

## Board Notes — June 24, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Education of Newton Unified School District 373 convened in open and public session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024, in the board room at McKinley Administrative Center, 308 E 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 5:33 p.m.

Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

### 2. Comments from the Public

Sara Getchell advised the board that she is withdrawing her name from consideration for the board seat vacancy.

### 3. Board Candidates Q & A

#### Discussion with Board Candidates

Samantha Lawrence and Sara Getchell have withdrawn their names for consideration in filling the board seat vacancy.

Board members agreed on four questions to ask the remaining two candidates, Dr. Robert Diepenbrock and Dr. Heidi Hoskinson. After both candidates were interviewed, the board took a five-minute recess at 6:22 p.m.

#### Possible Action to Approve Board Member

Board members discussed the two candidates and each member was given time for comments. Andy Ortiz nominated Dr. Hoskinson for consideration. Ian Long nominated Dr. Diepenbrock for consideration. A hand vote was taken which resulted in a tie, 3 votes for Dr. Hoskinson and 3 votes for Dr. Diepenbrock.

Discussion continued on how to move forward and board members acknowledged that too much time has been spent on this situation.

A motion was made by Andy Ortiz, seconded by Ian Long, to move forward with a six member board. Motion passed 5-1.

### 4. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the June 10, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the June 24, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Teichler	Sarah	Part-Time Music Tchr	St. Mary's	8/1/2024	x	
Tucker	Julie	Asst. Principal	NHS	8/1/2024	x	
Pfannenstiel	Ashlea	6th Sci/SS Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	x	

Gottschalk	Katherine	PE Teacher	NR/SS	8/1/2024	x	
Jenney	Anna	4th Grade Teacher	SS	8/1/2024	x	
Pankratz	Madison	Social Worker	NHS	8/1/2024	x	
Johnston	Brock	Asst. FB Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	x	
<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Change of Assignment/Transfer</b>	
Roberts-Parker	Payton	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	8/1/2024	Long Term Sub Sped SMD @ NHS	

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

- Approve the April 2024 Treasurer's Report.
- Approve the May 2024 Treasurer's Report.
- Authorize administration to pay year end bills and complete fund transfers as necessary to close FY24.
- Approve DUO MFA Software renewal.
- Approve the adoption of the Member Participation Agreement in the Kansas Association of School Boards Workers Compensation Fund, Inc. as presented.

## 5. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the 2024-25 student handbooks for Newton High School, Chisholm Middle School and the staff handbook for Chisholm Middle School acknowledging that future wording changes based upon staff or BOE policy changes may occur after BOE approval for the upcoming school year.
- Approve the resources as presented for the USD 373 Newcomer program for the 2024-2025 school year.

## 6. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the gift request as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
White Eagle Credit Union	USD 373 Summer Food Program	Provide fresh fruit and vegetables for summer meals	\$2,000.0

## School Meal Prices for 2024-25

Meal prices for 2024-25 were presented to the board. Administration will be asking for approval at the July 8 board meeting.

## Proposed 2024-2025 BOE Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for the 2024-25 school year were discussed and will be on the July 8 board agenda for approval.

## Board Appointments to Committees

Committee appointments were reviewed and will be on the July 8 board agenda for approval.

## Newton High School Out-of State Trips

Newton High School provided information on an out of state trip for the students going to the Skills USA National Convention June 24-28, 2024.

## **7. Reports**

### **BOE Committee Reports**

Mallory Morton reported that the Head Start Policy Council does not meet over the summer and negotiations should be finishing up tomorrow morning.

## **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**

Recognition was given to Sheila Wendling for her years of service to USD 373 and wishing her well in retirement and to the high school debate team for placing at Nationals. Melissa Schreiber gave an update on the Board Operations Guide committee.

### **Adjournment**

Move to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.

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