

# **Board of Education**

## **Northeast Kansas Education Service Center**

### **Minutes**

**Date: Dec. 14th, 2005**

**Location: USD #341 Oskaloosa District Office**

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

At 7:02 p.m., in the absence of the president, Vice-President, Carol Meneley, called the meeting to order. Members present included Tracy Newell, Keith Ostrander, Beryl Darrah, Carol Meneley, and Julie Zule (arriving at 7:05 p.m.); Jim Wheeler, Ph. D., Executive Director; Shelia Smith, Assistant Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Dona Higgins, Accounts Payable; Tim Marshall, Superintendent; Sharon Branson, SETA Representative; and guests, Nicholas Clearwater and Michelle Kilburn.

#### **◆ Action - Consent Agenda**

Newell moved to approve the consent agenda with no changes. Ostrander seconded and motion carried 4-0.

Zule arrived at the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of October Meeting
3. 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 December.

#### **◆ Special Education**

1. **Action - Personnel Update**  
Shelia reviewed the list of contracts and resignations for approval. Ostrander moved to approve as presented. Zule seconded and motion carried 5-0.
2. **Information/Discussion - Donation from Knights of Columbus Council #2885**  
Shelia reported that NEKESC had received a check from the Knights of Columbus Council #2885 (Winchester) for \$175.40 to assist with our early childhood program. For several years, the Knights of Columbus has donated to this program. A thank-you letter has been sent to Daniel Noll, Grand Knight, indicating the funds will be used to buy materials to aid in the implementation of the new curriculum in the three center-based programs.
3. **Information/Discussion - Staff Presentation - Autism**  
Katie Wheeler was unable to attend and present information on autism and services available for students. This item will be tabled until after January.

#### **◆ Regional Service Center**

1. **Information/Discussion - KanREN Internet Access Rates**  
The Director of KanREN, Doug Heacock, was unable attend our meeting. In his absence, Jim

shared information received earlier this morning at the Supers meeting about KanREN's pricing structure, future plans and how best our network can utilize KanEd and Internet 2 resources. Discussing both long and short-term needs, he explained the need to increase bandwidth now and possibly increase to an OC3 in the near future. This would entail upgrading router, cards and equipment at a cost of \$10,000 or more. We would get bids for the equipment if this were the route we decide to go. Heacock stressed that a consortium gets the best pricing in this type of endeavor. Jim will provide more pricing information at future meetings.

2. **Information /Discussion - Update on NEKESC Network Usage**

An analysis of Internet usage on our network suggests that we should be planning to increase bandwidth. Jim provided copies of data collected, which shows the percentage of use of the system and discussed some possible solutions. Members also discussed the fact that on-line assessments will be done on 7 grade levels this year and will affect network usage.

3. **Information/Discussion - NEKESC Technology Planning**

NEKESC has requested and received (from KSDE) an extension of the due date for an update of the technology plan. The new plan is due May 31, 2006.

 **Adjournment**

At 7:20 p.m. Darrah moved to adjourn the meeting. Newell seconded and motion carried 5-0.

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Carol Meneley  
Vice President

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Susan Aspinwall, CPS  
Business Manager/Clerk