

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Buhler Unified School District #313, Reno County, Buhler, Kansas  
**Monday, July 27, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

Board President Laura Meyer Dick called the special Board of Education meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the Buhler High School Library.

**2. Roll Call**

Board Members present: Monte Cross, Laura Meyer Dick, Miranda Engelken, Todd Carr, Matt McCabe, Greg Lackey and Tim Lackey.

Board Members absent:

Administration present: Superintendent Cindy Couchman and Director of Finance Shane Hecox

Administration absent:

Others present: Wendy Neill, Clerk of the Board; Joyce Raya and Vicky Richardson, BNEA; Kurt Geilenfeldt, Samantha Neill, Jenn Keller, Rachel Harder, Jason Kohls, Michael Ellegood, Justin Seuser, Paul Erickson, Kevin Abbott, Kyle McClure – Return to Learn presentation; Mike Knopp, patron; Kim Shull, patron and bus driver and Lucky Kidd, Ad Astra Radio.

**3. Invocation**

Board Member Todd Carr gave the invocation.

**4. Administrative Reports**

**A. Director of Finance**

\* Mr. Hecox had nothing to report.

**B. Superintendent**

\* Mrs. Couchman shared the details of Executive Order 2059. It is a safety order that addresses the mask mandate. There are differing opinions on whether this is state control or local control. We will continue to follow the order until we are told differently.

\* Two former employees have passed away in the past week. Patty Hobbs served as a secretary at several different buildings in our district. Bill Korinek served as the Buhler High School choir director for many years. Our thoughts go out to their families.

\* A committee has been meeting to make decisions on the Reno County SPARKS funds. Mrs. Couchman has been serving on this committee. The work will wrap up in about three weeks.

\* Thank you to Mrs. Sheila Berridge for serving as the summer school administrator.

\* Thank you to the people who have been working on the calendar revisions as changes continue.

**D. Board**

\* No reports.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**a. Resignation of Classified Staff**

It was recommended the Board accept the resignation from the following classified staff:

- i. Wanda Riojas, Shining Stars aide at Plum Creek Elementary.

- ii. Greta Skolaut, CARES Club Director at Buhler Grade School.
- iii. Katrina Calvert, CARES Club aide at Buhler Grade School.
- iv. Mike Hoffman, custodian at Union Valley Elementary.

**b. Resignation of Supplemental Staff**

It was recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Kara Warren, assistant volleyball coach at Buhler High School, effective immediately.

**c. Termination of Classified Staff**

It was recommended that the Board approve the termination of Peter Duarte, custodian at Union Valley, effective July 16, 2020.

**d. Employment of Classified Staff**

It was recommended that the Board approve the employment of the following classified staff:

- i) Brooke Scott, CARES Club Director at Plum Creek Elementary. She will work 8 hours a day at a wage of \$12.30 per hour.
- ii) Amber Hornbeck, kindergarten paraprofessional at Union Valley Elementary. She will work 7.5 hours per day at a wage of \$10.50 per hour.

**e. Change of Status**

It was recommended that the Board approve the status change for Libby Penrose. She had a job-share last year in CARES Club at Buhler Grade School but will now fulfill the whole job. She will work 3 hours per day with no change to her wage.

**f. Handbook Approval**

It was recommended that the Board approve the following handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year:

- i) Administration, District-Level Staff and Classified Directors Handbook
- ii) Classified Staff Handbook

**g. Approval of Milk Bid**

It was recommended that the Board approve the bid for school milk from Hiland Dairy Foods.

Motion (1) Monte Cross, (2) Tim Lackey to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

(7-0)

**6.**

**Return to Learn 2020 Plan**

Mrs. Couchman shared the Return to Learn Plan with the Board with the help of several of the team leaders. The plan includes options for onsite learning as well as remote learning. It was recommended that the Board approve the plan as presented.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Greg Lackey to approve the Return to Learn 2020 plan with the amendment that participation in extracurricular activities will not be allowed for those who choose the remote learning option.

Motion carried.

(7-0)

The Board took at 5-minute break at 7:49 pm.

**7.**

**First Day of School**

It was recommended that the Board approve the proposal for the first day of school for the 2020-2021 school year be September 2, 2020.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Miranda Engelken to approve the proposal for the first day of school for the 2020-2021 school year be September 2, 2020 as long as all of the supplies needed to return safely can be received by then.

Motion carried. (7-0)

8.

### **2020-2021 Revised Calendar**

It was recommended that the Board approve the proposed revised draft calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion (1) Greg Lackey, (2) Monte Cross to table this item until after the Executive Session for negotiations.

Motion carried. (7-0)

9.

### **Budget Review**

Shane Hecox reviewed the 2020-2021 proposed budget with the Board.

10.

### **Approval to Publish the Budget**

It was recommended that the Board approve to publish the budget as reviewed.

Motion (1) Monte Cross, (2) Greg Lackey to approve to publish the budget as reviewed.

Motion carried. (7-0)

11.

### **Executive Session – Negotiations**

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Monte Cross at 8:28 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss issues concerning negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 8:38 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Shane Hecox and Cindy Couchman are invited to attend.

Motion carried. (7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 8:38 pm.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Monte Cross at 8:38 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss issues concerning negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 8:48 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Shane Hecox and Cindy Couchman are invited to attend.

Motion carried. (7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 8:48 pm.

Motion (1) Greg Lackey, (2) Tim Lackey at 8:48 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss issues concerning negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 8:58 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Shane Hecox and Cindy Couchman are invited to attend.

Motion carried. (7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 8:58 pm.

12.

### **Action on Revised 2020-2021 Calendar**

Motion (1) Greg Lackey, (2) Tim Lackey to approve the calendar with the amendment of November 25 as a student contact day with a two-hour early dismissal.

Motion carried. (7-0)



13.

### **Executive Session – Legal Matters**

Motion (1) Monte Cross, (2) Miranda Engelken at 9:02 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss legal issues pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney client relationship under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 9:12 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Cindy Couchman, Shane Hecox and Donna Whiteman are invited to attend.

Motion carried.

(7-0)

Donna Whiteman, KASB legal counsel, joined the meeting via telephone at 9:02 pm.

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 9:12 pm.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Monte Cross at 9:12 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss legal issues pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney client relationship under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 9:22 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Cindy Couchman, Shane Hecox and Donna Whiteman are invited to attend.

Motion carried.

(7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 9:22 pm.

Board Member Tim Lackey left the executive session at 9:22 pm.

Motion (1) Matt McCabe, (2) Todd Carr at 9:24 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss legal issues pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney client relationship under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 9:34 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Cindy Couchman, Shane Hecox and Donna Whiteman are invited to attend.

Motion carried.

(6-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 9:34 pm.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Miranda Engelken at 9:34 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss legal issues pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the attorney client relationship under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 9:39 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Cindy Couchman, Shane Hecox and Donna Whiteman are invited to attend.

Motion carried.

(6-0)


The Board of Education reconvened in special session at 9:39 pm.

Donna Whiteman left the meeting.

14.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 pm.

  
Board Clerk

  
Board President