

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, November 8, 2021 at the Board of Education office in Leoti, Kansas.

People Present

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

Also present were: Superintendent, Lori Maxwell; Clerk, Tammy Mason; WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt; WCES Principal, Brant Douglas; Guests, Sara Brown, Brandy Marcy, Maria Medina, Ashley Norton, Matt Long, Misty Gardner, students and parents of the Veteran's Day Choir.

Approved Consent Agenda

3. Brandon Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Brandon Whalen offered his condolences on behalf of the Board to the family of Ed Simon, who served on the Board of Education from July 1, 1989 through August 1, 2003. He was also employed as the Director of Buildings and Grounds/Transportation from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021. He also welcomed the newly elected Board members and thanked the members that have served on the Board. Josh Young motioned and Ann Wiles seconded to approve the consent agenda, with the changes as follows; amend 4.G, add 4.0, add audience Matt Long, and add action item to consider cancelling school on Friday, November 12, 2021; consisting of:
  - A. Approval of the agenda for the meeting.
  - B. Approval of minutes for the October 11, and October 26, 2021 meetings.
  - C. Approval of bills and payroll.
  - D. Approve the hiring of Heather Price as JH head girls' basketball coach.
  - E. Approve the hiring of Leslie Vazquez as an at-risk ESL bilingual para.
  - F. Approve the hiring of Michelle Alatorre as a cook.

- G. Accept a donation of 120 pounds of ground beef from an anonymous donor valued at \$3.99 per pound for a total value of \$478.80.
- H. Accept an anonymous donation of \$150 for high school football.
- I. Accept a donation of \$1,143 from Security State Bank for athletics.
- J. Accept a donation of \$200 from Myers Ag for Athletics.
- K. Accept a donation of \$2,851.54 from Wichita County Education Foundation Committee, Inc. for ½ of HUDL costs and volleyballs.
- L. Accept a donation of \$232 from the Community Thrift Shoppe, Inc for stethoscopes.
- M. Accept gifts from the following sponsors for a total of \$2,925 for the Book Fair: Green Plains Cattle Co. \$250; Wichita County Treasurer \$250; James Myers \$100; CarQuest Auto Parts \$100; Heritage Meats \$100; Harkness Repair \$25; Eisenhour & Graff \$50; Great Plains Family Dentistry \$100; Western State Bank \$100; Elizabeth Gould \$100; Security State Bank \$100; KT Tire & Service \$100; Amy Nichol \$50; Anonymous \$100; Steve & Shelly Graff \$100; Western Hardware \$100; West Bethany WMI \$150; Berta Binns \$250; Price Repair \$500; Community Thrift Shoppe Inc. \$300.
- N. Waive the building rental fee for Leoti Takedown for January 7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The custodial fee will be applied.
- O. Approve building use from November 2021 through January 2022 for Wichita County Parks & Recreation for Little Dribblers and winter sports practices.  
Motion passed 5-0.

Veteran's Day Choir

- 4. Misty Gardner and the Veteran's Day Choir performed for the Board. The Board thanked Mrs. Gardner and the twenty four students for their efforts and performing for Veteran's Day. Mrs. Gardner and students left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Ashley Norton With PAC

- 5. Ashley Norton shared ideas for a parent group organization to provide student and staff appreciation opportunities. The organization is PAC,

Parent Action Committee. Ashley Norton left the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Maria Medina

6. Maria Medina, At-Risk ESL Bilingual para at the Jr. Sr. High school, discussed her para job with the Board of Education. Maria Medina left the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Grow & Learn Childcare Center

7. Matt Long, on behalf of Grow & Learn Childcare Center, inquired about where to place the gas line for the center and moving the fence line. Discussion was held. Matt Long and Brandy Marcy left the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

5 Year Capital Outlay Plan

8. Superintendent Maxwell presented an updated five year Capital Outlay plan for the district with changes that were discussed in open session at the regular October board meeting. Discussion was held.
9. Tammy Simons proposed adding additional parking spaces and sidewalk into the Capital Outlay plan. Discussion was held.

ESSER II & ESSER III Update

10. The ESSER II application has been submitted for approval and a survey has been shared with the staff and community to gain feedback for the ESSER III application process.

Current and Anticipated Open Positions

11. **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**-This position was advertised with USD 467 staff on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 and also on Kansas Teaching Jobs from 03/02/2021 to 05/01/2021. There were no applicants from within the district or from the KTJ website, so we developed a plan to proceed without that position filled. A student teacher was assigned to complete her student teaching experience in 6<sup>th</sup> grade with the intention of splitting the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class into two sections at the semester. Hiring for this position has not officially yet been done.
12. **Kindergarten**-During the summer of 2021, 14-17 kindergarten students were anticipated for enrollment, and 26 students were expected for fourth grade. One of the kindergarten teachers learned of this need and when asked, offered to move to 4<sup>th</sup> grade because there were more students anticipated

at that level and the depth of the content was deeper. Since moving the kindergarten teacher to fourth grade, the kindergarten class has grown to 24 students, and we would like to advocate for the kindergarten to be split into two sections at semester, which would require an additional teacher to finish the 2021-2022 school year. If a USD 467 teacher moves to kindergarten, it could possibly open a position in another grade level.

