

USD 377 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR SESSION 7:30 PM  
APRIL 9, 2007  
CENTRAL OFFICE, EFFINGHAM

The Board of Education of Unified School District #377 met at 7:30 pm on April 9, 2007, at the Central Office, Effingham. Board members present: Steve Caplinger, Todd Gigstad, Cindy Ladd, Leonard Lange, Jeff Martin. Michael Postma, Mark Westermann absent.  
Administrators present: Steve Wiseman, Mark Preut, Tom Hinrichs, Tom Sack, Terry Slattery.

Visitors: Emily Randall, Globe; Ellie Folsom & Kathleen McKelvey, PAT Parent Educators; Anita Stutesman, Suzy Purdy, Esther & Terry Willis, Amy Pound, Jennifer Gigstad.

Caplinger called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

#### Agenda

Revisions were made to the Consent Agenda to add 8F) Sports Complex discussion, 8G) Bus Transportation Routing Software, and a revised Personnel report.

Gigstad moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Ladd. Motion passed 5-0.

(The consent agenda included approval of the minutes of the March regular meeting, the Treasurer's report dated 03/31/07, school activity fund statements, Bills & Claims in the amount of \$336,115.51, acceptance of Gifts, approval of volunteer Tammy Ricketts, approval of Parents As Teachers and Health Count reports)

Under correspondence a Thank You note was received from the ACCHS Lady Tiger Basketball team.

(Gifts were accepted as follows: \$36.59 from Target to the elementary schools and \$42.04 for the Middle School, \$100 from Caplingers, \$100 from John & Elaine Oakleaf, & \$5 from Henry & Rosemary Falk to Soundmasters. Books were accepted for libraries & classrooms from Susan Erickson, Nick Low and Bev Wagner. A Tony Stewart NASCAR mug was donated by Susan Erickson to ACCMS AR.)

#### Hearing of Audience:

None.

#### Commendations/Letters of Appreciation

Terry Slattery presented awards to Esther Willis as Support Staffer of the Year and to Suzy Purdy as Teacher of the Year.

Tom Hinrichs read letters of appreciation to Anita Stutesman, Debbie Forbes, & Pat Forge, outgoing Curriculum Council members.

#### Presentations:

Ellie Folsom and Kathleen McKelvey, NEKESC PAT Parent Educators, presented their annual report to the board. Folsom presented numbers and costs. The PAT program has served 70 children from 53 families so far this year. The cost to the district is \$13,100 or \$187 per child. At the present time there are three openings. McKelvey reviewed activities and playgroups. It is planned to have playgroups every other month next year instead of monthly.

#### Special Ed Report:

Gigstad reported the NEKESC board will be meeting at the Oskaloosa office starting this month. At their last meeting they adopted background checks for new hires. They are working on getting policies and procedures in place. The NEKESC board is discussing hiring Larry Mears for legal issues. Gigstad reviewed the audits of the NEKESC PE and Carl Perkins grants. Assessments for the participating schools

in the cooperative have not been determined for next year.

#### Leadership Reports:

The clerk reminded recently elected board members, including incumbents, they have to file an oath with the county election officer within 10 days following the date of the election or five days after issuance of the certificate of election, whichever is the later date. When asked if board members wanted Yearbooks ordered, it was the consensus not to order more than one file copy. Locations and dates of the KASB regional meetings & new board member workshops were presented.

Preut reported at their last Site Council meeting they discussed a proposal of disallowing ripped jeans in the dress code. Members were going to do some shopping and talk to other parents. This will be discussed again in April. Uniforms were also discussed but it was the opinion of members this is something that should be district wide. Preut stated math assessment tests are finished. He is looking at mandatory summer school for students not proficient in Math. Requirements for after school tutoring and making assessment scores a function of student grades was discussed.

Amy Eckert gave the results of the Regional Music Contest.

Sack related the Middle School Site Council voted not to allow students to wear jeans with holes for next year. Sack reported middle school state testing is nearly complete. The preliminary results have been very promising. Sack stated nearly fifty percent of 5<sup>th</sup> graders this year moved up at least one category over their 4<sup>th</sup> grade scores in reading.

Slattery reported Susan Erickson has received notice from the Reading is Fundamental Committee that the district did not qualify for next year. She stated it can be locally funded. Erickson is looking at ways to continue to fund the program.

Hinrichs presented a written report in the board packet.

Wiseman reviewed maintenance and facilities. The facilities committee has met with the architect and made recommendations. The architect will determine costs for the renovations. Wiseman reported the district is in the process of providing all enrollment forms for parents on the web. Wiseman discussed increasing one district credit card for check-out from the Central Office. Wiseman stated he is reviewing meal prices and enrollment fees for next year. Information on the proposed Leadership Academy for students was reviewed.

#### Old Business

##### 1) Consider Approval of Middle School Cell Phone Policy

A recommended change in the Middle School Cell Phone policy from Mr. Sack was presented in the board packet. Mr. Wiseman recommended approval as presented.

Motion by Gigstad, seconded by Lange, to approve the Middle School cell phone policy as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

##### 2) Consider Approval of 2007-2008 Middle School Yearbook Contract

Mr. Sack presented a copy of a contract in the board packet from Inter State Studio for individual student pictures and internet support for producing the middle school yearbook at a cost of \$9.00 per book.

Motion by Ladd to approve the middle school yearbook contract as presented. Motion seconded by Martin. Motion passed 5-0.

