



Unified School District 232

De Soto – Shawnee – Lenexa – Olathe
www.usd232.org

USD 232 BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICIAL MINUTES -- REGULAR MEETING

Administrative Office (35200 West 91st Street, De Soto, KS)

July 12, 2021

YouTube channel: <https://bitly.com/usd232youtube>

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Board President, Danielle Heikes. A quorum of the Board was present. Attendance was as follows:

Board Members Present: Rick Amos (*participated via Zoom*)
Bill Fletcher
John Gagnat
Danielle Heikes
Stephanie Makalous
Ashley Spaulding
Rachele Zade

Others Present: Jolyn Baldner, Director of Student Nutrition
Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administration & Communications
Steve Deghand, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities & Operations
Wendy Denham, Board Clerk/Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Carrie Handy, Executive Director of Elementary Education
Dr. Frank Harwood, Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Hite, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction/Accreditation
Sam Ruff, Principal, De Soto High School
Brian Schwanz, Executive Director of Secondary Education
Julie Stucky, Director of Finance

Alvie Cater led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He then briefly explained how the meeting will progress from one agenda item to the next.

President Heikes asked for nominations to the position of Board President.

Rachele Zade nominated Danielle Heikes for President.

With no other nominations made, President Heikes ceased nominations and asked for a motion.

Mrs. Rachele Zade moved to appoint Danielle Heikes to serve as President of the USD 232 Board of Education during the 2021-22 school year, or until a successor is elected by the Board.

Mr. Bill Fletcher seconded.

Carried 7/0.

President Heikes asked for nominations to the position of Board Vice President.

Rick Amos nominated Ashley Spaulding for Vice President.

With no other nominations made, President Heikes ceased nominations and asked for a motion.

Mr. Rick Amos moved to appoint Ashley Spaulding to serve as Vice President of the USD 232 Board of Education for the 2021-22 school year, or until a successor is elected by the Board.

Mrs. Rachele Zade seconded.

Carried 7/0.

PATRON INPUT. President Heikes opened the floor for patron input. The following individuals spoke:

Matthew Gianforte, Shawnee, spoke to the Board about giving parents the right to decide if their students should wear masks. He suggested students should stay home if they are sick.

Abby Reichle, Lenexa, urged the board to vote no on a proposal to exclude children based on vaccination status. She asked the board to allow parents to make decisions for their own children.

Marti Huffman, Shawnee, spoke about drugs taken off the market because they were trending toward reactions resulting in death. She also talked about struggles students have with separation caused by those who wear masks and those who don't. She asked that the verbiage in the Communicable Disease Protocols be changed to make masks optional and track only state required vaccines.

Sarah Carmichael, Shawnee, spoke to the board about Critical Race Theory. She asked the school board to take back decision making given to administration and asked that they tell the Superintendent to not allow Critical Race Theory curriculum in the schools.

Emily Carpenter, Lenexa, reminded the Board that patrons elected them and they hire the superintendent, they do not report to the Superintendent, he reports to them. She said board members are to set policy to guide the district. She said the protocol the Board is asked to approve this evening needs to be re-worded. She suggested the board has ruined the mental health of children.

Crystal Duke, De Soto, said children are like diamonds with multiple facets. She said she is a mental health worker and is concerned for kids. She said she is running for school board to help both sides work together. She said she is seeing kids who are having mental health issues because of what has happened over the course of the last year.

Theresa Finan, Shawnee, said she has spoken to the board at least four times and feels like she isn't being heard. She asked the board to listen to parents and leave healthcare up to them.

