

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Buhler Unified School District #313, Reno County, Buhler, Kansas
Monday, November 9, 2020

1. Call to Order

Board President Laura Meyer Dick called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. The meeting was held via Zoom and YouTube for the public.

2. Roll Call

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

Board Members absent:

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

Administration absent:

Others present: Wendy Neill, Clerk of the Board; Matt Babcock and the girls tennis team; Brennan Torgerson and the girls golf team; Kyle McClure, Director of Innovation; Kaneisha Washington and Blake Anderson, remote learners – all present via Zoom.

3. Invocation

Board Member Monte Cross gave the invocation.

4. Special Recognition

The Board recognized the following teams for their success this fall:

- Coach Matt Babcock and the 2020 girls tennis team. They won Regionals and earned a third place finish at the State tournament. The team faced much adversity through the season but handled it all very well. They are thankful for the senior leadership that they had. Thank you also to the administration for their leadership and support of the program.
- Coach Brennan Torgerson and the 2020 girls golf team. They won the Regional tournament and earned a fourth place finish at the state tournament. They expressed gratitude that they were able to have a full season despite Covid. They also thanked the administration and school for their support through the season.

5. Statements from the Audience

There were no statements from the office due to being a remote meeting via Zoom.

6. Approval of the Agenda

It was recommended that the Board approve the following changes to the agenda:

Add 8I – Approval of bids

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Monte Cross to approve the amended agenda.
Motion carried. (7-0)

7. Administrative Reports

A. Director of Finance

* iPads for the elementary students have been received but they are not ready for distribution yet. The technology department is focusing on those in order to get them out.

* The concrete for the outdoor learning spaces was started last week. The tables are also here and will be delivered starting tomorrow.

* Mr. Hecox gave an update on several issues at Plum Creek Elementary. The board received a report on the cracks in the building concrete, drainage issues and roof repairs.

* Ideatek will be using some space at our warehouse for short-term storage.

B. Superintendent

* Mrs. Couchman reported that the SO66 (enrollment report) is complete and our enrollment FTE (full-time equivalent) is down 36.5 students. This is important as our enrollment numbers are directly related to our funding from the State.

* There is a team working on the salary schedule. They have worked hard and have a couple of options that look like they could be possibilities. Their goal is to have a schedule for consideration by the end of December.

* There could be some calendar changes coming for December.

* The district administration continues to watch Covid numbers and make the best decisions we can. We are currently down 8 food service staff and 4 transportation staff due to quarantine. Several certified staff are also affected.

D. Board

No comments.

8. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes

It was recommended the Board approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 12, 2020 and the special meeting on October 16, 2020.

b. Building Financial Reports

It was recommended that the Board approve the financial reports from each building.

c. Resignation of Classified Staff

It was recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Dave Williams, custodian at Buhler Grade School, effective October 30, 2020.

d. Resignation of Supplemental Staff

It was recommended that the Board accept the resignation of the following supplemental staff:

- i) Lona Bass, dance team coach at Prairie Hills Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year.
- ii) Gregory Eno, assistant boys soccer coach at Buhler High School.

e. Employment of Classified Staff

It was recommended that the Board approve the employment of Cora Stokely, regular ed paraprofessional at Union Valley Elementary School. She will work 7.5 hours per day at a wage of \$11.35 per hour.

f. Employment of Supplemental Staff

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

- i) Bradley Briggs, assistant wrestling coach at Prairie Hills Middle School. He will be placed in Column D and Level 1 of the Supplemental salary schedule with a salary of \$1,060.
- ii) Lindsay Wray, dance team coach at Prairie Hills Middle School. She will assume the duties vacated by Lona Bass for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. She will be placed in Column F and Level 8 of the salary schedule with a salary of \$1,820.

g. Status Change for Classified Staff

It was recommended that the Board approve the status change for Kaleb Stoughton from a non-benefit eligible bus driver to a 3.5 hour benefit eligible driver at a rate of \$13.20 per hour and adding 4.5 hours per day as an evening custodian at Buhler High School at \$9.00 per hour. He will work a total of 8 hours per day beginning November 4, 2020.

h. Gifts and Grants

It was recommended that the Board accept the following gifts and grants:

- i) \$1000 to Buhler High School FFA for the Aquaponics/Hydroponics/Vermiculture Project from the ADM Cares grant.
- ii) \$1000 to USD 313 from Cox Charities Innovation in Education grant.

i. Other – Approval of Bids

It was recommended that the Board approve the bid from Wray and Sons Roofing for the replacement of the Union Valley gym roof.

Motion (1) Miranda Engelken, (2) Todd Carr to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Motion carried.

(7-0)

9. Remote Learning Update

Mr. McClure shared an update from our students who are in remote learning this semester. He was joined by students Derek Petz, Shaylin Petz, Kaneisha Washington and Blake Anderson. We currently have 137 students enrolled, approximately 6 percent at each level. We started the

year with some major challenges but most of those have been overcome. Our remote facilitators are doing a great job!

10. AIMS Web Data Report

Mrs. Couchman shared the AIMS Web data from this year. We use AIMS Web as our norm-referenced screener for math and reading. This has been approved by KSDE as a dyslexia screening tool.

11. Transportation Update

The transportation department continues to work hard to make all routes possible. There has been interest in driving but when people find out the requirements for licensing we lose them. Back up routes have been developed but have not been used yet. Union Valley Elementary has been affected the most at this point. Thank you to the staff there for being flexible as they work on alternate routes.

12. Professional Development Council (PDC) Report

It was recommended that the Board approve the Professional Development points as presented. Board member Tim Lackey reviewed the points. Points were approved for Kimberley Cottam, Brenda Smart, Amanda Stambaugh, Tricia Unruh, Susan Papenfuss, Jill Goertzen, Debra Laughlin, Joe Kaufman, Victor Wilkinson, Mike Zeyen and Dawn Willcox.

Motion (1) Tim Lackey, (2) Greg Lackey to approve the Professional Development points as presented.

Motion carried. (7-0)

13. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Hecox shared the financial reports. Our Capital Outlay budget is looking better this year. We are closely monitoring our substitute costs due to absences due to Covid.

14. Reading and Approval of Bills

Shane Hecox presented the following checks for approval: checks #57390 - 57575 in the total amount of \$ 943,314.13.

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Miranda Engelken to approve the issuance of checks #57390 - 57575 in the total amount of \$ 943,314.13.

Motion carried. (7-0)

15. Executive Session – Legal Matters

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Greg Lackey at 7:42 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 7:57 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session and Cindy Couchman and Shane Hecox are invited to attend.

Motion carried. (7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in regular session at 7:57 pm.

16. Executive Session – Real Estate

Motion (1) Greg Lackey, (2) Monte Cross at 8:00 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss the sale and/or purchase of real estate pursuant to the exception for preliminary discussion of

acquisition or sale of real property under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 8:10 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive and Cindy Couchman and Shane Hecox be invited to attend.
Motion carried. (7-0)

The Board of Education reconvened in regular session at 8:10 pm.

17. Executive Session – Personnel

Motion (1) Todd Carr, (2) Greg Lackey at 8:11 pm that the Board of Education go into executive session to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and the open meeting will resume at 8:31 pm. No binding action will be taken while in executive session. No others were invited to attend.
Motion carried. (7-0)

Cindy Couchman was invited to join the executive session at 8:16 pm.

The Board of Education reconvened in regular session at 8:29 pm.

18. Other

There were no other items.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.


Board Clerk


Board President