

## Board Notes — September 29, 2025

A meeting/work session 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 29, 2025, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1<sup>st</sup>, 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, and Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz

### 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. New Business

— Approve the September 29, 2025 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Pearson	Bernie	Head Girls Basketball Coach	NHS	10/1/2025	x	
Torrez Avila	Lidia	Meat Department Helper	NHS	9/25/2025	x	
Thurston	Caileane	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	9/25/2025	x	
Mckiernan	Dena	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	9/25/2025	x	
Herrin	Mackala	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	9/25/2025	x	
Vasquez	Olivia	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	9/23/2025	x	
Last Name	First Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Rankin	Heather	1st Shift Custodian	SF	9/29/2025	1st Shift Floater Custodian	
Hernandez	Judy	Administrative Assistant	SS	9/29/2025	1st Shift Custodian @ SF	
Budde	Brylee	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	9/16/2025	From 30 hrs/wk to 8 hrs/wk	

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

### Goal Area 1 Review and Assessment Data

Mr. Van Ranken and Mr. Sample provided information regarding adjustments to aspects of goal area 1 (Core Instruction) over the past year and how the PLC process has been adapted into those previous strategies. Information was provided on the PLC (Professional Learning Communities) work that the district is doing this year. FastBridge Screening results and Summative Assessment results were provided.

### Preliminary Enrollment Numbers and Potential Fiscal Impact

Mr. Van Ranken provided preliminary enrollment numbers for this year and the potential fiscal impact of lower enrollment.

### **District Advocacy Priorities**

Our local legislators will be attending the November 10 board meeting for a work session at 6:00 p.m. President Schreiber asked board members for input on what questions or topics they would like to discuss with the legislators. The board engaged in conversation and should send their questions for the November 10 meeting to Mr. Van Ranken.

### **3. Closing of Meeting**

#### **Adjournment**

Move to adjourn at 9:14 p.m.

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