President Heikes asked if there were any changes to the Agenda or Consent Agenda. Bill Fletcher asked to remove check number 55412 and 55686 from Consent Agenda item "C. Approve payment of bills and transfer of funds" for approval separately.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to adopt the Agenda and approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Minutes of the June 7th regular meeting.
2. Payment of bills and issuance of checks numbered 55391 – 55411, 55413 – 55442, 55447 – 55532, 55550 – 55647, 55655 – 55685 and 55687 - 55716.
3. Transfer of funds as follows:
 - a. \$1,822,820.38 from General (Fund 06) to Special Education (Fund 30)
 - b. \$1,360,782.25 from LOB (Fund 08) to Special Education (Fund 30)
 - c. \$18,400.77 from LOB (Fund 08) to State Preschool (Fund 11)
 - d. \$670,232.16 from LOB (Fund 08) to At-Risk K-12 (Fund 13)
 - e. \$121,774.79 from LOB (Fund 08) to Bi-Lingual (Fund 14)
 - f. \$35,604.36 from LOB (Fund 08) to Professional Development (Fund 26)
 - g. \$24,358.25 from LOB (Fund 08) to Parents as Teacher (Fund 28)
 - h. \$595,862.98 from LOB (Fund 08) to Vocational Education (Fund 34)
 - i. \$1,000,000.00 from LOB (Fund 08) to Textbook (Fund 55)

4. Personnel recommendations as follows:

Resignations – Classified

Kimberly Harris, Secretary, MVHS

Ashley Hendrickson, Nurse, CTEC

Terrale Johnson, Center Based Paraprofessional, MVHS

Melissa Neumann, Lead Custodian, MVHS

Angela Rose, Paraprofessional, RE

David Yantzi, Evening Custodian, PRE

Employment – Classified

Dianne Brown, Nurse, The Bridge

Courtney Bova, Early Childhood Lead Teacher, CTEC

Mari Byrne, Paraprofessional, RE

Stephanie Chavez, Student Nutrition Assistant, MCMS

Matthew Cooper, Evening Custodian, MVHS

Consuelo Gilbertie, Student Nutrition Assistant, MVHS

Laura Klingler, Custodian, CTEC
Brittney Land, Rule 10 Assistant Volleyball Coach, MVHS
Bryan Marsch, Substitute Custodian, Districtwide
Heather Meireis, Center Based Paraprofessional, ME
Rachel Morgan, Center Based Paraprofessional, The Bridge
Carlos Olivas, Rule 10 Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, MVHS
Emilee Reno, Paraprofessional, RE
Taylor Roberts, Center Based Paraprofessional, The Bridge
Nicole Russel, Lunchroom Aide, CCE
Xavier Sagal, Center Based Paraprofessional, The Bridge
Lisa Stewart, Center Based Paraprofessional, MVHS
Rebecca Sullivan, Early Childhood Lead Teacher, CTEC
Trisha Terada, Math Aide, RE
Natalie Tucker, Reading Aide, PRE

Resignation – Certified *(At the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.)*

Elizabeth Knowles, Behavior Specialist, Districtwide

Employment – Certified *(Effective for the 2021-22 school year.)*

Diana Auckly, 3rd Grade Teacher, HE
Marissa Bundy, Kindergarten Teacher, CCE
Brittany Nielsen, 7th Grade Science Teacher, MTMS
Tina Rainbolt, Resource Teacher, BE

5. Adoption of a Resolution for the State of Kansas Municipal Investment Pool.
6. 2021-2022 District Goals
7. Revisions to Board Policies IDCE – College Classes, IIBGB – Online Learning Opportunities and IIA – Performance Based Credits.
8. 2021-22 Lease Agreement between USD 232 and the Johnson County Park & Recreation District (JCPRD) for before and after school childcare.
9. Updated Student MacBook Handbook.
10. Declared one (1) Alto Sham Combination Oven, Model #7.14 MLG surplus.
11. Purchase of two (2) stackable Combination Ovens from Douglas Food Stores in the amount of \$31,663.27.
12. Purchase of one (1) Trotec Laser Cutter for the Cedar Trails Exploration Center CAPS program from Trotec Laser in the amount of \$23,340.00.
13. Purchase of one (1) Laguna CNC 4x8 Router for the Cedar Trails Exploration Center CAPS program from Laguna Tools in the amount of \$38,700.36.
14. Acceptance of a donation from Interstate Studios in the amount of \$1,432.07 to Prairie Ridge Elementary School.

15. The following extended day trip:

- Mill Valley High School Student Council, 12th Grade, meet with Student Council Region 6 advisors and student representatives to begin planning the Student Council Vision Conference to be hosted by Mill Valley in June 2022, Bentonville, AR, July 30, 2021 – August 1, 2021.

Bill Fletcher declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous moved to approve payment to Kansas Land Management, LLC in the amount of \$14,269.80 with check number 55412 and \$10,702.35 with check number 55686.

