

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 467  
WICHITA COUNTY  
LEOTI, KANSAS

Meeting Time and Place

1. The Board of Education of Unified School District #467, Wichita County, Kansas met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 8, 2021 at the Board of Education office.

People Present

2. Members present were: Jason Koehn, Brian Gerstberger, Jim Myers, Tammy Simons, Brandon Whalen, Ann Wiles, and Josh Young.

Also present were: Superintendent, Lori Maxwell; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCES Principal, Brant Douglas; WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt; and Guests: Julie Conard, Brady Harbin, Deb Ames, Kevin Alm, Abby Kessler, Chandler Seaton, Dane Whitham, Andy Fahrmeier, Tracey Baker, Cristina Fortanel, Zim Clark, Quentin Koehn, Emery Bauck, Beau Porter, Maddie Ames, Morgan Simons, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents.

Approved Consent Agenda

3. Jim Myers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Board thanked all of the contributors to the success of the book fair. Josh Young motioned and Ann Wiles seconded to approve the consent agenda, with additions G and H3, consisting of:
  - A. Approval of the agenda for the meeting.
  - B. Minutes for February 8, 2021.
  - C. Payment of the bills and payroll.
  - D. Approval of a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade field trip to Bent's Fort in La Junta, Colorado, on May 6, 2021.
  - E. Accept the resignation of Tori Koehn from teaching math. She will continue teaching vocal music and piano.
  - F. Dispose of dismantled PCs as presented.
  - G. Approve a fundraiser by Mr. Wentz's Industrial Arts students, selling "Indian" coasters, for the Industrial Arts program.
  - H. Gifts and Grants:
    1. Accept a gift from Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge for \$250 for prize money.
    2. Accept gifts from the following sponsors for a total of \$2,541 for the Book Fair:

Myers Ag/Jim & Julia Myers \$100; Mr. & Mrs. Duane Berning \$100; Western Hardware \$100; Eisenhour & Graff \$35; Price Repair \$250; Great Plains Family Dentistry \$100; Daniel & Linda Duphorne \$50; two anonymous donations totaling \$200; KT Tire & Service \$100; Liz Gould \$100; Security State Bank \$100; Harkness Repair \$25; Wheatland Electric \$100; Laws Feed Store \$206; Community Thrift Shoppe \$200; Wichita County Treasurer \$250; Knights of Columbus \$100; West Bethany WMI \$150; Berta Binns \$250; Dixie Weilert \$25.

3. Accept a donation of ink cartridges from the Sherriff's office.

Motion passed 7-0.

#### Student Presentations

4. Mr. Alm, Agriculture teacher, and students presented updates on this year's FFA. FFA President, Chandler Seaton; FFA Vice President, Dane Whitham; and FFA Reporter, Abby Kessler, spoke about the events of this year. The students discussed the OPSU competition in Oklahoma, FFA week, Vet Science competition, on-line contests, and the FFA State Degree requirements. The Chapter banquet will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Board thanked Mr. Alm and students for their presentation. Mr. Alm and students left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.
5. The following students from Mrs. Baker's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class presented their Native American Village projects to the Board: Cristina Fortanel, Zim Clark, Quentin Koehn, Maddie Ames, Morgan Simons, Emery Bauck, and Beau Porter. The Board asked the students questions and thanked them and Mrs. Baker for their presentation. Mrs. Baker, students, and parents left the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

#### Building Projects Updates

6. Andy Fahrmeier, Hutton, presented an update on the bids for the upcoming building projects. The project is out to bid as of last Monday. Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., Mr. Fahrmeier will be having a pre-bid meeting for interested parties at the Jr./Sr. high school. All bids are due March 25<sup>th</sup>. The Board will have a special board meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the

BOE office to discuss the bids for approval at the April 12<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting.

7. The cafeteria flooring will be pulled up beginning March 12<sup>th</sup>. The floor will be allowed to properly dry and moisture probes will be inserted to monitor the floor. The new flooring will be completed at a later date to be determined when the floor quality analysis is completed. The cafeteria will continue to be available for breakfast and lunch needs during this time. Mr. Fahrmeier left the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

### Capital Lease Proposals

8. Deb Ames, Security State Bank Vice President, presented two options for the lease-purchase improvement project:  
**Option #1**-10-year lease-purchase, up to \$1,459,300-interest rate fixed at 2.75% for the term. Annual payments will begin 12 months from inception of the agreement. Maturity would be 10 years from inception.  
**Option #2**-10-year lease-purchase, up to \$1,459,300-interest rate fixed at 2.75% for the term. Annual payments will begin at inception of the agreement. Maturity would be 10 years from inception.

