

Board of Education

Northeast Kansas Education Service Center

Minutes

Date: Nov. 17th, 2004

Location: Oskaloosa USD #341 - Central Office

Time: 7:00 p.m. Call Meeting to Order

At 7:00 p.m., President, Tom Holroyd called the meeting to order. Members present: Paul Brown, Tom Holroyd, Keith Ostrander, Carol Meneley, David Tenpenny, Julie Zule, and Todd Gigstad (arriving at 7:06 p.m.); Jim Wheeler, Ph.D., Executive Director, Judy Denton, Assistant Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Dona Higgins, Accts. Payable; Loren Lutes, Superintendent USD #341; Terri Coughlin and David Paden, JDLA Staff, and Sharon Branson, SETA Representative.

*** Action - Consent Agenda**

Tenpenny moved to approve the consent agenda with no changes. Zule seconded and motion carried 6-0.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Approval of Bills and Claims

*** Communications from Visitors Present**

There were no communications from visitors present.

*** Communications**

1. Treasurer's Report
Susan provided copies of the treasurer's report for the month of November.

*** Special Education**

1. Action - Personnel Update

Judy reviewed the list of contracts, resignations and terminations for approval. Meneley moved to approve as listed. Tenpenny seconded and motion carried 6-0.

Gigstad arrived at the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Meeting moved to RSC item #3 and Jim introduced JDLA staff members, Terri Coughlin and David Paden.

2. Information/Discussion - Special Education Class Size Case Load

Judy reported that twice a year, NEKESC is required to utilize some systematic method to assess case loads and class size for special education staff. We are also required to document that this information is presented to the BOE, at least annually. Judy discussed the program, developed by Jim Wheeler for the State Department of Education, and how it uses information from MIS reports, number of exceptionalities per student, number of students served, number of buildings served, miles traveled, number of paras supervised, and how these CSCL factors are utilized in helping to determine the caseloads for NEKESC teachers and staff.

3. Information/Discussion - IDP Approvals

Judy discussed information on updates of IDPs, changes in licensure requirements, and provided copies of a staff listing reflecting those staff members who had completed their IDP with goals and

objectives for the coming year. Gigstad moved to approve the IDPs as presented. Meneley seconded and motion carried 7-0.

4. Information/Discussion - Highly Qualified Special Education Teacher/Staff

Judy explained that KSDE requires a Fall report of highly qualified teachers as related to special education. The purpose of the report is for the state to collect information about the professional and demographic characteristics of staff across the state. With the new reporting requirements set by NCLB, this information becomes even more important as it will be used to determine which teachers are highly qualified. Judy and Shelia have contacted other directors across the state to see how they are reporting.

5. Information/Discussion - Substitutes for Special Education

Judy explained that some districts are experiencing problems in finding substitutes for special education staff who serve students with severe needs. Discussion was held at the recent Supers' meeting and Johnston asked Judy and Shelia to prepare a proposal for particular positions and amounts to be considered for increased pay. This was an "information only" item for board members at this time.

*** Regional Service Center**

1. Action - Internet Upgrade

Last month information was presented regarding the need for additional bandwidth for the NEKESC network. Jim provided information and a cost summary for upgrading the network in the amount of **\$9,720**. Gigstad moved to accept the proposal to upgrade the internet. Meneley seconded and motion carried 7-0.

2. Action - Carl Perkins Vocational Budget

Jim presented the budget for Carl Perkins - **Fund #23** in the amount of **\$97,877**. He explained that these funds are used for Professional Staff Development for Voc. Ed. teachers and to help provide the summer institute hosted by NEKESC each year. In addition to our own schools, Tonganoxie and Shawnee Heights participate in this program. Tenpenny moved to approve the Carl Perkins Budget Sheet. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

3. Information/Discussion - Update on JDLA

Terri Coughlin, head teacher of JDLA, presented information on recent activities and recognitions received by staff and students. She provided copies of three newsletters for board members published by the students. She explained that the students have presented to the State Board of Education, at national conferences, and have been asked to present at the upcoming service learning conference, Growing to Greatness, in California. JDLA is one of three schools, nationwide, to be featured in the manual that will be distributed at this conference. Terri provided a draft of the article that will feature the student accomplishments in their service learning which is integrated into all academic classes under the school-wide theme of environmental education.

Terri then introduced David Paden, math instructor, who discussed student participation in "Orienteering Events" held at a club in Kansas City. Participants are provided an unmarked map and compass, and are then timed in their efforts to locate flags on a designated trail. They were one of ten teams to finish the event and in the process had a better time than one ROTC group. Twenty three teams did not finish the course. Plans are to create two courses at their Pheasants Forever outdoor classroom, one for practice and one for competition.

Another program initiated this school year is "Geometry Sketchpad". This is a computer program that can be used for both Geometry and Algebra. Students can work geometric equation (ex: to locate a site on a map) and then use the computer program to check their work. It is also used to draw floor plans, etc. and has made a big difference for the students in Geometry and Algebra classes. The program was provided through a grant from NEA which was awarded last March. Members thanked Terri and David for their presentation and Paden left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. to go see his new grandchild.

Meeting returned to Special Ed item #2.

4. **Information/Discussion - Update on "Fitness for Life"**

"Fitness for Life" is the name of the new P.E. project. Jim reviewed the project goals and activities. He provided a video on the three year project explaining how physical education helps not only with physical achievements, but with achievement tests and learning utilizing the coordinated (comprehensive) approach as outlined in the grant. Stakeholders in the project include not only parents, students and staff, but the Ks. Dept. of Health & Environment, and KSDE Nutrition and Phys. Ed. department personnel as well. Teachers and Principals will log their hours spent working on the project as a means of providing local match for the grant funds. The video also featured equipment for PE activities and monitoring heart rate, body mass, etc. that will be provided by the grant.

* **Adjournment**

At 8:00 p.m., Meneley moved to adjourn the meeting. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.