

Board Notes — August 12, 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, August 12, 2024, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

Members Present: Ian Long, Mallory Morton, Andy Ortiz, Melissa Schreiber, Erica Stevens

Members Absent: Dayna Steinmetz

Others Present: Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Assistant Superintendent Joe Sample, 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 7:00 p.m.

Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

2. Presentations/Reports

Budget Presentation

Jane Nichols presented an overview of the proposed FY25 budget.

3. Comments from the Public

Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs shared a success story of a NHS graduate, Mike Fellows gave the board information on the upcoming Harvey County Constitution Essay Contest and Jennie Busenitz shared information on how the Walton facility has been used.

4. Executive Session

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 on non-elected personnel and that the board return to the open meeting in this room at 7:41 p.m. Fred Van Ranken and Jane Nichols are invited to join the executive session.

— Move to approve the Activity/School Bus Waiver on employee as presented.

Motion by Mallory Morton, second by Andy Ortiz. Motion Passed (5-0)

— Move to grant academic leave for the employee as presented.

Motion by Erica Stevens, second by Mallory Morton. Motion Passed (5-0)

5. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

— Approve the July 22 & 29, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the July 2024 Treasurer's Report as presented.

— Approve the August 12, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Delgado	Miriam	Sp. Ed. Para	SC	5/22/2024		x
Lyles	Mark	Bus Driver	Transportation	8/1/2024		x

Golubski	Reid	Food Service	Food Service	7/26/2024		x
Hodgkins	Edward	Food Service Warehouse Manager	NHS	9/27/2024		x
Conquest	Sarah	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	8/2/2024		x
Archibald	Kamyrn	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	8/6/2024		x
Baeza	Andrew	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	8/7/2024		x
Thomas	Nancy	Gifted Teacher	NHS	12/31/2024		x
Bennett	Kelsey	Math Teacher	NHS	8/9/2024		x
Young	Emma	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/12/2024		x
Shultz	Richard	Math Teacher	NHS	8/13/2024	x	
Runge	Robert	Asst. Girls BB Coach	NHS	8/8/2024	x	
Allen	Grace	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	8/9/2024	x	
Ferrier	Ernest	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	8/7/2024	x	
Coppinger	Kaliana	Bus/Van Driver	Transportation	8/8/2024	x	
Clipper	Taylor	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	8/8/2024	x	
Lahey	Austin	Reg. Ed. Aide	SF	8/6/2024	x	
Smith	Jordyn	Reg. Ed. Aide	OA	8/6/2024	x	
Evans	Natalie	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	8/5/2024	x	
Yost	David	2nd Shift Custodian	NHS	8/5/2024	x	
Miller	Noah	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/5/2024	x	
Russell	Annessa	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/5/2024	x	
Cabbage	Max	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	8/5/2024	x	
Soward	Jordan	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	8/5/2024	x	
Newton	Lori	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	8/5/2024	x	
Thompson	Blake	Head Cross Country Coach/Building Sub.	NHS	8/5/2024	x	
Walker	Tiffany	Reg. Ed. Aide	Cooper	8/1/2024	x	
Hoopes	Braylyn	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	8/1/2024	x	
Dills	Sierra	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/5/2024	x	
Colahan	Allison	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	8/1/2024	x	
Hernandez	Jesse	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	8/5/2024	x	
Hamilton	Molly	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	8/1/2024	x	
Christianson	Lucila	Food Service	SS	8/5/2024	x	
Smith	Tristian	Food Service	SF	8/5/2024	x	
Province	Crystal	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	8/5/2024	x	
Rempel	Caleb	6th Gr. Math Teacher	SF	8/1/2024	x	
Eitzen	Jessica	IR Sp. Ed. Teacher	SS	8/1/2024	x	
Anderson	Amber	Admin Assistant	SS	7/24/2024	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Bergquist	Michelle	Admin Assistant	NHS	7/22/2024	From 20 hrs/week to 40 hrs/week	
Walker	Nathan	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ NHS	

