

Board of Education

Northeast Kansas Education Service Center

Minutes

Date: July 21st, 2004

Location: USD #341 Oskaloosa Central Office

Time: 7:30 p.m. Call Meeting to Order

At 7:30 p.m., President, Tom Holroyd called the meeting to order. Members present: Carol Meneley, Tom Holroyd, Lois Neimann (for Keith Ostrander), David Tenpenny, Julie Zule, Todd Gigstad, and Paul Brown (arriving at 7:35 p.m.); Jim Wheeler, Ph.D., Executive Director; Judy Denton, Assistant Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Linda Kilgore, Executive Secretary; Loren Lutes, Superintendent; and Leonard Lange, past board member.

- WELCOME: New Board Members

USD #338 Valley Falls - Paul Brown will replace Mike Miller.

USD #341 Oskaloosa - David Tenpenny will replace Dean Newell.

USD #377 Atchison County Community - Todd Gigstad will replace Leonard Lange

Holroyd welcomed new board members and recognized Leonard Lange for serving on our board from 1998 to 2004.

Election of Officers

1. Action - Election of President

Meneley nominated Holroyd for president. Niemann seconded. Zule moved to cease nominations. Tenpenny seconded. Motion for Holroyd carried 6-0.

2. Action - Election of Vice-President

Zule nominated Meleney for vice-president. Tenpenny seconded. Meneley nominated Ostrander. Motion died for lack of a second. Gigstad moved to cease nominations. Zule seconded. Motion for Meneley carried 6-0.

• Consent Agenda

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

Paul Brown arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Tom Holroyd welcomed all the new members who introduced themselves and told everyone a little about themselves, their occupations, etc. Returning board members also introduced themselves to the new members.

1. Action - Approval of Minutes

2. Action - Approval of Agenda

3. Action - Approval of Bills and Claims

- **Receive - Communications from Visitors Present**

There were no communications from visitors present.

- **Receive - Communications**

1. **Treasurer's Report**

Susan provided copies of the treasurer's report for the month of July.

- **ACT ON ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

Meneley moved to approve the organization of the board as presented, but to change the meeting time to 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

1. **Susan Aspinwall, Clerk of the Board; Dona Higgins, Substitute Clerk of the Board**

2. **Eric Bowser, Treasurer of the Board**

3. **President, Clerk and Treasurer, sign checks**

4. **Meeting date to be third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.**

5. **Meeting location USD #341 Central Office, Oskaloosa, KS.**

6. **Susan Aspinwall, KPERS Representative; Dolly Gudenkauf, Alternate KPERS Representative**

7. **Official Bank Depository, State Bank of Oskaloosa**

8. **Allow clerk to make early payment of bills (To avoid late penalty fees)**

9. **Designate official newspaper(s): Atchison Daily Globe, Topeka Capital Journal, Lawrence Journal World, Oskaloosa Independent and Valley Falls Vindicator.**

- **Action - Adopt Resolution per K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) Waive Fixed Asset Accounting and GAAP accounting for FY 2004-2005**

Gigstad moved to adopt the resolution per K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) to waive fixed asset accounting and GAAP accounting for FY 2004-2005 as presented. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

- **Special Education**

1. **Action - Personnel Update**

Judy reviewed the list of contracts and resignations for approval. Zule moved to approve as listed. Meneley seconded and motion carried 7-0.

2. **Information/Discussion - Assistive Technology**

The 1990 Amendments to IDEA added the terms: Assistive Technology Devices and Assistive Technology Services. In 1992 the Department of Education clarified the existing definitions of Special Education, Related Services, and Supplemental Aids and Services when it promulgated the IDEA regulations. These

regulations allowed AT devices and services to be considered special education related services, and supplementary aids and services. One of the ways in which access has been enhanced was through a clarification by the Department of Education. It stated that the school was obligated to provide assistive technology at home or in other environments if it were determined by the IEP team that a student needed it to benefit from his or her educational program.

Judy discussed how NEKESC complies with these regulations. The need is determined by the IEP team and needs are provided for in a timely manner. Funds from Medicaid as well as private insurance and organization donations are used to acquire the equipment which is then owned by the child and family and may be used both at school and at home. If the student "outgrows" the equipment, it is then added to our equipment bank for use by other students. If purchased with Medicaid funds, the equipment remains with the student even after graduation or a transfer to another school. NEKESC pays the cost of repairs if the equipment is no longer under warranty or replaces it as necessary.

