

Board Notes — September 23, 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, September 23, 2024, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

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

Members Absent: Andy Ortiz, 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. Comments from the Public

Aline Albrecht addressed the board regarding the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day on November 14, 2024 and the possibility of participation by the Newton schools.

3. 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 7:15 p.m. Fred Van Ranken and Jane Nichols are invited to join the executive session.

— Accept the request from Kiley Preheim for unpaid leave days as presented.

4. Consent Agenda

— Approve the September 9, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the September 23, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Pfannenstiel	James	Asst. FB Coach	NHS	1/1/2024		x
Finley	Hannah	Asst Girls Swim/Dive Coach	NHS	6/1/2024		x
Stegman	Caroline	Asst. Softball Coach	NHS	6/1/2024		x
Blackwell	Narissa	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	9/19/2024	x	
Bohnert	Sarah	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	9/19/2024	x	
Dawson	Breckyn	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	9/19/2024	x	
Walton	Lorese	Bus Aide	Service Center	9/19/2024	x	
Thiessen	Sharilyn	Sub Teacher	District-Wide	9/17/2024	x	
Gomez	Searra	Bus Aide	Service Center	9/17/2024	x	
Scott	Ann	Reg. Ed. Aide	SB	9/17/2024	x	
Raleigh	Alexis	Family Consultant	Cooper	9/13/2024	x	
Fisher-Soukup	Abriauna	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	9/12/2024	x	

Gantt	Elizabeth	Food Service	SF	9/12/2024	x	
Fierros Martinez	Adrian	Custodian	Service Center	9/12/2024	x	
Fraley	Chelle	Sub Teacher	District-Wide	9/10/2024	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Buller	Debra	Food Service	NHS	9/3/2024	From 6.25 hrs/day to 7 hrs/day	
Gesell	Brett	Food Service	NHS	9/3/2024	From 1.75 hrs/day to 2.75 hrs/day	
Christianson	Lucila	Food Service	SS	8/14/2024	From 6 hrs/day to 5.75 hrs/day	
Bornowsky	Jacob	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	9/9/2024	From 3.3 hrs/day to 5.17 hrs/day	
McCallister	Cori	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	9/3/2024	From 6.75 hrs/day to 7.17 hrs/day	
Russell	Annessa	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/19/2024	From IR Para to ED Para	
Orndoff	Linda	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	9/9/2024	From 7 hrs/day to 6.75 hrs/day	
Bass	Kaci	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	9/9/2024	Add Bus Aide @ Transportation	
DeRome	Kayla	Sp. Ed. Para	SS	9/9/2024	Add Bus Aide @ Transportation	
Lee	Brenda	Bus Aide	Service Center	9/18/2024	From 32.5 hrs/week to 20 hrs/week	
Reber	Lea	Van Driver	Service Center	9/18/2024	From 16 hrs/week to 22.5 hrs/week	
Knepper	Brittane	Math Tchr/Coach	NHS	8/1/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Warkentine	Amanda	Sp. Ed. Teacher	SB	8/1/2024	Add K-4 Sp. Ed. Lead	
Mick	Richard	CTE Teacher	NHS	9/16/2024	Add Bus/Van Driver @ Transportation	
Miller	Noah	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/26/2024	From 20 hrs/week to 16.75 hrs/week	

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

- Approve the August 2024 Treasurer’s Report.
- Approve the Interagency agreement between ESSDACK and USD 373 as presented.
- Approve the Building Site Council members for 2024-25.
- Approve the 2024-2025 Agreement with Prairie View, Inc. to provide educational and related services for students who reside in the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility.

5. Old Business

The board voted to:

- Approve policy JBCC-Enrollment of Nonresident Students as presented.

6. New Business

The board voted to:

- Approve gift requests as presented.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Bunting Magnetics	Newton High School Machining/Welding Program	Materials for student use	\$1,300.00
Bunting Magnetics	Newton High School Machining/Welding Program	Materials for student use	\$800.00
South Central KS Library System	Newton High School	Library technology needs (TVs)	\$2,495.00

Gifts Under \$500: For Information Only

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Walmart	Newton High School Machining Program	Supplies	\$40.00

Head Start Policy Council Policies & Procedures

The Head Start Policy Council recently reviewed their policies and procedures and approved the revisions on 9/9/24. It is now being shared with the USD 373 Board of Education and administration will be seeking approval on 10/14/24.

7. Reports

BOE Committee Reports

Ian Long advised of the PBC meeting last week in which a sound system for Athletic Park Fisher Field was approved.

Building Reports

Building reports for Santa Fe 5/6 Center, Chisholm Middle, Opportunity Academy, Newton High School and USD 373 Athletics were provided to the board for information.

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

Ian Long inquired about upcoming meetings with RSP and how information will get out to the community. The board will be meeting with RSP on October 28 and more detailed information will be forthcoming. Recognition was made for Mr. John Werner being named an Outstanding PLTW teacher for 2024-25.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.

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