Orndoff	Linda	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ SS
Kennell	Brian	Soc. St. Teacher	NHS	8/1/2024	Add .5 Fall Concessions @ NHS
Schneider	Jay	ESY Sp. Ed. Para	SS	8/5/2024	2nd Shift Custodian @ NHS
Tuliszewski	Stephen	Van Driver	Transportation	7/25/2024	Bus Driver @ Transportation
Thompson	Caren	Bus Aide	Transportation	7/25/2024	Bus Driver @ Transportation
Gomez-Poston	Ocean	Long Term Substitute	NHS	7/25/2024	Bus Driver @ Transportation
Nicholson	Myriah	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	8/1/2024	Add Sp. Ed. Para 2 days/week
Yoder	Kent	2nd Shift Custodian	NHS	7/29/2024	2nd Shift Custodian @ SB
Richardson	Torriano	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	8/1/2024	From 14.25 hrs/wk to 21.25 hrs/wk
Klassen	Meleah	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ NHS
Kirkpatrick	Korrine	ESY Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ NHS
Damon	Becky	Reg. Ed. Aide	OA	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ SC
Rossiter	Aryanna	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	8/1/2024	Reg. Ed. Aide @ SB
Doerksen	Michael	Athletic Worker	NHS	8/14/2024	Add Reg. Ed. Aide @ NHS
Pimentel Anton	Joaquin	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/1/2024	Substitute Teacher @ District-Wide
Carter	Patti	Substitute Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ NR
Hamm	Deb	Substitute Teacher	SB	8/14/2024	Add Substitute Teacher @ NR
Allen	Sarah	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 5 hrs/day & Para 2 hrs/day
Klusener	Bryant	PE Tchr/CMS Coach	SF	8/1/2024	From MS Asst BB to Asst Girls BB Coach@NHS
Costantino	Anthony	Sub Tchr/Coach	District-Wide	8/1/2024	Remove Asst. Girls Tennis @ NHS
Boese	Ray	Alternative Sch Tchr/Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	From MS Boys BB to HS Asst Boys BB Coach
Denno	Denetta	Adaptive PE Teacher	NR	8/1/2024	Add Unified Bowling Head Coach@NHS
Foster	Jarrold	Adapt. PE Tchr/Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	Add Asst. Boys BB Coach @ NHS
Nava	Mario	PE Teacher	SC/SS	8/1/2024	Add Unified Bowling Asst Coach@NHS
Sisson	Nick	Head Boys Tennis Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	Add Asst. Girls Tennis @ NHS
Knepper	Brittanee	Math Teacher/Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	Add Head 8th Gr Girls BB Coach@CMS
Antonowich	Lisa	PE Teacher/Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	Add Asst VB & Asst Girls BB Coach@CMS
Gronau	Jennifer	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 5 hrs/day & Para 2 hrs/day
Madlock	Hallie	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 5 hrs/day & Para 2 hrs/day
Edson	Rebecca	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 2 hrs/day & Para 3 hrs/day
Duong	Lan	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 5 hrs/day & Para 2 hrs/day
Sweeden	Donna	Reg. Ed. Aide	NR	8/14/2024	Aide 5 hrs/day & Para 2 hrs/day

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

- Approve the athletic trainer contract with Newton Medical Center as presented.
- Approve the Agreement with Interlocal 619 for Transportation Services.
- Approve the disposal of instructional materials and/or old and unused textbooks in the district during the 2024-25 school year.

6. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve the revisions to board policy BCBK, CJ, CL, EE, ID, IF, JGFGA, JH, KK, adopt policy EBBG and delete policy BBG as presented.

- Approve the 2024-25 handbooks for Cooper Parents, Cooper Staff, Substitutes and Classified Staff as presented.
- Approve the revisions to the 2024-25 Santa Fe 5/6 Center Student and Staff Handbooks as presented.

2024-25 Handbooks for Review

The 2024-25 Newton High School Staff Handbook was presented to the board for review and administration will be seeking approval at the August 26 board meeting.

Walton Facilities Update

Two appraisals have been received on the market value of the Walton facility. Discussion centered around the proposal of RSP & Associates completing a district operations study for the purpose of long-range planning.

7. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
McCownGordon Construction	Newton High School CTE	Electrical panels for electrical program	\$3,400.00
Evergy	Newton High School CTE	Donation of a drone	\$24,000.00

Gifts Under \$500: For Information Only

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
OFG Financial Services, Inc.	USD 373	Donation to all staff lunch on 8/8/24	\$60.00
Thrasher Foundation	Newton High School CTE	CTE Scholarships	\$300.00

- Approve the 2024-25 budget and revenue neutral rate for publication as presented.
- Approve the 2024-2025 Negotiated Agreement between the Newton Education Association and USD 373 Board of Education.
- Approve the 2024-25 Classified Wage Rates as presented.
- Approve the Administrator and Director index rates as presented.
- Approve early release on Friday, May 2, 2025 for a fourth grade orientation at Santa Fe 5/6 Center.

Agreement with OVM, Inc

Superintendent Van Ranken presented information on an agreement with OVM, Inc. to provide services to students and families to resolve attendance issues that have resulted in truancy being filed on the part of a student in the district. This is a result of the continued partnership with the Harvey County Attorney’s Office, DCF, CASA and OVM. Administration will be seeking approval at the August 26, 2024 board meeting.

RSP District Operations Study

The RSP District Operations proposal was presented to the board. Members should review the proposal and send any questions to Fred Van Ranken. RSP staff will be at next board meeting to answer specific questions.

Santa Fe Capital Expenditure Possibilities from Existing Bond Funds

Superintendent Van Ranken presented a list of improvements at Santa Fe 5/6 Center to utilize remaining bond funds. In addition to the projects, paying on the current bond is an option. With these items taken care of now, there wouldn’t be big improvements

for Santa Fe on the next bond. Board members should send any questions to the superintendent before taking action at the August 26 meeting.

8. Reports

BOE Committee Reports

Andy Ortiz presented a recent revision of the Board Operations document. It has been pared down from the 22 page draft and titled "Board Guidelines". Board members all agreed it was easier to understand and covered necessary information. This will be on the August 26 agenda for consensus to move forward and have it posted on the BOE page of our website.

Building Reports

Building reports for Northridge, Slate Creek, South Breeze, Sunset Elementary and Cooper Early Education Center were provided to the board for review.

Instructional Services Report

A report from Instructional Services was provided.

Maintenance/Facilities Report

A report from Maintenance/Facilities was provided.

9. 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

Comments included a welcome back to all staff as the school year is beginning this week. Advised that The Porch will not have after school activities planned for the Santa Fe students this year, however, they are welcome to go to the library after school but must go with a parent to get a library card advance. The Porch is looking for volunteers to assist with the Wednesday evening meals.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

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