

Board Notes — October 28, 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, October 28, 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, Ercia Stevens

Members Absent: Dayna Steinmetz

Others Present: Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Assistant Superintendent Joe Sample, Director of Business/Human Resources Jane Nichols, and Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz

1. Opening of Meeting

Melissa Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Melissa Schreiber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

— Adopt the agenda as presented.

2. Consent Agenda

— Approve the October 14, 2024 minutes as presented.

— Approve the bills as presented.

— Approve the October 28, 2024 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Arismendi Soto	Jenifer	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	10/25/2024		x
Lakey	Austin	Reg. Ed. Aide	SF	10/25/2024		x
Abrile De Paiva	Maira	Sp. Ed. Para	NR	10/22/2024	x	
Norris	Kai	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	10/16/2024	x	
Woodley	Jaric	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	10/16/2024	x	
Enriquez	Jordan	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	10/16/2024	x	
Anderson	Karin	Sp. Ed. Para	SC	10/16/2024	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Province	Crystal	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	10/21/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ HCSEC	
Nickel	Eunice	Math Teacher	NHS	1/6/2025	Add Gifted Coordinator @ NHS	
Monarez	Alexis	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	9/30/2024	From 6.5 hrs/day to 6.83 hrs/day	
Crawford	Emily	3rd Gr Teacher	SB	10/14/2024	Add Athletic Worker	
Brown	Ashtyn	2nd Grade Teacher	SB	10/14/2024	Add Asst Girls Soccer Coach @ NHS & Asst Girls BB Coach @ CMS	
Petrie	Shawndrea	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	10/21/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ NHS	
Bohnert	Sarah	Sp. Ed. Para	NHS	10/21/2024	Sp. Ed. Para @ CMS	
Gantt	Elizabeth	Food Service	SF/NHS	10/17/2024	From 2.5 hrs/day to 5 hrs/day	
Schwindt	Melissa	6th Grade ELA	SF	10/21/2024	Add Breakfast Supervision	
Switzer	Tera	6th Grade ELA	SF	10/21/2024	Resign Breakfast & Lunch Sprvisn	
Mendoza	Krista	6th Grade Math	SF	10/21/2024	Add Lunch Supervision	
Okpe	Bernard	Custodian	NHS	10/28/2024	2nd Shift Custodian @ SF	

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

3. Work Session Topics/Discussion

RSP Project Information

Robert Schwartz and Ginna Wallace from RSP & Associates presented the facility master plan. They talked about the process and answered questions from board members. The guiding principles were discussed and board members agreed on what was presented. Committee membership was discussed and board members should submit their community member name to the superintendent on or before the November 11 board meeting. Committee members should commit to attending all meetings with the first one scheduled for November 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mallory Morton and Melissa Schreiber will serve as non-voting members of the committee.

Enrollment Trends and Future Budgetary Implications

Jane Nichols presented enrollment information as it relates to the budget. The information presented can be found in the agenda in BoardDocs.

USD 373 Political Priorities and Positions

Superintendent Van Ranken presented a question to the board regarding political priorities and positions on education and what interest there is in sharing with local and federal legislative bodies. After discussion, the board would be interested in inviting elected legislators to the December meeting.

BOE Development

Superintendent Van Ranken asked the board about their interest in training opportunities to continue to grow as a leadership group. Consensus of the board was yes there is interest and they see a benefit in doing this. It was suggested to schedule training on a regular meeting date at 6:00 p.m.

4. Reports — Building and Department Reports

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

At 9:06 p.m. the board recessed for a 5-minute break and resumed the open meeting at 9:11 p.m.

5. 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 9:32 p.m.

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 9:51 p.m.

6. Closing of Meeting

BOE Review of Self-Evaluation

BOE self-evaluation feedback was not provided for this meeting.

Board Comments — There were no comments.

Adjournment — Move to adjourn at 9:53 p.m.

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