

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LINCOLN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 298
LINCOLN, KANSAS

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TUESDAY, MARCH 07, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Board Members:

D. Bell
M. Breneman
TJ Jonsson
P. Winters
R. Wright
D. Zachgo

Others:

Kathy Robertson, Supt.
Greta Obermueller, Clerk
Steve Koch, LES Principal
Jacob Hurla, 360 Energy Engineers
Duane Hickerson, PBA Architects
Allan Milbradt, PBA Architects

Special Meeting

1. The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Monty Breneman, President.
2. Motion by David Bell, seconded by Rhonda Wright, to adopt the agenda.
Aye-6 No-0
3. Monty Breneman opened the meeting with an explanation of how the district arrived at the decision to move forward with a mail-in ballot bond election. Professional advice was sought by USD #298 Board of Education three years ago from G. Kent Stewart, Consultant from Manhattan, Kansas, with a study on facilities and items needing to be addressed. With the age of Lincoln Elementary School, the issues that have arisen at the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School, and student safety for lack of tornado shelters, the Board of Education has arrived at this point. The goal of this meeting is to communicate the needs of the district and implement the proposed changes.
4. Jacob Hurla of 360 Engineers, began with his Power Point presentation that outlined needs, proposed solutions, and anticipated costs.
5. Duane Hickerson of PBA Architects, spoke to the FEMA storm shelters, the cost per square foot for construction, the maximum number of people that each of the two proposed shelters would hold, materials that would be used and the storm rating. Questions from those in attendance were received and answered.
6. After the conclusion of this portion of the meeting, Bob Schwerdtfager, retired maintenance for USD #298 Lincoln, followed with information on the poor condition of the roof while he was still employed by the district, the number of

HVAC units that were failing on the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School the last several years as they have exceeded their life expectancy, and the lack of windows that seal at the Lincoln Elementary. He stated that they don't seal and the roof is also leaking there. He pointed out that when your roof fails at home, you address it and replace it. Kellie Obermueller, who is in her 11th year teaching at Lincoln Elementary, stated that she is an employee and her husband and family are vested in the community. She spoke of the tornado that narrowly missed the community but also expanded on the window air conditioners that are musty smelling, the windows that do not seal and the rain that pours in, stating that we have future generations to protect. Melodee Larsen, who has taught 38 years at Lincoln Elementary School and 30 in the same classroom, told of the few improvements to the building such as carpeting and ceilings lowered, and stated it is time to invest in our kids. She spoke from the heart about the tornado that swept by Lincoln two years ago and the frightening experience with students in the shelter that is not FEMA rated. She finished by saying that at the end of the day, it is about our kids and it is about community. Christi Walter, 20 year LHS math teacher, addressed the audience regarding the inconsistency of room temperatures and spoke of the afternoon at the Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School as they were huddled in the locker rooms during the nearby tornado. She stated that she looked at the ceiling and the children, two of her own, and was frightened. She said that "you entrust us to take care of your children and I don't feel like we are doing a good job". She encouraged support of the bond issue so they can do better.

7. Many district, community and patron questions were asked and answered in regard to the bond issue.
8. At the conclusion of this portion of the meeting, the tour of the Lincoln Elementary School facilities began. Dennis Pittenger, Maintenance, led this part of the meeting.
9. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by Patti Winters, that the meeting be adjourned. Aye-6 No-0

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Greta Obermueller, Clerk

Approved:

Monty Breneman, President