Mr. John Gagnat seconded.

Carried 6/0.

Bill Fletcher returned to the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS.

2021-2022 Organizational Items. Board members received a draft copy of 2021-2022 Organizational Items in the June board packet. Superintendent Harwood asked that it be approved with the only change being assigning Ashley Spaulding to the Board & Administration Committee instead of Rachele Zade as she is the newly elected Vice President of the Board.

Mrs. Rachele Zade moved to approve the Board of Education 2021-22 Organizational Items as discussed.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes seconded.

Carried 7/0.

A copy of the 2021-2022 Organizational Packet is attached to these minutes.

Communicable Disease Mitigation Protocols. Superintendent Harwood noted that since Senate Bill 40 has expired the district is now back under direction of the County Health Department. He presented the Board with the proposed Communicable Disease Mitigation Protocols and noted that the Exclusions section and guidelines are being developed and will be presented to the Board in August. Board members were asked for feedback.

President Heikes asked who sets the requirement to exclude children based on being infected with a communicable disease. Superintendent Harwood said this is set by state statute. He said the protocols are useful for all communicable diseases, not just COVID-19.

Bill Fletcher expressed concern with the wording “strongly recommended” with regard to mask use. Superintendent Harwood said that this language is in line with the resolution approved by the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners.

President Heikes asked Superintendent Harwood to change the language to say that masks are optional unless mandated by a health authority. She said the health guidance received from health officials during the pandemic has been confusing and at this point in time there is no county or state mandate in place. She pointed out that masks have never been talked about before in relation to other communicable diseases.

Ashley Spaulding said she was in agreement with stating masks are optional.

Superintendent Harwood said the language could be changed to say barrier face masks are optional inside USD 232 buildings.

Rick Amos said he strongly likes the word "optional" with regard to mask use.

In response to a question from Ashley Spaulding, Superintendent Harwood said under current guidelines if somebody was vaccinated for COVID-19 they would not be excluded if exposed. He also said that he assumes testing will be part of the guidelines. He pointed out that the COVID-19 vaccine is not required and no one will be excluded from school if they do not have the vaccine. Mrs. Spaulding asked if language pertaining to this could be added to the Exclusion section of the protocols. Superintendent Harwood said language could be added in the Vaccination section and the board can talk about it again when they review the Exclusion section next month.

Superintendent Harwood read the changes to be made to the protocols:

- Under Masks – Change to: Barrier face masks are optional inside USD 232 buildings.
- Under Vaccination – Add: Individuals will not be excluded from school based solely on COVID-19 vaccination status.

Superintendent Harwood reviewed the Communicable Disease Mitigation Guidelines with the board. This defines steps taken to mitigate spread of disease in the buildings. There are three measures (Low - green, Elevated - yellow and High - orange) with steps varying based on the spread of COVID-19 in district buildings and the community.

Bill Fletcher suggested the yellow category (Elevated) be dropped and the district just work with the green (Low) and orange (High) categories.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding moved to approve recommended Communicable Disease Mitigation Protocols as discussed.

In response to a question from Bill Fletcher, Superintendent Harwood said that Exclusions and the Guidelines will be discussed in August.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous seconded.

Carried 7/0.

Recommended Calendar for the 2022-23 School Year. Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administration & Communications, presented the board with the calendar for the 2022-23 school year and said emergency snow days have been included.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to approve the recommended calendar for the 2022-23 school year.

Mrs. Rachele Zade seconded.

Carried 7/0.

Bond Project Changes (Batting Cages/Concrete Work/Sound Upgrade). Steve Deghand, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities & Operations, explained that back in November one of the bond projects presented were hitting tunnels, but the feeling was that they were too expensive so they were re-assessed. He said the majority of savings on this project came from removing the roofs and reducing the length of each tunnel. Those changes reduced the overall cost by over \$360,000.00. Drawings were shared showing where the hitting tunnels would be placed at each high school.

Mr. Deghand said another recommendation is for additional concrete work at the De Soto High school baseball/softball fields. He said this would eliminate a few patches of hard to maintain grass as well as make the space more usable for patrons to view ballgames.

