

# BOARD BRIEFS

April 11, 2022

## Statements from the Audience

Randa Nickel, parent, addressed the board regarding the large class sizes at Union Valley Elementary School in the second grade. She and the parents of 22 other 2nd grade students met with Principal Paul Erickson last Thursday to discuss the topic and share their concerns. They would like to see an additional teacher to be hired to help alleviate the large class sizes.

## PHMS Building Report

Mrs. Abby Thompson, principal at Prairie Hills Middle School shared information about how PHMS has been working on their Goal for KESA to increase pods of interactions between stakeholders. They have had college and career opportunities with a career fair and visits to WSU Tech and Bethel College. They have increased student interactions through Champion Time, service projects, STUCO and #PHMSPraise. The PHMS PTO has also increased their activities to support students and staff.

Mrs. Alexis Comley shared the changes that have been implemented in the choir department. With these changes, the interest in choir is growing rapidly.

Mr. Victor Wilkenson spoke on behalf of the PHMS Archery Team. This year they had 20 participants in the club. The team was able to go to the state competition where Annabel Walter was a state champion and Eli Furthmeyer took 5th place. The team took third place overall.

## Student Presentation

Javohn Ostrom, senior at Buhler High School, presented his passion pursuit project. He would like to see the “no hat policy” at Buhler High School changed. He shared his reasons for wanting to see this change and encouraged the board to consider this.

## PDC Report

As recommended the board approved the points for those who attended and reflected on the February professional learning day as well as points for Cynthia Beckerman, Rebekah Cain, Michelle Goossen, Randy Heidel, Joe Kaufman, Steve Warner, Amie Leslie, Jessie McElheny, Rochell Napier, Julie Rumbaugh, Jordan Seuser, Amanda Stambaugh and Jeff Voss.

## Approval of Minutes

As recommended the board approved the minutes of the regular meeting on March 7, 2022 and the special meeting on March 29, 2022.

### 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) MaryBeth Bryant, FACS teacher at PHMS
- ii) Melissa Siemens, K-5 physical education teacher and web administrator at UV

### Retirement/Resignation of Classified Staff

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

- i) Candy Beasley, Shining Stars director at BGS, retirement
- ii) Tenda Matney, paraprofessional at PCE, resignation
- iii) Trisha Cooper, paraprofessional at UV, resignation

### Transfer of Staff

As recommended the board approved the transfer of Kenzee Biddle, new hire, from 2nd grade to 1st grade at PCE.

### Employment of Licensed Staff

As recommended the Board approved the employment of the following licensed staff:

- i) Brayden Witthuhn, fifth grade teacher at UV
- ii) Briley Harbert, vocal music teacher at UV
- iii) Andrew Cherry, PE teacher at UV
- iv) Sarah Cherry, Preschool teacher at PCE and UV

### Employment of Supplemental Staff

As recommended the board approved the employment of the following supplemental staff:

- i) Sarah Ptaszynski, 7th grade head volleyball coach at PHMS
- ii) Andrew Cherry, assistant girls basketball coach at BHS
- iii) Andrew Cherry, assistant track and field coach at PHMS

### Out of State Travel

As recommended the board approved the following requests for out of state travel:

- i) Buhler band staff and 3 BHS drum majors to Muncie, Indiana from June 26-July 2, 2022 for the 2022 Music For All - Summer Symposium at Ball State University.
- ii) Buhler High School cross country team to Norwalk, Iowa from June 25 to June 27, 2022 for team camp at Bridge 23 Running Camp.
- iii) Buhler High School volleyball team to Branson, Missouri for team camp from July 11 through July 14, 2022.

### Remote Learning Day - Buhler High School

As recommended the board approved April 13, 2022 as a remote learning day for BHS. The school is hosting the state music festival which does not allow for a regular day of school. Remote learning will allow the school to still acquire the proper amount of hours for the school year.

### Memorandum of Understanding - Wheatland Park Complex, Wellness Center and Swimming Pool

As recommended the board approved the memorandum of understanding for the Wheatland Park complex and Wellness Center between the district, the City of Buhler and the Rec and Wellness Board.

### Approval to Pay vendor

As recommended the board approved payment of the invoice from Phoenix Restoration for the work done after the January flood incident. The invoice is due prior to the May board meeting.

### Comments

- The district is looking at attrition with FFA to serve other departments with high enrollment numbers.
- Senator Jerry Moran visited Buhler High School on Wednesday.
- Eight staff members attended the Kansas Leads conference over the weekend.
- The district had its Outside Visitation Team visit for KESA. We will have a report for the board next month.
- Wednesday afternoon the Buhler Education Foundation will be presenting checks to each of the families in the district who lost their homes in the Cottonwood Complex Fire. The Foundation collected close to \$60,000 in relief. We are thankful for the generosity of our community and beyond.
- Spring sports seasons are underway! Congratulations on the inaugural year for middle school golf. Coach Wilson is doing a great job with the team!
- Laura Reed, Donna Kleinschmidt and Shane Hecox attended the job fair at Hutchinson Community College. There were over 150 employers in attendance.

### Executive Session - Personnel

The board met in executive session to discuss personnel matters.

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, May 9, 2022 at 6:00 pm.