

USD 377 BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION 7:30 PM
JUNE 11, 2007
CENTRAL OFFICE, EFFINGHAM

The Board of Education of Unified School District #377 met at 7:30 pm on June 11, 2007, at the Central Office, Effingham. Board members present: Steve Caplinger, Todd Gigstad (7:34 pm), Cindy Ladd, Leonard Lange, Jeff Martin, Michael Postma, Mark Westermann. Administrators present: Steve Wiseman, Tom Sack, Terry Slattery, Mark Preut. Visitors: Cherie Preut, Jennifer Gigstad

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

Agenda

Amendments were made to the agenda as follows: Old Business: Table 8b) Consideration of Insurance Bids and remove 8a) Staffing Recommendations for 2007-08, move Executive Session to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate to prior to New Business 9c. New Business: Add 8c) Summer Projects, 1) Recommendation to approve District Financial Advisor. A revised personnel report was presented and Ethanol Plant Data was added under the Superintendent's Report.

Westermann moved to approve the amended agenda and consent agenda. Motion seconded by Ladd. Motion passed 6-0. (Gigstad absent.)

(The consent agenda included approval of the May 14 regular and May 29 extended meeting minutes, the treasurer's report dated 5/31/07, activity fund reports and bills & claims in the amount of \$526,512.12.

Gifts were accepted as follows: donations to the Soundmasters from the Alumni Assn. of \$100 and Alumni donations of \$409; for Alan Reinke \$1,000 from Walmart as Teacher of the Year; for Jennifer Gigstad \$50 from the Kansas Council on Economic Education; from Country Mart to ACCHS \$192.65, to ACCMS \$434.79, to the Elementary Schools \$383.64. Books were donated to the libraries from Susan Erickson, Tammy Wagner, Medal of Honor Foundation, Capstone Books and a video by Nola Crooks.

The consent agenda included a report on money received for Highland Class instruction.)

Presentations:

Caplinger presented a plaque to Mark Westermann for his four years of outstanding service as a school board member.

Board Reports:

The clerk reported on insurance bidding, budget items, and informed the board the district would be changing the natural gas supplier from ONEOK to Constellation New Energy as they were the low bidder with a fixed rate through Southeast Kansas Educational Cooperative.

Special Ed Report:

Gigstad distributed a copy of the minutes of the May 16 meeting. NEKESC is taking applications for assistant director and business manager. Gigstad brought the board up-to-date with ongoing legal issues.

Leadership Reports

Wiseman told the board he had a call from John Hixon informing him the Sports Complex walkways would be asphalted at the Effingham Project, discussed the projected Special Education assessment for next year, that the \$5,000 to use the service center as a provider would be dropped. Wiseman related that all students and maps have been put in the Transfinder Bus Mapping program and that training will start the first of next week. Wiseman presented data on the Ethanol plant wanting to build in our district and discussed tax abatement on the project.

Old Business

1) Consider Approval of Insurance Bids

Wiseman informed the board all information will not be available until June 25.

Motion by Lange to table insurance bids to the next meeting. Motion seconded by Gigstad. Motion passed 7-0.

2) Consider Approval of Bids on Summer Projects

Bids were received as follows:

Tiger Stadium Fence Replacement: Atchison Fence \$13,640, ESCO \$17,118.

MS Wrestling Room Roof Repair: L & L Construction \$1,650, Kearney Construction \$1,780.

Refinish HS Tennis Courts: Riggs Recreation \$8,390, McConnell & Assoc. \$10,725.

HS Concrete at North Entrance: L & L Construction \$1,799, Kearney Construction \$2,800.

HS Tuck Point & Water Seal: Restoration & Waterproofing Contractors \$29,583.09.

Mr. Wiseman's recommendation was to approve Atchison Fence to replace fence at Tiger Stadium for \$13,640 and L & L Construction to repair the middle school wrestling gym roof for \$1,650.

Motion by Martin, seconded by Ladd, to approve the stadium fence replacement bid of \$13,640 from Atchison Fence and the MS wrestling room roof project of \$1,650 from L & L Construction. Motion passed 7-0.

3) Review of Feasibility Study Option to Construct New PreK-8 Building

Caplinger discussed a conference call with the architect. He informed the board the district needs to get information from the county clerk's office on the costs for different kinds of elections.

NEW BUSINESS

1) KASB Policy Recommendations Review

A packet of policies recommended by KASB was sent to board members for their review. Wiseman informed the board he would have a recommendation to present at the next meeting or the July meeting.

2) Consider Approval of a Resolution to Transfer the Cash Balance of the Extraordinary School Program to Special Education

Motion by Caplinger to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 377 of Atchison County, Kansas, deems it advisable to transfer \$21,981.38 from the Extraordinary School Program Fund to the Special Education Fund since the funds are no longer needed for the purpose intended.

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 377 of Atchison County, Kansas, has

determined that there are no plans to operate a non at-risk after school program for which the funds were originally designated.

