MEETING MINUTES
JULY 29, 2019
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

RUSSELL COUNTY USD 407
BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Russell County USD 407 is dedicated to providing a culture of learning that will lead the state of Kansas in student success.

Goal 1: USD 407 will improve communication from the district to the internal and external publics by May of 2022.

Goal 2: USD 407 will provide updated and safe facilities to meet the educational needs of students by May of 2022.

Goal 3: USD 407 will increase the percentage of successful high school graduates from 73% to 90% by May of 2022.

52-015 CALL TO ORDER

Kevin Ochs called the USD 407 Board of Education special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the board room at the Central Administration Office. Additional board members in attendance were Duane Adams, Andrea Krug Krauss, Matt Nichols, and Char Sohm. Raeleen Reinhardt was absent. Position I was vacant.

Administrators in attendance included: Shelly Swayne, Superintendent; Jordan Perez, Simpson Elementary School Principal; Andrew Dempewolf, Bickerdyke Elementary School Principal; Shawn Henderson, Russell High School Principal; and Angela Rinehart, Special Education Director. Board Clerk Jane Cline and Depute Clerk Ashley Campbell were also in attendance. Guests in the audience signed an attendance roster.

52-016 SPEECH-LANGUAGE SERVICES CONTRACT

Angela Rinehart presented opportunities available for speech services due to an existing vacancy. Research provided included different platforms that were explored, history of companies to determine stability and the cost of providing services. Mrs. Rinehart recommended contracting with Eluma.

Duane Adams moved and Char Sohm seconded a motion that the district contract with Eluma for speech language services for the upcoming school year at a cost of $40,050. Motion carried 5 – 0.

52-017 MENTORING PROGRAM ADOPTION

Shelly Swayne outlined the Kansas State Department of Education and district licensed staff mentoring requirements. Ms. Swayne also shared the reimbursement process through KSDE and a proposed application for staff members to serve as a mentor. Superintendent Swayne proposed adding a building ambassador to support and acclimate seasoned staff members not needing a mentorship to the district.

Kevin Ochs moved and Matt Nichols seconded a motion to adopt the mentoring program as presented. Motion carried 5 – 0.

52-018 SIMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SAFETY SYSTEMS

Rich Waggoner, representative from Fire Alarm Specialists, was in attendance to discuss the fire alarm and intercom/security needs at Simpson Elementary School. Ms. Swayne submitted application to the Kansas State Department of Education Safety and Security Grant program which yielded an award to the district in the amount of approximately $16,000.

Duane Adams made a motion that the district move ahead with the Simpson fire alarm and bell system not to exceed the proposed amount of $188,088 including the grant with Fire Alarm Specialist, Inc. with maximum use of USD 407 staff to reduce the cost. Matt Nichols seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0.

52-019 STAFFING FOR 2019-2020

Superintendent Swayne noted the district is working diligently to find a replacement for Vo-Ag and FFA programs.

At 6:18 p.m., Kevin Ochs made a motion to enter executive session to discuss resignations and new hires pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), with the open meeting resuming in the board room at 6:33 p.m. Char Sohm seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Shelly Swayne and Shawn Henderson were invited into executive session.

At 6:33 p.m., open session resumed. Kevin Ochs made a motion to re-enter executive session to discuss resignations and new hires pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), with the open meeting resuming in the board room at 6:39 p.m. Matt Nichols seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Shelly Swayne and Shawn Henderson were invited into executive session.

Open session resumed at 6:39 p.m. Kevin Ochs made a motion to re-enter executive session to discuss resignations and new hires pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), with the open meeting resuming in the board room at 6:45 p.m. Matt Nichols seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Shelly Swayne and Shawn Henderson were invited into executive session.

Open session resumed at 6:45 p.m. No action was taken.

52-020 TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS FOR 2019-2020

Kevin Ochs made a motion to enter executive session to discuss negotiation items pursuant to the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) for the protection of employer/employee negotiations, with the open meeting resuming in the boardroom at 7:00 p.m. Char Sohm seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Superintendent Swayne was invited into executive session.

Open session resumed at 7:00 p.m. Andrea Krug Krauss made a motion to re-enter executive session to discuss negotiation items pursuant to the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) for the protection of employer/employee negotiations, with the open meeting resuming in the boardroom at 7:05 p.m. Char Sohm seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 – 0. Superintendent Swayne was invited into executive session.

Open session resumed at 7:05 p.m. No action was taken.

52-021 RESIGNATIONS AND NEW CONTRACTS

Kevin Ochs moved and Duane Adams seconded a motion to approve the following resignation and new contracts:

A. Resignations

1. Ann Blessing-Deyoe – Special Education Paraeducator at Ruppenthal Middle School

B. New Contracts

1. Annette Hesting – Custodian at Ruppenthal Middle School
2. Rashelle Soldan – Career Counselor/Xello Coordinator

Motion carried 5 – 0.

52-022 ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Ochs adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Jane M. Cline *8/12/2019*

Jane M. Cline, Board Clerk Date Approved