13. **FACS teacher**-With a late resignation last year, we advertised for a 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Science/Health teacher under the FACS section of Kansas Teaching jobs from 05/26/21 to 08/01/21. No one applied for the position. We need to determine if the FACS position will be advertised and filled for the 2022-23 school year.

14. At this time, there are no resignations or retirements submitted, but 2-4 per building are anticipated. Tammy has reminded staff of the \$500 incentive to announce this by the January 10, 2022 board meeting.

15. Another non-English speaking student has moved to the district and will need full support. Mary Cortez is requesting an additional part to full-time at-risk ESL bilingual para to meet the student's needs.

KDHE Covid-19 Testing

16. A grant from KDHE provided the district with 400 rapid tests, as well as money to cover all costs. The rapid tests allow staff and students that are asymptomatic to test free of charge in order to stay in school or at work.

Property & Casualty Insurance

17. EMC Insurance is the current provider. Kansas Education Risk Management Pool is interested in bidding. Discussion was held.

Technology Policy

18. Discussion was held on student email access to other students and on only allowing students to email their teacher or certain small groups for projects. The IT Director is exploring a program that retracts emails that have been sent out. The cost is \$3 per student, a cost of approximately \$1,200 to the district.

Cancel School on November 12<sup>th</sup>

19. Superintendent Maxwell recommended school be cancelled on Friday, November 12, 2021 for the funeral of Ed Simon. This will allow staff to attend the funeral as there would not be enough supervision or subs available to allow school to be in session.

20. Josh Young motioned and Tammy Simons seconded to cancel school on Friday, November 12, 2021 to allow staff to attend the memorial service of Ed Simon. This will be a paid day to all staff. Motion passed 5-0.

WCES Principal's Report

21. WCES Principal, Brant Douglas, presented updates on the grade school as follows:

- A. Parent/Teacher conferences had 99% attendance.
- B. The fall concert was October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- C. The Veteran's Day program is November 11<sup>th</sup>. The community is invited.
- D. The grade school students will attend the musical matinee on Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
- E. The Winter concert is December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the WCJSHS auditorium.
- F. The diagnostic test for the I-Ready Math has been completed.
- G. During PDC time, the grade school staff has had collaboration time.
- H. Mr. Douglas gave the JH Football schedule for the 2022-23 year.

WCJSHS Principal's Report

22. WCJSHS Principal, Delbert Schmidt, presented updates on the Jr./Sr. high school as follows:

- A. Parent/Teacher conferences had 61% attendance, which was an improvement from last year.
- B. Junior High basketball has started with 23 girls and 18 boys participating.
- C. Miss Kansas spoke on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to the students.
- D. The musical Grease is being performed at the high school on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. November 13<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup> in the evenings.

- E. November 16<sup>th</sup> is the home HS Scholars Bowl. There are 16 teams planning to attend.
- F. The FFA is selling fruit and meat. The calf fry is on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- G. November 23<sup>rd</sup> is the “chill” day at the high school sponsored by STUCO. Money raised will be donated to the Wichita County Food Bank.
- H. Honor Choir and JH Band competed in Dodge City on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendent’s Report

23. Superintendent Maxwell presented updates in the district and buildings as follows:
- A. The KSDE audit was last week, it will finish at the end of the month.
  - B. Superintendent Maxwell presented one bus bid from the KSDE website. The bid is for a 14 passenger bus for \$57,700.
  - C. The old greenhouse that was previously purchased has been removed from the school property as of November 6<sup>th</sup> per the Board’s request.
  - D. Board members signed a card for the family of Ed Simon.  
The Board took a ten minute break.

Executive Session for Personnel

24. Brian Gerstberger motioned and Ann Wiles seconded to enter into 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 in the board room at 9:56 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.
25. Tammy Simons motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to approve hiring Courtney Young as an elementary teacher, assigned to 6<sup>th</sup> grade math/science beginning December 6, 2021. Motion passed 4-1 with Josh Young abstaining.
26. Josh Young motioned and Brian Gerstberger seconded to advertise for the FACS teaching

position for the 2022-2023 school year. Motioned passed 5-0.

Adjournment

27. Brandon Whalen officially adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

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Brandon Whalen, Vice-President

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Tammy Mason, Board Clerk

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