##### 3) Consider Approval of Recommendation to Accept the Bid to Replace High School Gymnasium Bleachers

Bids (Bid A) were received from Mid-States School Equipment \$88,443; Heartland Seating, Inc. \$96,432, and Carroll Seating Co. \$98,900. Mid-States also bid Alternate 4 at \$88,443. Alternate 4 is the same as Bid A except on the south side bleachers instead of four aisles to allow scorer's table to sit in the horizontal center of the first three rows, the south side bleachers would include at least nine feet of

recoverable style bleachers to allow scorer's table to sit on the floor. The earliest Mid-States can have the bleachers here is August 8 with a week to 10 days to install.

Motion by Martin that the board accept the low bid from Mid-States School Equipment for Alternate 4 at \$88,443 on the condition the completion day be no later than August 18. Motion seconded by Gigstad. Motion passed 4-1 (Lange opposed.)

4) 2007-2008 Equipment Requests Report

Wiseman presented lists of building level equipment requests for board review. Wiseman informed the board the items need to be prioritized and some items bid out. A recommendation will be presented in May for approval.

5) Consider Approval of Recommendation to Accept Bus Bids

Wiseman presented bus bids at the March meeting as follows for one 60 passenger bus with lift with trade in or sale of Bus 27: Allied Bus Sales Inc. \$73,438 less trade-in of \$3,250 for a cost of \$70,188; Midwest Bus Sales \$78,371 less trade-in of \$3,000 for a cost of \$75,371; Kansas Truck Equipment Co. Inc. \$78,292 less trade-in of \$1,900 for a cost of \$76,392. Bids were received for the purchase of Bus 27 from Kansas Bus Connections \$2,997.97 and Bob's Car Corner \$3,650. Wiseman recommended to accept the bid from Allied Bus Co. of \$73,438 and to sell the used bus to Bob's Car Corner for \$3,650.

Gigstad moved to accept the bus bid recommendation as presented. Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Consider Approval of Middle School Math Textbook Purchase Recommendation

Wiseman informed the board the Math Committee & Curriculum Council are recommending the purchase of 25 new 8<sup>th</sup> grade math books and 60 new 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra books for restructuring of the middle school math curriculum at a cost of \$5,479.65.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Ladd, to approve the Middle School math textbook recommendation as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

2) Consider Approval of 2007-2008 Enrollment Fees Recommendation

Wiseman asked this item be for discussion instead of action as he is still in the process of determining a flat fee recommendation per building. This will be an action item on the May agenda.

3) Consider Approval of Level 1 Technology Equipment Recommendation

Wiseman reviewed the list of Technology equipment recommended. The total purchase for Level 1 is estimated at \$50,556.15 with \$1,934 from At-Risk funds and \$5,210 for Food Service laptops. Wiseman said the cost should be less when bid.

Motion by Gigstad, seconded by Ladd, to approve the Level 1 Technology Equipment recommendation as presented. Motion passed 4-1 (Lange opposed.)

4) MAP Testing 2007-08 Cost Analysis and Recommendation

Wiseman explained Mr. Hinrichs is recommending the board consider adding science to the USD 377 MAP Testing program for the 2007-08 school year. The proposed cost is \$10,507.50 plus \$2,000 for training.

5) Consider Approval of Disposal of Property

Wiseman informed the board Greenbush has a program for recycling old computer equipment and recommended the district dispose of computer equipment no longer in use.

Motion by Gigstad, seconded by Ladd, to dispose of computer equipment no longer of use to the district. Motion passed 5-0.

6) Sports Complex Discussion

Caplinger reviewed the contract for Sports Complex Management and the Lease Agreement which will be received by the district for board approval.

7) Bus Transportation Routing Software.

Wiseman presented a proposal from Transfinder for bus routing software at a cost of \$4,995 which includes 16 hours of training.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Gigstad, to purchase the Bus Routing Software as recommended for a fee of \$4,995. Motion passed 4-1. (Lange Opposed.)

8) Executive Session – Personnel & Superintendent Evaluation

Motion by Caplinger at 9:27 pm to enter into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual/s to be discussed, and that the board return to open session in this room at 9:37 pm. Motion seconded by Martin. Motion passed 5-0. (Wiseman present 9:27-9:34 pm)

The board resumed in open session at 9:37 pm.

9) Consider Approval of Personnel Report

Motion by Caplinger, seconded by Lange, to approve the Personnel Report as revised. Motion passed 5-0.

(Personnel Report: Accepted resignations from Barbara Eastham and Lori Scoggins from their teaching positions the end of this school term; from Suzy Purdy and Gerry Wohlgemuth to retire the end of this school term. Approved extending contracts for 2007-08 to Kellie Donley as high school business instructor, E. Noelle Walters as high school science instructor, and Terry Porter to transfer to high school physical education. Approved supplemental contracts for Kelli Donley for HS Yearbook, Cheerleading & FBLA, Terry Porter for HS Head Football Coach & E. Noelle Walters for Forensics & Drama. April Crump was approved as a paraprofessional/classroom aide substitute, Mike Shannon as a custodial sub and Linda Buttron as a certified teacher substitute.)

10) Executive Session – Negotiations

Motion by Caplinger to enter into executive session at 9:40 pm to discuss negotiations in order to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract and that the board return to open session in this room at 9:50 pm. Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 5-0. (Wiseman, Dillon present.)

The board resumed in open session at 9:50 pm.

11) Select Place for May Meeting

Motion by Ladd, seconded by Gigstad, to hold the May meeting at the Central Office. Motion passed 5-0.

12) Consider Adjourning to Another Day and Time to Hold a Budget Work Session

Motion by Caplinger at 10:05 pm to adjourn this meeting to Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm in the Central Office. Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 5-0.

