

Board of Education
Northeast Kansas Education Service Center
Minutes

Date: July 20th, 2005

Location: USD #341 Oskaloosa 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: Rhonda Schuler (for Tracy Newell), Leonard Lange (for Todd Gigstad), Tom Holroyd, Keith Ostrander, and Beryl Darrah; Judy Denton, Acting Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Krystal Porter, Administrative Secretary; Steve Johnston, Superintendent; and Terri Coughlin, Sharon Branson and Sharon Laverentz, SETA Representatives.

WELCOME: New Board Members

Holroyd welcomed the new board member from USD #338 Valley Falls, Beryl Darrah, who replaces Paul Brown. The other two new members, USD #341 Oskaloosa - Tracy Newell and

USD #342 McLouth - Doug Walbridge were unable to attend.

Election of Officers

1. Action - Election of President

Ostrander moved to cast a unanimous ballot for Tom Holroyd for president. Schuler seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Holroyd opposed.

2. Action - Election of Vice-President

Ostrander then moved to cast a unanimous ballot for Carol Meneley for vice-president. Schuler seconded and motion carried 5-0.

• Consent Agenda

Ostrander moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Darrah seconded and motion carried 5-0.

1. Action - Approval of Minutes

2. Action - Approval of Agenda

Change SpEd Item #3 to an action item. Under RSC, add Item #4) Action - Increase Budget Authority in Fund #03 and Fund #13

3. Action - Approval of Bills and Claims

• Receive - Communications from Visitors Present

SETA Representative, Sharon Branson invited board members to be SETA's guests at a "Back to School" picnic to be hosted by SETA at the Ozawkie Park on August 12th from 6-8:00 p.m. They will have more information at a later date.

• 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

Ostrander moved to act on the organization of the Board as outlined. Lange seconded and motion carried 5-0

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 (In emergency or absence of clerk, substitute clerk)

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 2005-2006

Ostrander then moved to adopt the resolution to waive fixed asset accounting for FY 2005-2006 per K.S.A 75-

1120a(a) as presented. Darrah seconded and motion carried 5-0.

• **Special Education**

1. **Action - Personnel Update**

Judy reviewed the list of contracts and resignations for approval. Lange moved to approve as listed. Schuler seconded and motion carried 5-0.

2. **Information/Discussion - Update on Vacancies**

Judy then reported we have hired a teacher for Valley Falls High School. We are currently looking for an elementary teacher for USD #339 and USD #377. We also need to hire a speech-language pathologist for USD #377. Judy discussed possible back up plans if we are unable to find people to fill these positions. She explained that they will continue to look for teachers to fill the vacancies, but it may be as late as December after college graduations before they are able to fill them, if even then

3. **Action - Para Wages**

Judy provided copies of current wages and benefits for paras along with a proposal for increases for consideration for the 05-06 school year. She reviewed the discussion held at the recent Superintendents' Advisory Council Meeting and Johnston provided input from that meeting as well. He noted that Supers voting against the motion made were not voting against a raise, but rather against the \$.50 motion and were in favor of the original \$.75 increase as proposed. Discussion was held, and Judy explained that at the recent Regional Meeting of Co-op Directors, discussion was held on para wages, and our paras are being paid lower than paras in other regional co-ops in the area. Ostrander moved to approve the proposal for para increases as presented. Darrah seconded and motion failed (3-for to 2-against) for lack of a majority.

After further discussion, Schuler moved to approve the proposal, amending the returning para increase to \$.50 from \$.75. Lange seconded and motion carried 5-0.

4. **Information/Discussion - Beginning of School Year Activities**

Judy reviewed the following upcoming staff development activities:

July 25th	Functional Skills Classroom Teachers' Meeting
August 2nd	Mandt Training
August 4th	New Staff Report
August 5th	School Psychologists' Meeting
August 8 & 10th	All Staff Report
August 9th	Training for Corrective Reading
August 11th	Paraeducator Staff Development

She outlined the various reasons for scheduling the inservices prior to the start of school and reviewed the stipends that would be paid to teachers in attendance. A meeting is being planned for the Early Childhood Department.

• **Regional Service Center**

1. **Information/Discussion - Health Ins. Information**

Judy reported we have not received information on health insurance proposals nor renewal rates.

2. **Information/Discussion - School Finance**

Judy reviewed the legislation recently passed which puts categorical aid at \$20,500 - up from the current \$18,770, as well as the discussion, which took place at the Supers' meeting. Supers had asked how the increase would affect district assessments and if the additional money would pass through the districts the same as before. A call to Veryl Peter confirmed that the money would pass through the districts, but until negotiations are finalized, Supers decided assessments should not be addressed.

3. **Information/Discussion - John Dewey Learning Academy**

Judy explained that at our recent Supers' Advisory Council meeting, it was recommended to have our Board re-address the issue of locating the JDLA in a more central location. This is important, as the Lecompton Bridge is scheduled to be closed for at least 4 months during the 2007 school year. Discussion was held on the cost of busing students, as well as earlier discussion: to locate JDLA more centrally, adding on to the current Administrative office, finding another building that could be used for the school, etc. It was the consensus to keep this on the agenda for August.

4. **Action - Increase Budget Authority in Fund #03 and Fund #13**

Susan explained that the state had provided additional funding for two programs in 04-05, which was never presented to the board for approval to increase budget authority. The first is for Fund #13 SIT in the amount of \$3,000 for Basic SIT Training for a new budget total of \$157,003. The other increase is for Fund #03 MIS in the amount of \$7,960 for training new MIS LEA personnel, for a new budget total of \$330,725. Ostrander moved to approve both increases as presented. Lange seconded and motion carried 5-0.

• **Executive Session**

At 7:55 p.m., Lange moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes until 8:10 p.m. to discuss negotiations and personnel. Schuler seconded and motion carried 5-0. Everyone left the meeting except the Board and Judy Denton.

At 8:10 p.m. Lange moved to continue in executive session for 15 minutes until 8:25 p.m. Darrah seconded and motion carried 5-0

At 8:25 p.m. Lange left the meeting and open session resumed. Ostrander moved to ratify the Negotiated Agreement as proposed. Schuler seconded and motion carried 4-0.

Ostrander then moved to offer Judy and Shelia a 6% salary increase plus \$50/mo. added to their benefit amount. Darrah seconded and motion carried 4-0.

• **Adjournment**

At 8:30 p.m., Darrah moved to adjourn the meeting. Schuler seconded and motion carried 4-0

Thomas Holroyd
President

Susan Aspinwall,
CPS Business Manager/Clerk