

# BOARD BRIEFS

January 10, 2022

## Organization of the Board

Board member Greg Lackey was nominated and elected as Board President for 2022. Board member Laura Meyer Dick was nominated and elected as Board Vice President for 2022.

## Statements from the Audience

\*\*Slade Deister, 1994 BHS grad and parent of six kids in the district addressed the board regarding COVID policies. He shared some statistics about how COVID has affected children. He asked the board to please consider changes to quarantine in order to get back to rigorous learning in the classroom. His children, because of quarantines, have struggled mentally, socially and academically this year.

## Middle School Golf Proposal

As recommended the board approved the proposal to establish a middle school golf program. The program will begin in March 2022 and will be funded by private donors for the first year.

## PDC Report

As recommended the board approved the PD points as presented. Points were approved for Jason Williams, Randy Heidel, Michael Hill, Kara Bunce, Kimberly Cottam, Nicky Schafer and Julie Rumbaugh.

## Approval of Minutes

As recommended the board approved the minutes of the regular meeting on December 13, 2021.

## Approval of Building Financials

As recommended the board approved the financial reports from each building.

## Resignation of Licensed Staff

As recommended the board accepted the resignation of the following licensed staff:

- i) Kevin Abbott, assistant principal at BHS.
- ii) Laura Miller, Targeted assistance at BHS.

### Resignation of Classified Staff

As recommended the board accepted the resignation of the following classified staff:

- i) Colin McKinney, CARES Club aide at Plum Creek.
- ii) James Mickley, Senior Technology Technician.
- iii) Anna Harper, food service at BHS
- iv) Corion Johnson, district health aid

### Employment of Licensed Staff

As recommended the Board approved the employment of Paul Erickson as the Secondary Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for the 2022-2023 school year.

### Resolution determining the date, time and place for Board of Education meetings for the 2022 year

As recommended the board adopted Resolution 01-10-22 to determine the date, time and place for Board of Education meetings for the 2022 year.

### Funding for PHMS Assistant Soccer Coach

As recommended the board approved the PHMS assistant soccer position to be paid from District funds due to increased participation numbers.

### Change of Status

As recommended the board approved opening an AM session of Shining Stars at Buhler Grade School. Candy Beasley will continue to work 8 hours per day but those hours will now be from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

### COVID Update

Mrs. Couchman shared updates received from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Reno County Health Department and the CDC. She discussed with the board the thoughts that go into decisions being made for COVID protocols in our district. While student safety is a top priority she also must consider the staff. If we don't have healthy staff we cannot operate effectively. She shared information on our current numbers of positive cases and the changes to our Stay to Learn, Play and Work policy that reflect the new RCHS and CDC guidelines.

### Bid for Bleachers at Union Valley Elementary School

As recommended the board approved the bid from Heartland Seating for bleachers at UV.

### Bid for Busses

As recommended the board approved the bid from Master's Transportation Ince for two 14-passenger, non-CDL buses.

### Bid for HVAC Systems

As recommended the board approved the bids for HVAC systems. The first bid is for systems to be replaced this fiscal year while the second bid is for systems to be replaced next fiscal year.

### RFP for Athletic Training Services

The current athletic training services contract ends on June 30, 2022. There was discussion on whether those services need to be bid out and how often that should happen. The board had many questions that needed clarification before a decision can be made. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

### RFP for Banking Services

As recommended the board approved to send out RFP (request for proposal) for banking services with a plan for frequency of RFP every 10 years.

### Comments

- Mr. Hecox shared that the Buhler High School gym flooded on Sunday, January 2 due to a burst water pipe in the laundry room. The water was removed from the floor but the concern is with the moisture level in the underneath layers. Langford, Inc. will be here on Wednesday to probe the floor and test the moisture level on the lower layers.
- The KSDE audit will be January 31, 2022.
- The only damage reported from the December 16 wind storm was at the Wheatland Park ball fields. There was some roof damage.
- The district has two Horizon Award Winners! Katelyn Stoss, music teacher at Plum Creek Elementary and Nicole Menard, ELA teacher at Buhler High School were contacted today by Dr. Randy Watson, Commissioner of Education, with a personal phone call to share the award. They are 2 of only 32 winners in the state. Congratulations to each of them!
- Mrs. Couchman will be in Topeka for the next two days for Advocacy in Action. This is an opportunity for her to learn more about the upcoming legislative session and the issues that will affect schools.
- January is Board Member appreciation month. Mrs. Couchman thanked the Board members for their service to our district through unprecedented times.
- Our district site council met before the holiday break. It was a validating and uplifting time hearing from community members and discussing issues related to our schools.
- Thank you to all of the donors who made Operation Joy a success! Also thanks to Erica Shook and Kyle McClure for the time and energy they put into organizing the event!
- Board member Matt McCabe gave a shout out to the Crusader Sports Network crew! He was able to watch the McPherson game live while in California. What a great option for people to be able to watch our activities from home!

- The ESSDACK board of directors will be conducting interviews on January 22nd for their Executive Director position.
- Robin Swanson served in her first official meeting! Welcome to the Board!

### Board Policy Updates

As recommended the board approved the board policy updates from KASB as presented.

### Executive Session - Personnel

The board met in executive session for personnel issues.

### Executive Session - Legal matters

The board met in executive session to discuss legal matters.

### Change of Dates for Meetings

The board voted to move the February and March board meetings due to conflicts during those months. February's board meeting will be held Monday, February 7 at 5:30 pm. The March board meeting will be held Monday, March 7 at 6:00 pm.

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, February 7 at 5:30 pm.