

Approved, Dec. 16, 2013

RILEY COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 378
REGULAR
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HELD IN THE
RILEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Kerry Thurlow called the USD 378 Board of Education's regular meeting to order on Monday, December 2, 2013, at 7 p.m. in the Riley County High School library following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members were present:

Kerry Thurlow
Jennifer Wilson
Randy Glenn
Ross Wahl
David Higgins
Dan Thompson

The following member was absent:

Shane Allen

Others present:

Brad Starnes, Superintendent
Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk
Teresa Grant, RCGS Principal
Antoinette Root, RCHS Principal
Sandy Glessner, Board Treasurer
Chris Delforge, RCHS Assistant Principal
Jon Granberry, RCGS Assistant Principal

See attached list for additional guests

A. Approval of agenda

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the agenda as presented. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

B. Approval of minutes

Dan Thomson moved the board approve: the November 18, 2013 Interest Based Bargaining notes; and the November 18, 2013 regular Board of Education meeting minutes. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

C. Approval of financial reports

Dan Thomson moved the board accept the November month end and November food service financial reports. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

II. PATRON COMMUNICATION

A. Hearing of students

None.

B. Hearing of visitors

1. Chris Tawney shared information regarding scholarships with Yes for Liberty, Flint Hills Tea Party Educational Fund.
2. RCHS Principal Antoinette Root introduced RCHS Assistant Principal Chris Delforge.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Audits by Varney and Associates

1. April Swartz, Michelle Crow, and Eric Kientz of Varney & Associates reported on their 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 external audits of USD 378 Riley County. The district provided Varneys a representation letter providing all prescribed financial documents. Varneys provided a professional standards report, the highest level of quality that can be applied. No evidence of fraud was found. Areas of improvement were suggested, such as: to make technology tweaks with the district’s APTA fund accounting program to better serve the district; to review the amount of an already issued Treasurer Surety Bond; to use the State Use Catalog and purchase products and services manufactured and offered by blind and severely disabled Kansans; to improve the accounting of student organizational funds; and to develop a more efficient way to record cash and unencumbered funds.
2. Dan Thomson moved the board accept Varney and Associate’s audits for the 2011 -2012 and 2012-2013 school years. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

B. Board policy

1. Dan Thomson moved the board approve the second readings of Board of Education policy Kansas Association of School Boards updates BBC, IIBGA, IIBGC, JCAC, JDDDB, JH, KGC and KN. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

2. The board discussed policy JBC, specifically regarding part-time students. It was agreed to have a first reading of this policy at the next meeting.

C. Bond issue

Board members discussed top district issues/needs they would like to see addressed in bond issue discussions. This included: security, overcrowding, middle school extracurricular activities, safety and technology. Ways to solve and prioritize these topics (and any more that members deem important) will be more specifically addressed at a future meeting.

D. Transportation

1. Brad Starnes reported on his findings regarding Kansas school district transportation directors and their responsibilities/pay.
2. Board members: discussed the pros and cons to being a part of a cooperative; requested troublesome busses get diagnostics over Christmas break; requested a list of what Kansas districts do for maintaining their fleet; requested a list be made of transportation needs.
3. At 8:30 p.m., Kerry Thurlow moved the board go into executive session for 20 minutes with Superintendent Brad Starnes to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast. Returned at 8:43 p.m. No action was taken.

E. Negotiations: Interest Based Bargaining

Brad Starnes gave the report of the November 18, 2013, Interest Based Bargaining meeting (See attached notes).

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Principal reports

1. Teresa Grant reported on past and upcoming events.
2. Antoinette Root reported on past and upcoming events. She also gave a report on the S3-P2A Grant.
3. Ross Wahl requested the Principals give a report on current policies/rules and their degree of success within each building.
4. At 8:52 p.m., Jennifer Wilson moved the board go into executive session for matters relating to action adversely or favorably affecting a person as a student for a period of 10 minutes with RCHS Principal Antoinette Root and Superintendent Brad Starnes. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast. Returned at 9:03 p.m. No action was taken.

B. Superintendent reports

1. District update

Starnes presented the board with the possibility of getting a life expectancy & building maintenance plan for district buildings. The board decided this should be done for all grade school building areas except for the 1929 portion. Maintenance and Leonardville baseball fields were also discussed. It was noted that the district's fixed asset inventory is complete and our insurance coverage is being appropriately adjusted.

2. PCI

Brad Starnes gave a report submitted by PCI, given in response to recent maintenance questions. Board members requested a cost comparison between PCI and hiring their own janitorial/custodial staff; this information will be discussed at a future meeting.

3. Superintendent evaluation

At 9:23 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board go into executive session for non-elected personnel for a period of 20 minutes with Superintendent Brad Starnes. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast. No action was taken.

V. PERSONNEL

All personnel positions/contracts offered are contingent upon the individual passing a background check.

- A. Riley County Middle School head track coach

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the contract for Mari Starnes as Riley County Middle School head track coach per Erik Willimon's recommendation. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

- A. Shari Taylor thanked the board for a plant that was sent to her family surrounding the time of her mother's passing.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

Kerry Thurlow announced the next regular meeting will be Monday, December 16, 2013, in the Riley County High School library at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:46 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board adjourn the meeting. Second by Ross Wahl . Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

Kerry Thurlow, President

Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk

Guests at the USD 378 Riley County regular Board of Education meeting Dec. 2, 2013*

Larry Wendland
Chris Tawney
Jenneen LeMay
Mari Starnes
Joyce Troyer
Barbie Shoemaker
Bonita Tegtmeier
Debbie Wahl
Ralph Wahl
Carmen Thurlow
Andrew Thurlow
Charles Ray Dugan
VaLynda Porter

* Some names were illegible and some individuals did not sign in

Interest Based Bargaining meeting notes for 11/18/13

BOE-Shane Allen, Jennifer Wilson, Randy Glenn

Absent Dan Thomson

Teachers-Darnell Vargo, Mark Laurie, Dan Dickerson, Jacqueline Loewen, Jeni VanSickle

Salary schedules were handed out-

Topics received from teachers included:

- Hrs per day
- Duty free lunches
- Step/Column movement
- Money on base
- HSA difference between option 3 and 2
- Professional vs sick days
- Professional development money

The final topic of discussion was the idea of restructuring the salary schedule. Biggest differences were in base salary and Masters +9, +12-etc.

BOE decide what you value: base to attract teachers, length of experience, or increased education-professional development

Copy of scale and where they fall now-budget salary information sent to BOE members

Health care-why licensed staff have to take insurance vs classified/state health insurance plan-most costly and every employee must take the state plan. Why don't classified take the health savings account plan that is paid for by the district?

Those on HSA would like to be paid the difference between HSA and what the district is paying for Option 2

Cash in unused sick leave, personal days if not used, no categorizations just all leave days-no sick, no personal-just leave---sick leave bank discussion, restrictions of only so many days in a row-buy backs, percentages paid back of unused leave-amount of days stay the same-personal 4 days and 8 days sick-ie;

Professional development money

Duty free lunch? Plan time high school vs grade school