

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 12:30 p.m., Monday, December 9, 2019 in Leoti.

People Present

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

Also present were: Superintendent, Keith Higgins; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCES Principal, Lori Maxwell; WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt, Director of Buildings & Grounds/ Transportation, Ed Simon; and Guests: Sara Brown, Ann Wiles, Misty Gardner, Tara Biermann, Nikki Bjurstrom, Robyn Tokoi, Jenny Long, Rob Taylor, Wyatt Wentz, Gavin Fischer, Drew Case, and Abel Castillo-Gomez.

Approved Consent Agenda

1. Jim Myers called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. The Board recognized and thanked Mrs. Lou Berning for all of her years of service and dedication to the students and community. They wish her well on her retirement. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag, Brian Gerstberger motioned and Jason Koehn seconded to approve the consent agenda, consisting of:
  - A. Agenda for the meeting.
  - B. Minutes of the November 11, 2019 regular and the November 19, 2019 special meetings.
  - C. Payments of the bills and payroll.
  - D. Personnel Actions:
    1. Accept Lou Berning's retirement resignation effective at the end of the 2019-20 school year.
  - E. Accept a donation of \$200.00 from Tim & Marilyn Rietzke, to support WCHS basketball and football activities.
  - F. Accept a donation of \$250.00 from Darren & Jody Crouch, for football sideline jackets.
  - G. Accept a donation of \$78.00 from Porter's Signs & Designs, to pay the entry fee for district

employees' children at the October 18, 2019 home football game.

- H. Accept a gift of 45 pairs of Toms shoes from the Convey of Hope and the Abundant Life Fellowship Church for WCES students.
- I. Accept a gift of coats, gloves, and hats from the Knights of Columbus, Council #2930, for WCES students in need.
- J. Accept a donation of \$500.00 from Croppro Insurance, Inc., for football sideline jackets.
- K. Accept a donation of \$733.16 from the Tribe Booster Club, for honor choir hotel/pep club.
- L. Accept a donation of \$800.00 from the Tribe Booster Club, to the Student Council.

Motion passed 6-0.

#### Student Presentation

- 2. Mr. Wentz and Mr. Norton's students presented some of their projects from the classes of Industrial Arts and Art. Gavin Fischer shared his skateboard project that he created in Mr. Wentz class and painted in Mr. Norton's class. Drew Case showed some of his and fellow students' work with the laser engraver in Mr. Wentz class. The Board thanked them for their presentation. Mr. Wentz, Gavin, Drew, and Abel left the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

#### Wrestling Mats

- 3. Misty Gardner and Tara Biermann presented quotes for practice wrestling mats for the wrestling room. The mats are used by various groups including Jr./Sr. High wrestling, Leoti Takedown Club, gymnastics, cheerleaders, and gym classes. The approximate cost of the mats will be \$10,000 to \$14,000 depending on the mats. The Leoti Takedown club is willing to do fundraisers to put money towards the cost of the new mats and the Tribe Booster club is willing to help with a portion of the cost as well. Jim Myers motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to allocate \$4,500 toward the cost of the mats from the school district. Motion passed 6-0. Misty Gardner and Tara Biermann left the meeting at 1:00p.m.

#### Grow & Learn Childcare Center

- 4. Nikki Bjurstrom, Jenny Long, and Robyn Tokoi presented an update on the Grow & Learn Childcare Center. They presented a finalized floor plan and

site plan. The facility will be between the Ag building and Jr./Sr. High school gymnasium. They discussed the lease agreement for the land with the school district. They continue to work on funding and hope to finalize the project by January of 2021. Discussion was held. Nikki, Jenny, and Robyn left the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

#### WCES Principal's Report

5. Ms. Maxwell, WCES Principal, presented updates on the grade school. The grade school has been reviewing curriculum for English Language Arts during their Wednesday inservices. They are now researching options for textbooks, workbooks, and online resources. They plan to have a proposal before the March Board meeting. The final Book Fair net sales were \$6,324.53. The roof is still being worked on and the students, staff, and parents have been very accommodating during the construction. The grade school had their Winter program on December 5th. Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Lofstrom, and the students did an excellent job. Everyone complemented Mrs. Young's presentation of the students' art work in the lobby as well. Some of the upcoming activities in the grade school are mid-year CBM testing, WCES Christmas social, AR party for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, and the end of the second quarter and first semester is December 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### WCJSHS Principal's Report

6. Mr. Schmidt, WCJSHS Principal, presented updates on the Jr./Sr. High school. "Chill Day" on November 26<sup>th</sup> raised \$1,646 for the Food Bank. There are 18 students enrolled in GCCC concurrent classes for next semester. Semester exams will be December 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Fairchild will have a student teacher from K-State next semester. The high school basketball teams will participate in the Brewster Shootout tournament this week. The Ulysses wrestling tournament has been changed to a one day event on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Junior High basketball team travels to Tribune tonight. The Jr./Sr. High school music program is tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. The music department is requesting to dispose of three pianos that are no longer in use.
7. Changes to the student handbook were presented:  
The remainder of the semester the number of cell

phone violations must be reduced to no more than 3. If this occurs, the high school will propose a trial period for technology use for the lunch period during the third nine weeks.

8. Once a student is on the D/F list and required to take semester exams, they may be removed from the testing list if they raise their grade to a "C" by 8:30a.m. on Monday of testing week.
9. Josh young motioned and Brandon Whalen seconded to approve the changes to the semester testing policy as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
10. Brandon Whalen motioned and Jason Koehn seconded to approve the changes to the technology use during lunch periods as presented. Motion passed 4-2 with Jim Myers and Brian Gerstberger voting against. Jason Koehn left the meeting at 1:43 p.m.

#### Superintendent's Report

11. Mr. Higgins, Superintendent, gave an update on the district budget. There is currently 66% of the budget remaining. Associated Services submitted the insurance quote for the next year of \$77,609.00. This is a 1% increase. The financial auditors completed their 2018-2019 audit last week and will present the final report in January. The district was presented awards on behalf of the State Board of Education and the Kansas State Department of Education, for the 2019-2020 school year in Postsecondary Effectiveness: Bronze, Graduation Rate: Bronze, Academically Prepared for Postsecondary Success: Copper, and Commissioner's Award Honors.

#### Executive Session for Personnel

12. Jim Myers motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to enter into executive session 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 2:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting resumed at 2:15 p.m., no action was taken.

Ann Wiles, Rob Taylor, and Ed Simon left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Executive Session for Personnel

13. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Josh Young 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 2:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting resumed at 2:55 p.m., no action was taken.

Adjournment

14. The Board thanked Farrin Watt for his more than eight years of dedication and service to the school district serving as a School Board member. Jim Myers officially adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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Jim Myers, President

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Tammy Mason, Clerk of the Board