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 377 of Atchison County, Kansas, has authority, pursuant to KSA 72-8238 to make this transfer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 377, ATCHISON COUNTY, KANSAS: That funds are no longer needed in the Extraordinary School Program Fund and it is advisable to transfer said funds to the Special Education Fund.

The clerk of the Board of Education is hereby directed to transfer said funds as stated.

Adopted this 11th day of June, 2007, by the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 377, Atchison County, Kansas.

Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 7-0.

3) Executive Session – Acquisition of Property

Motion by Caplinger at 8:05 pm to enter into executive session to have preliminary discussions about the possibility of acquisition of real property in order to protect the public interest in obtaining the property at a fair price and that the board return to open session in this room at 8:10 pm. Motion seconded by Westermann. Motion passed 7-0. (Wiseman present)

The board resumed in open session at 8:10 pm.

4) Consider Approval of Option to Purchase Land Recommendation

Motion by Westermann to authorize the board president to execute a contract with Ann Hanshaw for property at 911 Tiger Rd in Effingham for the sum of \$65,000. Motion seconded by Martin. Motion passed 6-1. (Lange Opposed.)

5) Senate Bill 68 Discussion on the Requirement to Adopt Policies Prohibiting Bullying on School Property.

Wiseman reviewed Senate Bill 68 which requires school districts to adopt policies prohibiting bullying on school property, in school vehicles, or at school sponsored activities. The bill also requires the school district to adopt and implement a strategic plan to address bullying to include provisions for training and education of staff and students.

6) Executive Session – Personnel

Motion by Caplinger at 8:15 pm to enter into executive session to discuss personnel 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 8:30 pm. Motion seconded by Postma. Motion passed 7-0. (Wiseman present.)

The board resumed in open session at 8:30 pm.

Motion by Caplinger at 8:33 pm to enter into executive session to discuss personnel 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 8:43 pm. Motion seconded by Postma. Motion passed 7-0. (Wiseman present 8:33-8:38 pm)

The board resumed in open session at 8:43 pm.

7) Approval of Personnel Report

Westermann moved to approve for 2007-08 elementary staff as presented in Option I. Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 7-0.

(Option 1: All open positions to be filled with high qualified teachers in an effort to continue providing equitable quality instruction to all students at each elementary center. This option will require that the district raise additional money in the supplemental general fund in order to adequately fund salary increases for both certified and classified employees from the general fund.)

Motion by Westermann to extend teaching contracts for 2007-08 for elementary new hires and transfers as recommended. Motion seconded by Ladd. Motion passed 7-0.

(New hires approved: Nancy Wecker, Cummings Elementary, Judith Tingley, Cummings Elementary, Cherie Preut, Effingham Elementary, Dr. Dennis Arnold, Elementary/Middle School Counselor. Transfers: Rita Eckert to Elementary Academic Coach, Kelli Bottorff to 2nd grade at Lancaster, Wanda Small to 2nd Grade at Effingham.)

Motion by Westermann to extend a contract for the high school position as recommended. Motion seconded by Ladd. Motion passed 6-0. (Gigstad declared a conflict of interest and left the room for the vote.)

(Contract approved: Barb Gigstad, HS Academic Coach and Language Arts teacher.)

Motion by Westermann to approve supplemental contracts for 2007-08 as presented. Motion seconded by Ladd. Motion passed 6-1. (Lange opposed.)

(Supplementals approved: John Flores – MS Asst. Wrestling, HS Head Wrestling; Elaine Stuck – Elem PDC Lancaster, District Chair; Amy Eckert – HS/MS Vocal, HS Instrumental, Senior Class sponsor; Jennifer Gigstad – Elem PDC Effingham; Jennifer Hansen – HS Junior Class; Duane Feldkamp – Summer Drivers Ed; Terry Porter – MS Head Boys Track; Tom Hinrichs – Curriculum/School Improvement 20 extended days; Megan Greenwood – HS Head Volleyball, HS Asst Girls BB, HS STUCO.)

8) Consider Approval of District Financial Advisor Recommendation

Wiseman presented two proposals from financial advisors for a bond issue, \$14,000 from PiperJaffray and from George K Baum, .30 of 1% up to five million or \$15,000 plus .15 of 1% above five million or \$21,000, a total of \$36,000. The proposals are payable on passing a bond issue.

Motion by Martin to approve PiperJaffray as district financial advisor. Motion seconded by Westermann. Motion passed 6-1. (Lange opposed.)

9) Executive Session – Superintendent's Evaluation

Motion by Caplinger at 8:50 pm to enter into executive session to discuss personnel 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 9:00 pm. Motion seconded by Lange. Motion passed 7-0. (Wiseman present)

The board resumed in open session at 9:00 pm

10) Select Place for July Meeting

Motion by Caplinger to hold the July meeting on the 9th at 7:30 pm in the Central Office. Motion seconded by Postma. Motion passed 7-0.

11) Select Time and Place for End of the Year Closeout Special Session

Motion by Ladd to adjourn this meeting to Monday, June 25 at 7:30 pm in the Central Office. Motion seconded by Westermann. Motion passed 7-0.

Ruth Dillon, Board Clerk