In the past we have had an assistive tech consultant who coordinated these services for all seven districts. Because of the increased need/demand, one person is no longer able to do this and we plan to establish district level teams to carry out these functions.

• **Regional Service Center**

1. Action - Approve Parents As Teachers Budget - Fund #17

Jim explained that our Parents as Teachers program serves birth to 3-year olds in about 18 districts in Northeast Kansas. We will have our evaluation ready next month and will explain more about the services provided by the program. We have received final approval on our PAT state grant - **Fund #17**- for 04-05 with a budget in the amount of **\$644,198**. The state portion of this budget is \$390,423 with a local match of \$253,775. Zule moved to approve the Parents as Teachers budget. Meneley seconded and motion carried 7-0.

2. Action - Approve Learn & Serve State Grant Budget - Fund #39

Jim reported NEKESC has been awarded a service learning grant - **Fund #39** - for the John Dewey Learning Academy in the amount of \$9,980. The total budget is in the amount of **\$25,330**. These funds will assist in carrying out the service learning components of the JDLA for 04-05. The students have presented at three national service learning conferences and last year three of their presentations were accepted for the Florida conference. Gigstad moved to approve the learn and serve state grant budget as presented. Meneley seconded and motion carried 7-0.

3. Action - Approve KIDSS Computer IEP Budget - Fund #30

Jim presented the budget for - **Fund #30** - our computerized IEP program and explained that we have offered this program throughout the state for over 18 years. This is a co-operative web-based program. Meneley moved to approve the statewide computerized IEP support budget in the amount of **\$88,276**. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

4. Action - Career Cluster Grant

NEKESC has been awarded a Career Clusters Planning Grant - **Fund #22** - in the amount of **\$42,000** to accomplish the following basic objectives: 1) Develop, implement or enhance practical training programs and work-based learning opportunities; 2) Develop a project curriculum including high-level academics and instruction in all aspects of the industry that will align with Post-Secondary curriculum and pre-requisites; 3) Plan and deliver professional development for counselors and staff; 4) Increase authentic partnership connections with local and regional employers, business, industry and community. Tenpenny moved to approve the Career Cluster Grant for the 04-05 FY. Niemann seconded and motion carried 7-0.

5. Action - EPA Grant

Jim outlined the goals and objectives of this new grant. The total budget - **Fund #19** - is in the amount of **\$16,425** with \$11,425 coming from the grant. Meneley moved to approve the budget as presented. Gigstad seconded and motion carried 7-0.

6. Information/Discussion - Workman's Comp Insurance

We have been using KASB, but our rates have been steadily going up for the past several years. Currently KASB is billing us about \$50,000 for next year. We have received a bid from another company for \$75,000 for next year. We have had some extraordinary claims over the past couple of years. While KASB is still less expensive than the other bid, we wonder about the "solvency" of their program for the 04-05 school year.

7. Information/Discussion - New School Accreditation Process

Jim provided information on the new school accreditation process being implemented by the state which includes having external technical assistance teams at the district level. Carol Dermeyer, coordinator of special education at the state department, will address the co-op purchasing group of superintendents at their meeting in September to explain this new process which will start with pilot schools across the state. Valley Falls is one of the pilot schools.

• Executive Session

At 8:20 p.m., Meneley moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 8:30 p.m. to discuss negotiations. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

At 8:30 p.m. open session resumed. Meneley moved to approve the negotiated agreement for the 2004-2005 school year as presented. Tenpenny seconded and motion carried 7-0.

Meneley then moved to increase the employer contribution for health insurance premiums for classified staff working 40 hrs a week by \$90 to a new amount of \$300; to increase the employer contribution for paras working 30 or more hours per week by \$25 to a new amount of \$125; and to give a \$.30 per hour raise to all paraeducators. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0.

• Adjournment

At 8:35 p.m., Meneley moved to adjourn the meeting. Zule seconded and motion carried 7-0. Members who wished, were then provided a tour of the "new" facility in Oskaloosa.

Thomas Holroyd

President

Susan Aspinwall, CPS

Business Manager/Clerk