

Board of Education

Northeast Kansas Education Service Center

Minutes

Date: May 19th, 2004

Time: 7:30 p.m. Call Meeting to Order - USD #341 Central Office - Oskaloosa, KS

At 7:30 p.m., President, Tom Holroyd called the meeting to order. Members present: Julie Zule, Dean Newell, Leonard Lange, Keith Ostrander, Carol Meneley, Tom Holroyd, and Mike Miller (arriving at 7:35 p.m.); Jim Wheeler, Ph. D., Executive Director; Patty Hart, Director of Special Education; Judy Denton, Assistant Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Dolly Gudenkauf, Bookkeeper; Steve Johnston, Superintendent; and Sharon Branson, SETA Representative.

◆ **Action - Consent Agenda**

Lange moved to approve the consent agenda. Meneley seconded and motion carried 6-0.

At 7:35 p.m. Miller arrived at the meeting.

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

◆ **Receive - Communications from Visitors Present**

There were no comments from visitors present.

◆ **Receive - Communications**

1. Treasurer's Report
Copies of the treasurer's report for the month of May were provided to members.

◆ **Special Education**

1. **Action - Final Resolution for Non-Renewal of Contracts**

Jim read the final resolutions for non-renewal of contracts for the 2004-2005 school year for adoption, for both non-tenured and tenured teachers. They included: Cindy Swarner and Deborah Chappell, non-tenured; and Julie Howard, Dawn Miller, Zena Schmelzle, Linda Shively-Bowell, Janet Tyler, Linda Wilkerson, Tim Berens, Ed Stewart, Lee Stickle, and Zoe Thompson, tenured. Meneley moved to adopt the resolutions as read. Lange seconded and motion carried 7-0.

2. **Action - Personnel Update**

Judy reviewed the list of contracts and resignations for approval. Lange moved to approve as presented. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0. Patty then provided information on current unfilled vacancies. Other than the teachers on the contract list for approval, a speech pathologist has been hired to replace Lindsay Randall, but we do not have that contract back yet. There are still three unfilled vacancies: JCN MS self-contained classroom ED/BD position, a .6 FTE adaptive PE position, and the interrelated position at Valley Falls High School. Patty said they are very pleased with the teachers they have been able to hire.

3. **Information/Discussion - Teacher Retirement Reception**

Joe Barton will be honored at a reception at McLouth High School on Thursday, May 20, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Joe has been the special education teacher at McLouth for the past 15 years. NEKESC and McLouth staff members are invited to attend.

4. **Information/Discussion - Summer Services for Students Who Don't Qualify for ESY**

Patty explained it is critical for students with disabilities to receive the help they need to be proficient on state assessments or outcomes, including any summer services available. There are basically three ways a student qualifies for extended services: if a student will regress over the summer to the point that their progress cannot be recouped in 40 days in the fall, the nature and

severity of their disability, and if the services were unable to be provided during the school year. Obviously, there will be a cost in order to do this. We have received requests from two schools to provide special education for students targeted to attend summer school. Since the requests were received after the budget was approved, we may have to ask for an increase. KSDE is not completely clear on whether we can collect categorical aid in these situations.

◆ Regional Service Center

1. Information/Discussion - Carl Perkins Grant 04-05 and Careers Grant

Jim reported that this 5 year grant project, which includes NEKESC schools plus Shawnee Heights, Tongie, Easton, and Kaw Valley, was to end this year (2004). It now appears that Congress will not re-issue Carl Perkins Legislation and we are being told that the grant will be extended into a 6th year (04-05). He provided information on the goals of this grant and explained that it is primarily used for professional development for teachers, and targets voc-ed. Efforts are aimed at making voc-ed more academic, not just a hands-on type of education. Jim also presented information on a special careers grant that is being made available by KSDE on a competitive basis. NEKESC submitted a preliminary proposal that was selected as eligible to submit a full proposal. He explained the goals of the project are to focus on ◆Career Clusters◆ not just a single profession. The grant should be approximately \$42,000.

2. Information/Discussion - JDLA

Jim discussed the space that will be available for the JDLA with the office move to Oskaloosa. The biggest need is for additional ◆defined spaces◆ for classroom work. There will be a need to construct some rooms within the current media center space and PAT spaces. Plans are to utilize some of our teachers and JDLA students to get the work done this summer. Timing will be the critical issue in this endeavor. Jim then noted that 12 seniors had graduated from JDLA earlier this week in a moving ceremony attended by over 100 family and friends.

3. Information/Discussion - Update on Facilities

Jim reviewed the plans for use of the facility in Oskaloosa. We hope to be able to occupy the space as early in June as possible; however the state has legal possession of the building until the end of June. SRS plans to move out the end of May. Jim provided a copy of the floor plans of the building to members explaining that the offices will be used primarily for special education personnel and accounting staff. The media center and student records will require the largest amount of space.

4. Receive - Technology Support Services Budget and Plan

Jim presented a plan to upgrade pay for technology services personnel by increasing charges for their services for 04-05. Rates have been increased only once since the program◆s start-up over ten years ago. Repair rates will be based on two areas of service: regular equipment repair, and a higher rate on networking services. Our goal is to retain valued personnel who have been approached by entities outside our service center with contract offers. This program provides a much needed and appreciated service to our school districts. Jim then discussed plans to contract with Topeka FM Communications for a wireless link (two T-1s) so that we will be able to use our own internet access at the Oskaloosa office. The contract is for \$312/month.

5. Receive - Budgets for 04-05

A preliminary budget for 04-05 was presented and discussed earlier this spring. Revenue sources (carryover and state categorical aid) for those budgets continue to appear accurate; therefore we are submitting these budgets as a receive item for action next month. Jim reviewed the budgets for our special education funds and provided a brief explanation on how the funding formula is calculated based on district FTE and special education FTE. He reviewed each budget individually, and then went on to do the same for the regional service center budgets.

◆ Executive Session

At 8:45 p.m., Meneley moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 9:05 p.m. to discuss negotiations and administrative contracts. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0. Patty Hart and Steve Johnston left the meeting.

At 9:05 p.m. open session resumed and Meneley moved to go into executive session for 25 minutes, until 9:30 p.m. to continue discussion on negotiations and executive contracts. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment

At 9:30 p.m., open session resumed and Lange moved to adjourn the meeting. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

Tom Holroyd
President

Susan Aspinwall, CPS
Business Manager/Clerk