9. Brady Harbin, Western State Bank President, presented two options for the lease-purchase improvement project:  
**Option #1**-10 years fixed rate at 2.15%-single advance lease, with annual principal and interest payments required beginning 12 months after the first advance. Maturation is 10 years after the first advance. \$163,736.42 annual payment. (No prepayment penalties)  
**Option #2**-5 years fixed rate at 1.99%, then, converting to either your choice of another 5 years fixed or annual adjustments. All interest rate adjustments will be tied to "Prime Rate" less 126 basis points. First realized rate adjustment will be on June 1, 2026. Single advance lease, with annual principal and interest payments required beginning 12 months after the first advance. Maturation is 10 years after the first advance. \$162,373.81 annual payment for the first 5 years, then will adjust

according to the interest rate repricing based on the “Prime Rate” index. (No prepayment penalties)

10. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Brandon Whalen seconded to accept Western State Bank’s option #1 for the lease-purchase improvement project up to \$1,459,300. Motion passed 7-0. Deb Ames and Brady Harbin left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Inclement Weather Policy

11. Superintendent Maxwell presented an inclement weather policy. The language in the inclement weather policy includes that the Board delegates to the superintendent the authority to close any school whenever any condition exists which, in the opinion of the superintendent, warrants the closing of one or more or all schools. Athletic Directors will be notified when the building is open for practices, and these practices will NOT be mandatory.

12. Josh Young motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to approve the inclement weather policy as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

KSDE Waiver

13. Superintendent Maxwell has applied for a waiver of 19.50 hours for time lost due to inclement weather. The State Board will waive the number of school hours equal to the number of hours used for professional development hours between December 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

14. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Ann Wiles seconded to approve the waiver. Motion passed 7-0.

KSDE Counting Kids Audit

15. The KSDE Counting Kids audit is complete. The district had a total loss of -1.1 FTE, which equates to \$5,025 overall.

ESSER II Funds

16. Districts are required to create a proposal for expenditures of the ESSER II Funds available to districts for the Covid pandemic relief. Superintendent Maxwell presented the proposal which includes summer school, on-line curriculum, social-emotional curriculum, tables, and cleaning supplies. Other options are available if the

WCES Principal's Report

- proposed expenditures are not approved by the KSDE committee for use of ESSER II Funds.
17. WCES Principal, Brant Douglas, updated the Board on the elementary school.
- A. The Book Fair was a success.
  - B. KELPA testing is being completed.
  - C. State testing is April 1<sup>st</sup> –May 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - D. This week is READ week.
  - E. Parent-teacher conferences are March 23 & 25.

WCJSHS Principal's Report

18. WCJSHS Principal, Mr. Schmidt, updated the Board on the Jr./Sr. High school.
- A. KELPA testing is almost complete.
  - B. State testing is April 1<sup>st</sup>-May 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - C. 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks ends on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - D. Grade cards will be issued on March 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - E. Scheduling for next year's classes will begin.
  - F. Parent-teacher conferences will be student led.
  - G. The high school musical is March 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.  
The musical is "Freaky Friday".
  - H. Mr. Schmidt discussed graduation/concerts with Mrs. Brandt in regards to covid restrictions. They will discuss further after spring break.
  - I. KSHSAA events still require masks.
  - J. Junior high track-41 students, high school track-38 students, high school golf-18 students, and high school trap shooting-14 students.

Superintendent's Report

19. Superintendent Maxwell updated the Board on the district.
- A. Grow and Learn Daycare received project building bids on February 19<sup>th</sup> and rejected all bids.
  - B. Several persons have contacted the district in regards to how many will be allowed to graduation. This will be discussed after spring break with the county health department.
  - C. The Neighborhood Revitalization Hearing was last week. A final decision will be made by the county commissioners at their next meeting.
  - D. The Board is needing updated electronic devices for board meetings as the I-Pads have become outdated. Superintendent Maxwell and Mr. Lechtenberg are reviewing options that will be appropriate for the board usage.

- E. The fire alarms have been repaired. Due to an electronic surge at the Ag shop/Jr. Sr. High, part of the system had to be replaced in the amount of \$12,664. Due to a pipe freezing and bursting, shorting out the fire alarm system at the elementary school, all of the fire alarm system had to be replaced in the amount of \$33,874.50. Both items will be turned into the insurance company.
- F. It is anticipated that the district utilities will have a significant increase due to the cold weather. Those costs have not been billed yet.
- G. Family Heritage insurances has requested the district access to employees to share their insurance information. Discussion was held. The Board has denied this request.
- H. Superintendent Maxwell asked the Board their thoughts on lifting some of the Covid restrictions in place at the schools. Discussion was held. The Board plans to keep restrictions in place at this time until the end of the school year.
- I. Superintendent Maxwell presented results from the traffic study conducted by KDOT.
- J. A budget comparison from March 2020 and March 2021 was presented as an annual comparison of budget/funds at this time last year.

Executive Session for  
Personnel

20. Brandon Whalen motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to enter executive session with Ms. Maxwell, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Douglas present to discuss matters adversely or favorably affecting non-elected certified and classified staff pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA. The matters affecting the non-elected certified and classified staff members is their performance and employment. The Board will return to open session at 8:52 p.m. Motion passed 7-0. Julie Conard left the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

21. The meeting returned to open session at 8:52 p.m. No action was taken.

Executive Session for  
Negotiations

22. Jason Koehn motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to enter executive session with Ms. Maxwell, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Douglas present to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for

employer-employee negotiations under KOMA. The Board will return to open session at 9:08 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

23. The meeting returned to open session at 9:08 p.m. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

Adjournment

24. Jim Myers officially adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

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Jim Myers, President

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Tammy Mason, Board Clerk

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