

FORT LARNED UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 495
BOARD OF EDUCATION
LARNED, KANSAS 67550
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2015
6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. CALL TO ORDER

Sharon Lessard, President, called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

June Barger, Jay Haremza, Sharon Lessard, Leroy Lyon, Kimi Bowman, Jenny Manry, Sharon Lessard, Jon Flint, Superintendent, Phil Martin, Attorney, Tiffany Burris, Clerk.

Absent:

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jay Haremza moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June Barger moved to approve the minutes of November 9, 2015 Regular Board meeting as presented.

David Sanger second.

Yes 7 No 0

5. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Leroy Lyon moved to approve the bills as presented.

David Sanger second.

Yes 7 No 0

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jean Simmons, Finance Director, handed the encumbrance report and securities to the board members. The encumbrances report covered the months of July through November. Jena explained that our accounting system, APTA, is still experiencing difficulties balancing the cash summaries. The expenditures and beginning balances are correct. The middle columns have some errors. APTA is working to solve the software problem.

7. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

None at this time.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Negotiations

Sharon Lessard moved at 6:35 p.m. that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations in order to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract. The Board will return to the open session in this room at 6:45 p.m. Included in the Executive Session are all present Board members; Jon Flint, Superintendent; Phil Martin, Attorney; and Principals Troy Langdon and Lea Harding.

Jay Haremza second.

Yes 7 No 0

The open meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Non-elected Personnel

Sharon Lessard moved at 6:46 p.m. that the Board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed and that the Board will return to the open session in this room at 6:55 p.m. Included in the executive session are all present Board members, Jon Flint, Superintendent, Phil Martin, Attorney.

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

The open meeting was called to order at 6:56 p.m.

10. NOMINATIONS

Jay Haremza moved to approve the following nomination(s) for the 2015-2016 school year.

Kimberly Kile	Teacher/LMS
Ginger Floyd	Para/TRI/Kinsley

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

11. SEPARATIONS

Jay Haremza moved to approve the following separation(s) for the 2015-2016 School year.

April Roach	Para/ WS
Chelsea Schmitt	Para/TRI/Kinsley
Rebekah Thomas	Para/TRI/LMS
Kelsey Kort	Teacher/LMS
Kathryn Shull	At Risk Aide/LMS

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

12. TRANSFERS

Jay Haremza moved to approve the following transfer(s) for the 2015-2016 school year.

Tim Coles	Head Wrestling/LMS from Asst. Wrestling/LMS
KyMBERlee Womack Lynne Longey	Para/TRI/EC from Para/TRI/NS Para/TRI/NS from Para/TRI/EC

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

13. ACCOUNT NAME CHANGE

June Barger moved to change the name of the account Lab Fees to Shop Fees.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

14. REPORTS

a) Principals

Troy Langdon (LHS)

The Keady Classic basketball tournament was held last week at Larned High School. Troy stated that one of the officials had recognized Larned High

School for holding an outstanding tournament and exhibiting great sportsmanship. He sent a note to KSHSAA outlining the positive recognition. Gage Skelton, a student at Larned High School, was also recognized by the official for his dedication. Troy shared that the Larned High School student section is ranked #7 currently on the Catch it Kansas website.

Finals week is coming. Tests will be held throughout the week and the morning of Friday the 18th, freshman and sophomore students will be taking the AIMS Web tests. Jay Haremza, Board member, asked Troy what his thoughts were on the recent decision of the Derby school board to administer the ACT to all of its junior class. Troy felt that it was advantageous and would provide good data for the district, along with allowing each student to take the test. Jon Flint, Superintendent, stated that one positive aspect of administering the ACT instead of another assessment test, is that there is reward tied to the ACT for the student. June Barger, Board member, asked if the state was still allowing waivers to standardized testing for districts. Jon stated that the state is no longer giving waivers.

David Sanger, Board member, asked how Brandon Bartz was doing on his fund raising campaign to purchase a bronze statue to be placed at the high school football field in memory of his father. Troy shared that he had raised all the money and that the statue had been ordered. Brandon will be in contact with the board at a later date to discuss placement of the statue.

