

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, October 14, 2019 in Leoti.

People Present

2. Members present were: Brian Gerstberger, Jim Myers, Tammy Simons, and Josh Young.

Also present were: Superintendent, Keith Higgins; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCES Principal, Lori Maxwell; and Guests: Julie Conard, Brant Douglas, Courtney Young, Bridgette Carpenter, Robyn Tokoi, Bruce Loy, Huck Carpenter, Bentley Young, Cashton Young, Olivia Wedel, Sophia Wedel, Johanna Ridder, Daniel Romero, Maggie Brown, and David Valencia.

Approved Consent Agenda

1. Jim Myers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, Jim Myers thanked Mr. Higgins for his twelve years of service to the school district and wished him well during his retirement. Josh Young motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to approve the consent agenda, consisting of:
 - A. Agenda for the meeting.
 - B. Minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting.
 - C. Payments of the bills and payroll.
 - D. Personnel Actions:
 1. Accept the resignation of Keith Higgins, Superintendent, effective June 30, 2020.
 - E. Accept a donation from Western State Bank for \$150.00 to the WCHS wrestling program for moving furniture.
 - F. Accept a donation from the Tribe Booster Club for \$424.00 to WCJSHS NHS/STUCO for the "Be the Change" day.
 - G. Accept a donation from Helena Agri Enterprises for \$100.00 to WCJSHS athletic department.
 - H. Declare the old Vo Ag greenhouse as surplus equipment to be disposed of by sealed bid.Motion passed 4-0.

WCES Art Program

2. Courtney Young, WCES Art teacher, and students Bentley Young, Cashton Young, Olivia Wedel, Sophia Wedel, and Huck Carpenter, presented art work from this year and shared with the Board the elements of art that they have learned. On a weekly basis, Mrs. Young teaches the seven elements of art to the grade school students. The Board asked questions and thanked the students and Mrs. Young for sharing. Mrs. Young, Mrs. Carpenter and students left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Childcare Center

3. Robyn Tokoi, from the committee to form the Grow & Learn Childcare Center, updated the Board on the current plans for the childcare center. She presented an updated architect drawing of the building and site. She asked the Board to review their bylaws. The committee is currently working on fundraising for the project. Discussion was held. Robyn left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Athletic Update

4. Brant Douglas, Junior High Athletic Director, presented the current number of participants for the fall sports. He gave the uniform rotation for all sports through 2025. The Board asked if the Swift Reach program (text messages) could be utilized more to update leave and play times. Mr. Douglas will check into the matter.

Cell Phone Policy

5. High school student body leaders Johanna Ridder, Maggie Brown, Daniel Romero, and David Valencia presented their request to change the current cell phone policy at the high school. They request for students to be able to use their cell phones during lunch time. All of the same rules and consequences will remain in place. They still can not use their phones in the gym, locker room, bathrooms, or gymnateria (cafeteria). Via a survey to students and staff, they found that the largest percentage from both groups were in favor of the policy change. They also presented possible pros and cons to the policy change. The Board asked questions and thanked the students for presenting their request. They will discuss further at the next Board meeting. The students left the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

WCES Principal's Report

6. Ms. Maxwell, WCES Principal, presented updates on the grade school. She presented the enrollment numbers as of September 20, 2019. The student count on that day was 239. Ms. Maxwell presented the new district website. She is currently working on setting up the website. She has made good progress and will continue. The website should be available to the public soon. Grade school staff has discussed Foundations & Literature during their Wednesday afternoon inservice meetings. Predictive testing has been set up and is being utilized. Roofing on the grade school will be started October 21st. The staff is working to devise a dismissal plan to keep everyone safe and dismissal flowing smoothly. A letter will go out to parents with the information for dismissal during construction. Some recent events at the grade school was a presentation to fifth grade on Native American artifacts, Kindergarten field trip to the zoo and fire station, and a glow germ lesson presented by Aimee Baker. Upcoming events is a trip to the pumpkin patch for preschoolers on October 17th, Active Shooter training on October 18th, the Book Fair and parent/teacher conferences next week, Red Ribbon week, Halloween activities, and Veteran's Day programs on November 11th. Mr. Schmidt entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

WCJSHS Principal's Report

7. Mr. Schmidt, WCJSHS Principal, presented updates on the Jr./Sr. high school. The high school Leadership lunch was held with good discussion on policies. The Principal's Building report has been submitted. Site Council met on 09/30/19 and discussed the cross walk, Wednesday early release, and technology. October 18th will be inservice. The sub-state volleyball tournament is October 26 at Elkhart. Regional cross country will be October 20th at Great Bend. Mr. Schmidt updated the Board on a student that was in a car accident last week. He is in contact with the mother and the student is recovering in Denver.

Superintendent's Report

8. Mr. Higgins, Superintendent, gave an update on the district budget. We are one third of the way through the year with 83% of the budget remaining. The Book Fair has had approximately \$2,100 in

donations from the community thus far. He asked Julie Conard to give an update on KESA. The KESA committee recently met with Angela Lawrence and discussed the year three goals. They will meet again on November 5th and include community members for the strategic planning committee. There will be inservice on October 18th with Active Shooter training in the morning for all employees and a work day in the afternoon for teaching staff.

Trap Club at WCJSHS

9. Brady Harbin and Nate Brown are asking permission to use the school name and logo for students to compete in Trap Club. There will be no expense and no obligation by the district in any way. Discussion was held. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to allow the Trap Club to use the school name and logo for the purpose of competitions with no financial obligation to the district. Motion passed 4-0.

Mental Health Issues

10. The Board discussed their concern over the mental health issues of students and how to best address the situation. There may be a need for a mental health expert to offer guidance to staff in recognizing and addressing the needs of students both in and out of the classroom. All students Pre-K through 12th will benefit from the implementation of a district program. Discussion will be held at the next Board meeting on how to proceed.

KASB Roundtable Discussion

11. Jim Myers, Josh Young, Brandon Whalen, and Lori Maxwell attended a KASB Roundtable discussion in Garden City on September 25, 2019. Some of the topics discussed were bullying, transgender restrooms, and how districts across the state are handling these and other issues. Mrs. Conard and Mr. Loy left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Executive Session for Personnel

12. Josh Young motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to enter into executive session with Mr. Higgins, Mr. Schmidt, and Ms. Maxwell 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 in the district board room at 8:56 p.m. Motion passed 4-0. The regular meeting resumed at 8:56 p.m.

13. Jim Myers motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to hire Lori Maxwell as Superintendent for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school year with salary to be determined at a later date. Motion passed 4-0.

14. Jim Myers motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to hire Brant Douglas as Wichita County Elementary School Principal for the 2020-21 and 2021-2022 school year with salary to be determined at a later date. Motion passed 4-0.

Executive Session for
Personnel

15. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Josh Young seconded to enter into executive session with Mr. Higgins, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Maxwell, 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 in the district board room at 9:20 p.m. Motion passed 4-0. The regular meeting resumed at 9:20 p.m.

16. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Josh Young seconded to approve hiring all of the winter coaches as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

Adjournment

17. Jim Myers officially adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Jim Myers, President

Tammy Mason, Clerk of the Board

