

**REPUBLIC COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #109
BOARD OF EDUCATION UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022
Administration Office

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Republic County Unified School District No. 109 was held at the Administration Office on January 10, 2022. Board members present: Brian McCartney, Clay Siemsen, Chris Pachta, Brent Martin, and Laura Leite. Also present were Superintendent Larry Lyder, Principals Alan Sheets and Board Clerk Darice Wilkinson. Board members Clay Aurand, Edward Sandberg, and Principal Katie Struebing joined online. Others present as registered.

The regular board meeting was called to order by Brent Martin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance. Board members elected in the November election took the oath of office.

The “Empty Chair” philosophy was explained by Mr. Lyder.

Approval of Agenda.

Mr. Lyder stated that the only change to agenda would be to allow flexibility for the audit report to take place when auditor arrives.

Brian McCartney moved to approve the agenda as discussed. Motion was seconded Clay Siemsen. Motion carried 6-0.

6:36 Edward Sandberg joined online

RCJSHS Presentation.

Nicole Popelka, Ella Pachta, Ellie Callaway, Hanna Orr, and Cara Holtorf shared pictures from the National FFA convention showing the highlights of the trip to Indianapolis. They also discussed the FFA’s participation in the Russell fire relief effort.

Approval of Payment of Claims.

A motion was made by Clay Siemsen and seconded by Brian McCartney to approve the payment of claims for \$199,640.03. Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Brian McCartney and seconded by Chris Pachta to approve the consent agenda items as presented:

- 1. Approved BOE Minutes of December 13, 2021**
- 2. Accepted Gifts and Donations totaling \$1476.32**
- 3. Approved adjusting the mileage rate to 58.5 cents/mile effective January 1, 2022**
- 4. Acknowledged the Thank You from Misty Reynolds**

Motion carried 7-0.

Comments of Republic County U.S.D. #109 Patrons. There were no comments.

Administrative Reports:

East Elementary, Katie Struebing.

A written report was provided. The following items were noted:

- Additional December community service projects included the Kindergarten classes making placemats for the residents at ISB and the Belleville Health Care to use during the holiday season. 5th Grade classes collected books for the USD 109 preschool students and read the books to the students
- Report cards were sent out
- MTSS reading assessments were performed

RCJSHS/Activities, Alan Sheets.

Alan Sheets noted the following:

- Dual team wrestling tournament took place over break
- Johnny Dyke got his 100th victory
- Commended Mr. Strnad and Mrs. Holtorf for teaching the kids the values of joining in the relief effort for the fires
- Hosted the JH NCAA basketball tournament prior to break
- Working on a possible chess tournament with other NCAA league schools
- Hosting NCAA league band the 1st week in February at the Blair Theater
- Dr. Gillespie provided presentations on lesson clarity and objectives to improve teaching for staff on the in-service day

Superintendent Larry Lyder:

Mr. Lyder noted the following:

- January is Board Member Appreciation Month. Mr. Lyder presented certificates to the board members and thanked them for their willingness to serve
- Board picture with new board members will be taken at the February board meeting
- New floor has some flaws and the company will be replacing the emblems and border in the cafeteria over Spring Break
- Working on the ESSER III application which will be used for the school nurse salary, elementary support specialist, sanitizing floor equipment, summer school for the next two summers

Board Member Items:

Negotiations Training: Annual negotiations training is required each year. Larry Lyder and Brian McCartney completed their training during the KASB convention. Clay Siensen and Laura Leite will either attend the in person training in Concordia on February 1 or do the online training later in February.

Board Member Training. A board training session will take place on January 17, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. with KASB Leadership Field Specialist, Gary Sechrist.

Board Member Comments:

Board committees were reviewed with the new members to determine which committees they would like to serve on. Laura Leite agreed to serve on the technology and negotiations committees, and Edward Sandberg agreed to the facilities and legislative committees.

Business Items and Reports:

Approval of Resolution #13-1-21 and Resolution #14-1-21:

The board discussed Resolution #13-1-21 and Resolution #14-1-21 that state that the election of officers and setting the board meeting schedule for the 2022-23 school year will be completed at the July 2022 board meeting.

Motion was made by Brian McCartney to approve the Resolutions #13-1-21 and #14-1-21 as presented. Motion seconded by Chris Pachta. Motion carried 7-0.

2020-2021 Audit Report.

The auditor was contacted and the audit report will be moved to the February meeting as the auditor was not going to be able to make it before the meeting adjourned.

Approval of Audit Engagement Letter for 2022-2023.

The audit engagement letter approval was also moved to the February meeting.

DJE Policy Update.

Mr. Lyder recommended the change to the DJE policy to allow the purchase of personal items by district accounts if the purchases are for use in a district employee's professional capacity with the district or for a school official's use while representing the school district, individual school, or school-sponsored activity.

Clay Siemsen made a motion to approve the revised Policy DJE. Motion seconded by Brian McCartney. Motion carried 7-0.

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services.

Mr. Lyder stated that the board is required to review the plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services throughout the year to ensure it is still meeting the needs of the students. There were no recommended changes noted.

Executive Session for Discussion of Non-Elected Personnel.

A motion was made by Clay Siemsen and seconded Brian McCartney to go into executive session to discuss the superintendent evaluation and contract as pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA until 7:30 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

7:14 p.m. The board members entered executive session.

7:19 p.m. Larry Lyder entered the executive session

7:30 p.m. The board members and Larry Lyder returned to open session.

Chris Pachta made a motion to extend the superintendent's contract for an additional year through June 2024. Clay Siemsen seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. (A formal evaluation will be completed in March or April)

Executive Session for Discussion of Student Matters:

Motion was made Chris Pachta and seconded by Clay Siemsen to go into executive session to discuss confidential student information pursuant to the exception relating to actions adversely or favorably affecting a student under KOMA until 7:35 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

7:31 p.m. The board members, Alan Sheets, and Larry Lyder entered executive session

7:35 p.m. The board members, Alan Sheets, and Larry Lyder returned to open session

Brian McCartney made a motion to approve the remote learning hours as presented and discussed in executive session. Chris Pachta seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment:

Clay Siemsen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chris Pachta. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

USD 109 Board Clerk Date

USD 109 Board President