Troy introduced Nash Norris, the vocational teacher at Larned High School. This is his first year teaching at Larned High School. He handed out a power point outline to board members. It showed them the short term and long term goals for the programs, along with the needs and wants of the programs. Welding, Drafting and AutoCAD, and Furniture and Cabinetry Making. Jay Haremza, Board member, asked Mr. Norris which programs have the most girls enrolled. Mr. Norris stated that Welding has 3 females and they enjoy it as much or more than the boys. Drafting also has 4 female students. Jenny Manry, Board member, asked Mr. Norris for a price and priority list by the next meeting. Jon Flint, Superintendent, asked that any safety issues be brought to the board so they could get addressed. June Barger stated that she was excited that Nash had a vision for the program.

Dick Bixler(WS)

Graduation will be held at Westside School on Friday, Dec. 18. Dick stated that eight students will receive diplomas, two will receive GED's, and 8 will receive a manufacture skill certificate. The President of Pratt Community College will speak at the ceremony. STUCO and parents are being allowed to attend the graduation ceremony and the STUCO choir will be singing carols

Lea Harding(Elementary)

Lea Harding stated that things had been moving along at the elementary schools. Jon Flint asked if the elementary schools had seen an influx of students due to the pipeline project that is currently in the area. Lea shared that they had seen new students and they will more than likely be here until March. She said that is taxing on the new students and staff to get placement and testing done on them. Many of them are ESL students.

Shane Sundahl (LMS)

Things are going well at the Larned Middle School. Final tests will be taken in classes over the next couple days. The students will be attending a movie downtown at the theatre on Thursday to celebrate the holiday. Upon the student's arrival back after break, state assessments and AIMS Web testing will begin.

b) Directors

Kris Schneider, Technology

Kris has begun researching phone system upgrades for the district. His hope is to possibly go from an analog system to a digital system. He has also begun looking at school management programs. The district's current system, Powerschool, has experienced several problems lately and when that system is down this causes problems throughout the district. He has begun attending webinars on different systems and begun research to see what else is available. He has also been busy preparing for the new building by researching different smart interactive boards. A company will be coming to town on January 18 to allow teachers the opportunity to see the product first hand. The program Paper Cut seems to be working. Kris is still in the process of gathering data to see how much money and paper is being saved. Sharon Lessard, Board President, asked Kris if there were any technology risks or needs that need to be addressed. Kris stated that he would like to update the elementary teacher's laptops. Many of the hard drives on these machines are crashing. He hopes to get into a cycle of replacing equipment. Jenny Manry, Board member, stated that it would be nice to have that in place. Kris shared that he is also looking at the lease vs. buying option for copiers throughout the district to see which is the best option for the district.

Patty Holaday, Special Education Cooperative

Tri County Special Education is in the process of getting all of their para professionals highly qualified for the school wide Title program that is being put in place in the district. The company Master Teacher is offering half price testing programs to the cooperative if it is purchased soon.

Doris Schaller, Tri County psychologist, and Patty attended the Special Education Law Conference recently. Transition is an area that needs worked on and Transition IEP's. They have both uploaded many things to WebKidz. Patty shared that the coop is doing many of these things already. They just need to make sure documentation is being done.

The department is currently short on para professionals. Patty stated that it is becoming hard to find qualified applicants for these positions and many do not want to travel to outer districts.

As of Dec. 1, Tri County Special Education was servicing 311 special education students. Patty stated that she felt this was quite a large number for a small area.

c) Jon Flint, Superintendent

Jon stated that the quality of teachers and the things our district is accomplishing makes him proud. He shared that the district has submitted a bid for the Westside contract for the 2016-17 school year. He stated that he had received acknowledgement of them receiving it, but had heard no other feedback. USD #495 has been selected to participate in a civil rights audit. Our selection was based on our CTE numbers that had been submitted to the state. The district has been in contact with our CTE consultant questioning what steps the district needs to get done.

Jon is receiving daily emails from the architects and final drawings from all engineers are due by Jan. 15. The district was hoping to have bids back before Christmas but due to some adjustments being made to the plan, this has been delayed. There had been some misunderstanding between the city and district as far as curb and guttering, and a few other things. The district has also been working with the city for annexation. We are in the process of getting the application. Currently, the time line has bids coming back in by Feb. 19th. The

anonymous donor will bring something to the board for the meeting in January. We have received a partial payment and the rest will be received by June of 2016. Phil Martin, Board Attorney, has worked closely with the individual and Jon thanked him for being such a great asset in this process.

d) Board Discussion

None at this time.

15. ADJOURN

Leroy Lyon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

June Barger second.

Yes 7 No 0

Board President

Board Clerk