

Board Notes — July 13, 2026

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, July 13, 2026, in the Board of Education meeting room located at 308 E 1st, Newton, KS.

Members Present: Bob Diepenbrock, Heidi Hoskinson, Ian Long, Rachel McDaniel, Mallory Morton, Melissa Schreiber

Members Absent: Ericia Stevens

Others Present: Superintendent Fred Van Ranken, Assistant Superintendent Joe Sample, Director of Business Matt Morford, Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Joni Jantz, and Director of Communications Carly Stavola

1. Opening of Meeting

Ian Long called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Ian Long led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- Adopt the agenda as presented.
- Appoint Joni Jantz as Clerk of the Board and Matt Morford as Deputy Clerk of the Board for the 2026-27 year.
- Appoint Dawn Archer as Treasurer for the 2026-27 year.

2. Presentations

USD 373 Employee Service Awards

The district recognized those staff that have 5-year work anniversaries in July 2026.

- Brenda Barger, ETC Computer Tech, 15 years

3. Comments from the Public

Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs shared a success story of a Newton High School graduate.

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 of non-elected personnel and that the board return to the open meeting in this room at 7:18 p.m. Fred Van Ranken and Brandon Simmelink are invited to join the executive session.

5. Consent Agenda

The board voted to:

- Approve the June 22, 2026 minutes as presented.
- Approve the bills as presented.
- Approve the July 13, 2026 Personnel Report as presented.

Last Name	F. Name	Position	Location	Effect. Date	Hire	Resignation/ Termination
Garnica	John	Groundskeeper	Service Ctr	7/7/2026		x
Schoen	Anna	SLP	SS	6/30/2026		x
Moates	Megan	Industrial Arts Teacher	CMS	5/22/2026		x
Carter	Patti	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	7/1/2026		x

Buller	Lucy	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	7/1/2026		x
Hancock	Brandon	Asst Boys Wrestling Coach	NHS	5/22/2026		x
Boaldin	Nicole	Asst Girls Gym. Coach	NHS	5/22/2026		x
Norris	Nathan	Maintenance	Service Ctr	7/15/2026		x
Smith	Jason	Maintenance Director	Service Ctr	7/23/2026		x
Ford	Erica	Reg. Ed. Aide	SS	5/21/2026		x
Baeza	Leticia	Sp. Ed. Para	SB	5/21/2026		x
Kaufman	Anthony	Sp. Ed. Para	CMS	5/21/2026		x
Martinez-Mata	Jesus	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
McDermed	Rachel	Athletic Worker	NHS	5/22/2026		x
Baker	Ann	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Kasper	Nancy	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Gormley	Lance	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Lumbreras	Elizabeth	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Vigil	Lynne	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Goertzen	Laird	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Pimentel Anton	Joaquin	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Juhnke	Roger	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Wieberg	Marsha	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Ives	Richard	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Smith	Megan	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Catlett	Joseph	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Kerbs	Emily	Sub Tchr/Athletic Worker	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Paulson	Brooke	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Waterson	Wendy	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	5/22/2026		x
Graf	Lisa	Food Service Manager	SB	8/3/2026		x
Castillo Porras	Jeniffer	Administrative Assistant	Cooper	6/5/2026		x
Glavin	Dustin	Maintenance Director	Service Ctr	8/6/2026	x	
Lucio	Evelyn	STEAM Teacher	SF	8/3/2026	x	
Krogsgaard	Ryan	Social Studies Teacher	CMS	8/3/2026	x	
Schmidt	Donald	Substitute Teacher	District-Wide	6/25/2026	x	
Bacon	Steve	Permanent Bldg Sub	SF	8/6/2026	x	
Hunninghake	Corbin	3rd Grade	SS	8/3/2026	x	
Last Name	F. Name	Position	Location	Effect. Date	Change of Assignment/Transfer	
Russell	Annessa	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	8/6/2026	Reg. Ed. Aide @ SF	
Wade	Kainan	Social Studies Tchr/Coach	NHS	6/1/2026	Add Asst. Football Coach @ NHS	
Madison	Trevon	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	6/1/2026	Add Asst. Football Coach @ NHS	
Remsberg	Tad	PE Teacher/Coach	NHS	7/1/2026	Resign Asst. FB Coach Only @ NHS	

