

Board Notes – May 14, 2026

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Newton Unified School District 373 convened in open and public session at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026. This was a zoom meeting and posted to the district's facebook page.

Members Present: Bob Diepenbrock, Heidi Hoskinson, Ian Long, Rachel McDaniel, Mallory Morton, Erica Stevens. Melissa Schreiber arrived at 4:33 p.m.

Others Present: Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Director of Business Matt Morford, Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz, Director of Communications Carly Stavola and Bret Shogren with Stifel Investment Services.

1. Opening of Meeting

Ian Long called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
— Move to adopt the agenda as presented.

2. New Business

Approve Resolution Authorizing Issuance, Sale & Delivery of Bonds

MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5-14-26 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2026-A, OF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 373, HARVEY COUNTY, KANSAS (NEWTON); PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AN ANNUAL TAX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS AS THEY BECOME DUE; MAKING CERTAIN COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY THEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Management of Bond Proceeds

Bret Shogren provided information and options regarding the management of bond proceeds. After board discussion, there was consensus from board members to use local banks. Mr. Shogren will assist in preparing paperwork for this.

Erica Stevens left the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report

Resolution: Move to approve the May 14, 2026 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	F Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Wallace	Sadie	Sp. Ed. Para	Cooper	5/12/2026		x
Meridith	Laura	Sp. Ed. Para	HCSEC	5/21/2026		x
Woodley	Jaric	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	5/21/2026		x
O'Flanagan	Jessica	Social Worker	NHS	6/1/2026		x
Pettersen	Devyn	Spanish Teacher	NHS	5/22/2026		x
Benedick	Jamie	3rd Grade Teacher	NR	8/3/2026	x	
Last Name	F Name	Position	Location	Effective Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Claassen	Russell	Substitute Tchr/Coach	District-Wide	5/22/2026	Resign Head MS Boys & Girls Head Tennis Coach Only	
Duncan	Jennifer	8th Gr Math Tchr/Coach	CMS/NHS	5/14/2026	Resign Asst. Girls BB Coach @ NHS Only	
Simmelink	Brandon	Principal	SF	7/1/2026	Human Resources Director @ McKinley	

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

3. Closing of Meeting - Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 4:56 p.m.

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