024		x
Willis	Haleigh	Administrative Assistant	SS	6/7/2024		x
Smith	Jackie	Food Service	SF	5/22/2024		x
Park	Danny	Head Softball Coach	NHS	6/1/2024		x
Schlegel	Brooke	4th Grade Teacher	SS	5/24/2024		x
Formento	Sebastian	Reg. Ed. Aide	SF	5/22/2024		x
Burch	Kevin	Van Driver	Transportation	5/23/2024		x
Martin	Kody	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	5/6/2024		x
Jackson	Robyn	Psychologist	SF	5/28/2024		x
Tollette	Destiny	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	5/8/2024		x

Lewis	Taylor	Social Worker	NHS	5/24/2024		x
Hulse	Rylee	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	5/10/2024		x
Hefling	Kylie	4th Grade Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	x	
Gentilella	Kelsey	IR Sped Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	x	
Tieszen	Marilyn	Elementary ESOL Teacher	SC	8/1/2024	x	
Daniel	Michael	Welding Instructor	NHS	8/1/2024	x	
McMichael	Jesse	IR Sped Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	x	
Ryan	Rebecca	IR Sped Teacher	SC	8/1/2024	x	
Martin	Abigail	Structured Learning Sped Tchr	SB	8/1/2024	x	
McFall	Denise	Asst. Principal	Cooper	7/1/2024	x	
Lanterman	Tory	Kindergarten Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	x	
Adame	Frank	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	4/23/2024	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Zinn	Erin	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	4/30/2024	From 33.75 to 20.5 hrs/week	
Starwalt	Joseph	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	4/30/2024	From 7.3 hrs/wk to 16.88 hrs/wk	
Stephey	Tiffany	Asst. Principal	NHS	7/1/2024	Principal @ CMS	
Baeza	Kylie	IR Sped Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	IDD Sped Teacher @ NR	
Meza	Maria	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	8/1/2024	K-4 Science Tchr@District-Wide	
Skinner	Brian	Sped Teacher	NHS	8/1/2024	Sped IEP/Instruct. Coach@HCSEC	

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

- Approve the February 2024 Revised Treasurer's Report.
- Approve a contract with USD 259 for transportation of students to the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe KS.
- Approve the participating agreement with Hutchinson Community College for 2024-25.
- Approve the renewal of Frontline Education as presented.
- Approve the bid from Star Lumber & Supply for various flooring projects across the district in the amount of \$99,243.76.
- Approve the Johnson Controls Contract for fire protection service.
- Approve the Capital Outlay purchase for chromebooks, licenses and service agreements for the district at a cost of \$163,710.00.

5. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve novels to be used in ELA classrooms as presented.
- Approve the curriculum adoptions for 2024-25 as presented.
- Approve the revision to the 2024-25 Attendance Calendar as presented.
- Approve Ian Long to serve as a representative on the IBB Team.
- Appoint the next top vote getter from the November 2023 election. Motion Failed (3-3)
- Approve advertising and opening up the position to the community.

Board consensus was to have applicants answer the questions of why do I want to serve on the Board and Education and what can I contribute to the board. Applications should be turned in to Joni Jantz by noon on Monday, June 3, 2024. Joni will work with Carly Stavola in getting this information out to the public.

6. New Business

The board voted to:

— Approve the gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Bunting Magnetics	Newton High School Welding & Machining	Metal & various materials	\$1,500.00
Mario Nava	Newton High School Automotive Program	1993 Ford Ranger	\$2,100.00
Society of Mfg. Engineers	Newton High School RaileRobotics	Donation for travel expenses	\$750.00
Mackey and Sons, Inc.	Newton High School FFA	Funding FFA Chapter events	\$750.00

— Approve the engagement of the law firm McDonald Hopkins to assist in assisting with general cybersecurity and privacy legal needs and requirements.

— Approve the early graduation requests from Opportunity Academy and Newton High.

— Approve increasing the part time nurse vacancy to a full time position.

Newcomer Program

Sheila Wendling, Liz Gunn, Kendall Smith, Sara Ott, Ryan Kopper, and Tenae Alfaro presented information on the Newcomer Program that they have been designing for students that enroll with limited English skills. They will be piloting models for grades K-6 and 7-12 for the 2024-25 school year.

2024-25 Handbooks for Review

2024-25 Handbooks for Elementary, Opportunity Academy Student and Staff, and Santa Fe 5/6 Center Student and Staff were presented to the board for review. Administration will be seeking approval at the June 10 board meeting.

7. Reports

BOE Committee Reports

Mallory Morton gave an update on the Head Start program and Melissa Schreiber gave an update on the Infant Toddler Interagency team. Andy Ortiz was unable to attend the HCSEC Board meeting.

Building/Department Reports

Reports were provided for Cooper Early Ed Center, Northridge, Slate Creek, South Breeze, Sunset, Santa Fe 5/6, Chisholm Middle, Newton High, Opportunity Academy and USD 373 Athletics.

Maintenance/Facilities and Business/HR/Payroll reports were provided.

8. Closing of Meeting

BOE Review of Self-Evaluation

BOE self-evaluation feedback was provided to board members. Reminder to board members to complete their form and leave it with Mr. Van Ranken.

Board Comments

Board comments included a thank you to the Friends of Education partners, acknowledgement of Teacher Appreciation Week and recognizing all staff, and congratulations to all graduates. It was noted that the board should be working together to find the best person to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education. Reminder of the special meeting tomorrow, May 14 at 5:00 p.m. at the Meridian Center. This is a work session with the City of Newton and Newton Recreation Commission.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

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

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