Botterweck	Braiden	Asst. MS FB Coach	CMS	7/1/2026	Head 7th Grade FB Coach @ CMS
Klusener	Bryant	PE Teacher/Coach	SF	7/1/2026	Add Asst Boys/Girls Basketball Coach@CMS
Musser	Stacey	Asst MS Girls Tennis Coach	CMS	7/1/2026	Head MS Girls Tennis Coach @ CMS
Reichenberger	Paul	Business Teacher/Coach	NHS	7/1/2026	Add Asst MS Girls Tennis Coach@CMS
Reichenberger	Paul	Business Teacher/Coach	NHS	7/1/2026	Add Head MS Boys Tennis Coach@CMS
Ives	Tyler	Band Teacher	NHS/CMS	7/1/2026	Add Asst. MS FB Coach @ CMS
Schneider	Justin	Business Teacher	CMS	7/1/2026	Add Head 8th Girls/Boys BB Coach@CMS
Burke	John	PE Teacher	SS	7/1/2026	Add Asst. MS FB Coach @ CMS
Olson	Brad	Sp. Ed. Teacher	CMS	7/1/2026	Add Head 8th FB Coach @ CMS
Miller	Noah	5th Grade Teacher	SF	7/1/2026	Add Asst. MS FB Coach @ CMS
Stewart	Rayjon	FS Warehouse Manager	NHS	7/20/2026	Maintenance @ Service Center
Hernandez	Judy	Sp. Ed. Para	SF	7/8/2026	1st Shift Custodian @ SF
Gilbert	Evan	PE Teacher/Coach	CMS	7/1/2026	Resign Asst. FB Coach Only @ NHS

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

— Approve the following appointments, designations and authorizations.

- Appoint Food Service Authorized Representative: TBA
- Appoint Determining Official for Free and Reduced Priced Meal Applications: Andrea Saenz and Jamie Jones
- Appoint Federal Programs and Projects Representatives: Joe Sample (Local Consolidated Plan), Reagan Seidl (Early Childhood Pass Through and Title VI B Pass Through), and Matt Morford (Secondary Program Improvement)
- Appoint Truancy Reporters:
 - Fred Van Ranken, Superintendent
 - Reagan Seidl, Director of Harvey County Special Education Cooperative
 - NHS: Chad Nulik, Principal; Emily Snyder, Asst Principal; Scott Stuhlsatz, Asst Principal; Bryan Kirk, Asst Principal
 - OA: Tyler Swalley, Principal
 - CMS: Tiffany Stephey, Principal; Petrina Griffiths, Asst Principal
 - SF: Belinda Preston, Principal; Monty Graber, Asst Principal
 - Elementary: Kate Bremerman, Northridge Principal; Tenae Alfaro, Slate Creek Principal; Joey Menninga, South Breeze Principal; Michael Kirkpatrick, Sunset Principal
 - Cooper: Paul Carver, Principal; Jordan Trego, Asst Principal
- Appoint Compliance Coordinator for Homeless Children: Joe Sample
- Appoint KPERS Representative: Brooke Weeks
- Appoint Freedom of Information Officer: Fred Van Ranken
- Appoint Federal Anti-Discrimination Compliance Officer: Fred Van Ranken
- Designate Official Newspaper for Legal Publications: The Newton Kansan
- Authorize the Business Director and Treasurer, pursuant to K.S.A. 43-105b 12-105b(e) to pay claims against the District in advance of the regular board meeting in order for the District to benefit from discounts or to avoid assessment of a penalty for late payment.
- Appoint Hearing Officer for Free and Reduced Priced Meal Application Appeals for 2026-27: Fred Van Ranken.
- Appoint Hearing Officer Teams for extended term suspensions and expulsions conducted under the Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils Act, KSA 72-6114, et seq.: see attached list.
- Appoint Jeff Lowe as the district appeal hearing officer for 2026-27.

- Designate alternate signatories for official Head Start grant paperwork: Fred Van Ranken and Matt Morford.
- Authorize purchase of fidelity bonds for the treasurer in the amount of \$100,000.
- Adopt the 1116-hour school year as follows: Kindergarten through Grade 11 - 1116 hours, and Grade 12 - 1086 hours.
- Adopt the state mileage rate of 72.5 cents per mile, an increase from last year at 70 cents per mile.
- Appoint John Robb of Somers, Robb and Robb as USD 373's Legal Counsel.
- Designate May 17, 18, 19, 20 as inclement weather make-up days.
- Adopt guidelines for activity funds and gate receipts according to K.S.A. 72-1178.