Mr. Deghand also said the upgraded sound system recommended at De Soto High School was being removed from consideration due to discovery that costs would be significantly higher than initially anticipated.

Mrs. Stephanie Makalous moved to approve installation of eight (8) hitting tunnels (four at each high school) and additional concrete work at the De Soto High School baseball/softball fields totaling \$531,891.00.

Mr. John Gaignat seconded.

Carried 7/0.

Javelin Runway Agreement. Steve Deghand explained that a piece of the construction project at Mill Valley High School is to relocate the javelin runway to make room for construction of the softball field and for other throwing events. He said there is not as much land to work with at Mill Valley and the javelin runway takes up quite a bit of space with participants needing a runway that is 120 feet and a throwing sector that is 204 feet in length so the only place for the runway is in the southwest corner of the campus. He noted that this area has a floodplain that does not allow for the district to change elevations anywhere, but it was determined that if the runway started 20 – 30 feet on property owned by the City of Shawnee everything could work. Mr. Deghand presented the Board with an agreement with the City of Shawnee for use of this piece of land and showed a map showing how the proposed runway crosses onto city property. Superintendent Harwood explained that there is no money or property changing hands. The agreement is an acknowledgement that the district will use the property

and be responsible for any injury on it, as well as return it to its current state if the runway were to be abandoned.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to approve a Recreational Activity and Community Use Agreement/Property Use Agreement between the City of Shawnee and Unified School District No. 232.

Mrs. Ashley Spaulding seconded.

Carried 7/0.

Mr. Deghand also gave the board an update on bond projects at the Cedar Trails Exploration Center, De Soto High School, Mill Valley High School, Starside Elementary cafeteria expansion, and The Bridge remodel, explaining delays caused by supply chain issues (furniture delivery, epoxy flooring material and metal lockers) and weather.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Changes to Budgeting Procedures. Superintendent Harwood reminded the Board that due to Senate Bill 13 the timing in budget approval is being revised. He explained that the legislature came up with a Revenue-Neutral Rate which is a tax rate for the current tax year that would generate the same amount of property tax revenue as levied the previous tax year, using the current year's assessed valuation. Senate Bill 13 establishes notice and public hearing requirements if seeking to collect property taxes in excess of the revenue-neutral rate. Superintendent Harwood said that next year every land owner will receive a statement in the mail in early August that shows every property tax levying agency, the amount of money they levy and the mill rate. He said governing bodies are required to publish notice of the intent to exceed the revenue-neutral rate listing date, time and location of a public hearing. Julie Stucky, Director of Finance, said the biggest change the Board will see if that the budget approval is being moved from August to September. She explained that while the district's mill rate will remain steady, it will raise more money next year because of the valuation increase. She presented the Board with the new budget timeline and a mill rate and tax comparison between 2021 and 2022.

Alvie Cater, Assistant Superintendent of Administration & Community Relations, presented the Board with a policy change needed in Section DC – Annual Operating Budget to accommodate new budgeting rules.

ESSER Funding. Superintendent Harwood said ESSER stands for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund. He explained ESSER I, ESSER II and ESSER III. All federal grants that are mostly tied to the Title 1 formula. Each section has a different timeframe of funding. He reviewed fund allocations and expenditures to date in ESSER I, fund allocations and planned expenditures for ESSER II

and estimated fund totals for ESSER III. He explained that regulations for ESSER III are still being finalized and specific plans for these funds will be developed over the coming months.

President Heikes declared a seven minute break at 7:58 p.m.

The Board returned to open session and President Heikes called the meeting back to order at 8:06 p.m.

FYI REPORT. The following informational report was included in the packet for this board meeting: 1. Unencumbered Cash Balances.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Negotiations.

Mrs. Danielle Heikes moved to go into executive session at 8:06 p.m. for a period of twenty minutes with Frank Harwood, Alvie Cater, Brian Schwanz and Carrie Handy to discuss Negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and return to open session at 8:26 p.m. at this location.

Mrs. Rachele Zade seconded.

Carried 7/0.

The Board returned to open session and President Heikes called the meeting back to order at 8:26 p.m.

President Heikes adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

8/2/2021
Date Approved

Wendy S. Senkema
Clerk, Board of Education

Danielle Heikes
President, Board of Education