

Approved: April 7, 2014

RILEY COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 378
REGULAR
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HELD IN THE
RILEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Kerry Thurlow called the USD 378 Board of Education's regular meeting to order on Monday, March 17, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Riley County High School library following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members were present:

Kerry Thurlow
Ross Wahl
David Higgins
Jennifer Wilson
Shane Allen
Randy Glenn
Dan Thomson

Others present:

Brad Starnes, Superintendent
Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk
Sandy Glessner, Board Treasurer
Teresa Grant, RCGS Principal
Antoinette Root, RCHS Principal

See attached list for additional guests

A. Approval of agenda

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the agenda as presented. Second by Shane Allen. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.

B. Approval of minutes

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the Board of Education minutes for the March 3, 2014, regular meeting. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.

C. Approval of financial reports

Dan Thomson moved the board accept the following financial reports: March bills, Visa bill, RCGS building reports, RCHS building report. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

II. PATRON COMMUNICATION

A. Hearing of students

None.

B. Hearing of visitors

1. Andy Thurlow passed out letters to the board.
2. Sylva Nichols discussed Yes for Liberty.

C. Principal’s written reports

The board was given previously-written reports from the principals about past and upcoming events.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Long range facility planning

1. The following table was made during the Feb. 17, 2014, board meeting. Items marked in red were identified as priority needs during the March 17, 2014 meeting.

Safety and security	Technology	Overcrowding	Curriculum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Storm shelter - Entrances - Building connectedness - Removing modularity - SRO presence - GS bus loop - Weight room - Middle School physical education - Cameras - Indoor locks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lab space - Energy efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten - Library Space - Bathrooms - Gym - Cafeteria - GS/MS mix - Storage - SPED High School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SPED - Math - Wrestling - Storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teacher numbers - Online classes - Class options for MS/HS - Career exploration - Auditorium

2. Dan Thomson said patrons have talked to him since the failed bond issue, the reasons it was voted down is middle school students at the high school & the auditorium. Ross Wahl added no net increase in RCGS classrooms.
3. The board decided to brainstorm all possible solutions to these needs at the next board meeting, April 7, 2014.

B. Immediate facility needs

1. Michelle Ashburn, president of the RCHS Site Council, expressed concerns on behalf of the group regarding curriculum, specifically the number and variety of electives. A sub-committee of the RCHS Site Council is meeting to discuss these issues and will present their research at a future board meeting.
2. Moni El-Aasar of BG Consultants presented options and recommendations for classrooms to be built above the RCGS cafeteria. This was compared with adding modular units. The board decided to take action on this at the next meeting.

C. RCGS North Gym Floor bid

David Higgins moved the board accept the bid of \$43,982.75 from Signature/MTJ Sports for the RCGS North Gym floor. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes and one “no” vote (Ross Wahl) cast.

D. Helical-Foundation bids

Ross Wahl moved the board follow the recommendation of Moni El-Aasar to include the wording “or approved equal” within the specifications of the helical-foundation bids, in order to obtain more bids. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Brad Starnes gave an update on the district, which included the following: Manhattan Area 2035, door locks, active shooter training report, RCGS gym lights, restroom partitions, KSDE food service report, custodial plan, legislation, CPDC, Pednet grant, budget workshop.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. RCHS newspaper donation

Jennifer Wilson moved the board accept a \$300 anonymous donation to the RCHS newspaper class. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

B. RCHS band donation

Ross Wahl moved the board accept a \$500 anonymous donation to the RCHS band. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

C. Site Council

1. Michelle Ashburn presented the board with a draft of RCHS Site Council by-laws that were drafted from KASB and approved by the RCHS Site Council. She requested the board’s approval.
2. Dan Thomson moved the board accept the RCHS Site Council by-laws as presented. Second by Shane Allen.
3. Kerry Thurlow mentioned a contradictory statement between the by-laws up for approval, and the board’s approved policy.
4. Dan Thomson retracted his motion, and suggested the board policy committee meet to match the Site Council’s by-laws with the board’s policy.

D. Fitness grant

Randy Glenn moved the board accept a Kansas State Department of Education KFIT (Kansas Fitness Information Tracking) fitness grant for \$200. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

E. Technology surplus

Jennifer Wilson moved the board declare the presented inoperable technology equipment as surplus. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast.

IV. PERSONNEL

*All these positions/contracts offered are contingent upon the person recommended to be hired passing the BOE directed background check.

A. Executive session

1. At 9:30 p.m., Jennifer Wilson moved the board go into executive session for 20 minutes (preceded by a 5 minute recess) with the Superintendent. Second by Shane Allen. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast. The board returned at 9:57 p.m. No action was taken.
2. At 9:57 p.m., Ross Wahl moved the board re-enter executive session for another 15 minutes. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with seven “yes” votes cast. The board returned at 10:15 p.m. No action was taken.

B. Approve contracts

1. Ross Wahl moved the board approve the contract of Riley County High School Assistant Baseball coach Alex Nuss per Harold Oliver's recommendation. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.
2. Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the contract of Riley County High School Principal Antoinette Root, to extend through June 2016. Second by Shane Allen. Motion passed with five "yes" votes and two "no" votes (David Higgins, Ross Wahl) cast.

C. Retirement

Dan Thomson moved the board accept the retirement of RCGS 12-month secretary Debbie Kessler. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.

D. Resignation

Shane Allen moved the board accept the resignation of Riley County Childcare Center aid Thaine Klein. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.

V. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

1. Kim Knopp expressed her thanks to the district for their help in caring for her mother, Virginia Knopp.
2. Dan Thomson congratulated the art department for their recent Mid East League contest success, and the RCHS girls for their accomplishments at sub-state and state basketball tournaments.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

Kerry Thurlow announced the next regular meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 7, 2014, in the Riley County High School library.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:19 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board adjourn the meeting. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with seven "yes" votes cast.

Kerry Thurlow, President

Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk

**Guests at the USD 378 Riley County regular Board of Education meeting
March 17, 2014***

Jared Larson
Sharon Greene
Sylda Nichols
Tom Nichols
Sue Garver
Andy Thurlow
Carmen Thurlow
Michelle Ashburn
Charles Dugan
Dory Wendland
Beth Dugan
Isabel Dugan
Melissa Wahl
Kelly Allen
Cory LeMay
Janice Camerlinck
Charlotte Doyle
Donna Bulk
Shari Taylor
DeNa Waggoner
Susan Wendland
Harold Oliver
Art Vaughn
VaLynda Porter
Curt Porter
Ralph Wahl
Debbie Wahl

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