- Approve the Fischer Field Annual Maintenance payment as presented.
- Approve the Jobs for America's Graduates payment as presented.

6. Old Business

The voted to:

- Approve the 2026-27 Newton High School Student and Staff Handbooks as presented.
- Approve final year end transfers as presented.

2026-27 Handbooks for Review

The 2026-27 Substitute and Classified Handbooks were presented to the board for first read and administration will be recommending approval at the July 27, 2026 meeting.

Revision to Policy IIBGC - Staff Online Activities

The KASB recommended revisions to board policy IIBGC – Staff Online Activities were presented to the board. Administration will be recommending approval at the July 27, 2026 meeting.

BOE Retreat

President Long led a discussion regarding interest in a board retreat, topics and dates. There was board consensus for having a retreat in mid-September with an agenda of discussing governance and board alignment, strategic and capital planning as it aligns with district goals, and legislative engagement. This will most likely be 2-3 sessions.

Mallory Morton left the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

7. New Business

The board voted to:

- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-1 Designating Eligible Financial Institutions as depositories.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-2 Authority for Petty Cash Funds, Resolution 2027-07-3 Authorizing Petty Cash Funds for Newton High School and Resolution 2027-07-4 Authorizing Petty Cash Funds for District Office.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-5 Waiver of Fixed Asset Accounting and General Accepted Accounting Principles for 2026-27.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-6 to Establish Board of Education Meeting Dates, Times and Location as presented.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-7 to Establish Home Rule by Board of Education.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-8 to Rescind Policy Statements in Previous Year's Minutes.

- Adopt Resolutions 2027-07-9 and 2027-07-10 for the USD 373 Gift Funds.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-11 of Authority for District Account.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-12 for Facsimile Signatures.
- Adopt Resolution 2027-07-13 for Activity Funds.
- Adopt Resolutions 2027-07-14 and 2027-07-15 of Authority for Newton High School accounts.
- Appoint Ian Long to serve as the board's representative and Bob Diepenbrock as the alternate to the KASB Governmental Relations Network for the 2026-27 year, including voting rights for Delegate Assembly.

Mallory Morton returned to the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

- Move to table board appointments to the Special Education Cooperative Board, Education Endowment and Technology Committee to the July 27, 2026 board meeting.
- Move to table board member appointments to committees for 2026-27 to the July 27, 2026 board meeting.
- Approve the school meal prices for 2026-27 as presented.
- Approve the Nutrition Program Coordinator job description as presented.

KASB Recommended Policy Revisions

KASB sends out recommended policy revisions twice a year. Their June 2026 updates included quite a few revisions. At this time revisions for policy JBD, JGEC and GAAC are being presented to the board for first read with approval at the July 27, 2026 meeting.

Athletic Trainer Services Agreement

The contract with NMC Health to provide athletic trainer services for NHS for the 2026-27 school year was presented. Administration will be recommending approval at the July 27 board meeting.

Gift Requests

The following were gifts received under \$500 and presented to the board for information.

Donation From	To Building/Dept	Description	Value/Amt
Bruce & Doreen Hadley	Newton High School RaileRobotics	Assist with supplies and travel expenses	\$100.00
John & Gwen Horn	Newton High School RaileRobotics	Assist with supplies and travel expenses	\$100.00

8. Reports

Committee Reports

Ian Long reported that he attended the PBC meeting on June 30.

Business Services

The business office provided a monthly report and the Kansas Cash Summary report.

9. Closing of Meeting

Board Comments

Comments included:

- Appreciation for the retreat discussion.

- Thank you to everyone that supported the Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corp utilizing the Bethel College campus for their spring training and those that attended their July 4th program.
- Online enrollment is open and there are enrollment help sessions scheduled for July 15 and 16 at the high school.
- Congratulations to RaileRobotics for hosting a great summer camp. Arby's is having a robotics fundraiser on July 14th with a percentage of sales going to the team.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

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