

FORT LARNED UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 495
BOARD OF EDUCATION
LARNED, KANSAS 67550
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016
6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. CALL TO ORDER

Sharon Lessard, President, called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Absent:

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

David Sanger moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June Barger moved to approve the minutes of January 11, 2016 Regular Board meeting minutes and January 15, 2016 Special Board meeting as presented.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

5. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Jenny Manry moved to approve the bills as presented.

Jay Haremza second.

Yes 7 No 0

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jean Simmons, Finance Director, and Mark Bauer got the year rolled over. Jean shared with the board that the district is fortunate to have Mark to work with. The district did receive tax revenue from both Pawnee and Barton counties. To address Dr. Sanger's Larned Recreation Commission question, Jean stated that the Recreation Commission had requested their money from the school district in one lump sum this year, thus resulting in the large amount noted on the check register. Kinsley and Pawnee Heights School Districts had both sent in their tuition money for the Tri County Cooperative and that some Medicaid billing come in also. Leroy Lyon, Board member, asked Jean if the gift that was approved at last month's board meeting was included in the Gifts and Grants. Mark Bauer stated that it was included in there. Leroy also questioned what the contingency fund is used for. Jon stated it is the district's savings account. There is enough money in the account to cover payroll in case the state doesn't make payment one month for whatever reason.

7. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

None at this time.

8. LARNED HIGH SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

Lisa Schartz presented on behalf of the LHS Site Council. The group has met in September, October, and January of this school year. Lisa shared that the group had covered a lot of ground in those three meetings. Attendance averages 7-8 people each meeting. A recent topic that was covered was students changing from AMES Web to ACT Aspire. The hope is to allow more students to prepare for the ACT. Lisa stated that Mr. Langdon keeps the group up to date on state testing. The construction process has also been discussed and how students will be affected during the process. The group discussed reintroducing Pathways and implementing an Auto Restoration class. The group has also discussed the fact that students have to pay to attend activities as spectators. They are trying to come up with a plan to help those students who may want to attend events, but

may not have the funds. The group is worried students and families are being excluded from things due to their inability to pay an entrance fee. Lisa reiterated that although the group had only met three times, they had good feedback and information passed among them.

9. AGLER & GAEDDERT AUDIT

The independent audit that the district is required to have was done in November this year. Jon stated that it had been a very clean audit. There were no concerns and there were no deficiencies or weaknesses listed. Jon shared that the complete audit notebook and findings will be available to board members at the next meeting.

Leroy Lyon moved to accept the audit report from Agler & Gaeddert as presented.

David Sanger second.

Yes 7 No 0

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Non-elected Personnel

Sharon Lessard moved at 6:55 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 7:25 p.m. Included in the executive session are all present Board members, Jon Flint, Superintendent, Phil Martin, Attorney.

Jay Haremza second.

Yes 7 No 0

Jon left the executive session at 7:10 p.m.

The open meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m.

11. NOMINATIONS

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

Tessa Jacobs	Teacher/NS
Tad Remy	Asst. Track/LHS
Kristen Pontius	Para/TRI/HS

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

12. SEPARATIONS

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

LeAn Lemuz	Para/TRI/ALC
Ronda Hales	Head Cook/LHS

For the 2016-2017 School Year

Penny Lawson	Psychologist/WS
Doug Anderson	Teacher/NS
Sarah Connelly	Teacher/PH
Kimberly Kile	Teacher/LMS

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

13. TRANSFERS

Jay Haremza moved to accept the following transfers for the 2015-2016 school year.

Paige Bauer

Para/TRI/NS from
Para/TRI/HS

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Negotiations

Sharon Lessard moved at 7:27 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 7:40 p.m. Included in the executive session are all present Board members, Jon Flint, Superintendent, Phil Martin, Attorney, Lea Harding, and Troy Langdon.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

The open meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

15. SKYWARD PRESENTATION

Skyward is a student information management system. Currently, the district uses PowerSchool. PowerSchool recently changed ownership and its reliability has been scattered this year. Kris Schneider and Gwen Lehman have begun looking at other options. Skyward is compatible with standards of state of Kansas. The price of Skyward is a bit more, but both Kris and Gwen feel the options the programs have is worth the slight price difference. The system can be handled on the district's server and PowerSchool data will be migrated into the new system. It would be a smooth transition. Lea Harding, Elementary principal, stated that PowerSchool is time consuming and not very user friendly. She liked that Skyward had a dashboard where all information is accessible from. Both Kaitlyn Hatfield and Marcy Wagner, classroom teachers, spoke about the benefits and

ease of using Skyward in the classroom. They both stated that the ease and flexibility of the system was a plus. Cindi Smith, USD #495 nurse, shared that she uses PowerSchool extensively everyday to document office visits. Immunizations and screening results are also stored on PowerSchool. She stated that custom screens and reports had to be implemented in PowerSchool to serve her needs, where Skyward has the components already in place. There would not be as much importing and exporting of information. Sharon Lessard, Board President, asked if other districts had been contacted that are already using the system. Troy Langdon, LHS principal, stated that he had questioned league schools that are using it if they liked it. The consensus was yes. David Sanger asked if the schools that were using Skyward currently had PowerSchool previously. They had been using other systems. Two of them had been using PowerSchool though. Jon Flint stated that he felt Skyward would be an enhancement of what we have currently with PowerSchool. Leroy Lyon, Board member, asked if the teacher training available would eliminate other workshops and travel. Jon stated that the teacher training available is only for learning to operate the Skyward system. Jon said he felt as though Kris Schneider and Gwen Lehman had done their due diligence and had researched the Skyward system extensively. Jay Haremza, Board Vice President, asked which account the purchase would come from. Jon stated it would come of the general fund. Jon did point out as if with any new program, there will be some bugs and learning curves, but he felt as though the purchase would benefit the entire district.

June Barger moved to approve the purchase of Skyward Student Information System for the 2016-2017 School Year.

David Sanger second.

Yes 7 No 0

16. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT

Bill and Janet Fleske received the gift from the Monsanto Fund. Their wish was to have it used in the Vocational Education Department at Larned High School.

Jay Haremza moved to accept the gift of \$2500 from the Monsanto Fund with funds to be used for Vocational Education.

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

17. REPORTS
a) Directors

Kris Schneider (Technology)
Absent

Patty Holaday (Tri County)

Tri County Director, Patty Holaday, stated that the paraprofessionals employed by the district had begun testing to become highly qualified to be in compliance with the School Wide Title program. Presently, Tri County Cooperative is servicing 313 IEPs and 16 students that are being evaluated. The Maintenance of Effort Report has been submitted for this year. Patty shared that a committee has been formed to help design the Sensory Room in the new elementary building. An organization that Richard Fairchild is involved could possibly help with funding. They have funded private schools; our district would be the first public school they would be involved with. The group has just begun meeting and she will update at a later date.

b) Principals

Dick Bixler (WS)

Dick Bixler informed the board that things are going well at Westside. The staff would have CTE Training soon and Carol Panzer will be out to visit again. Mr. Hulse will be helping with a STUCO fundraiser. The members will be selling tacos for the students and staff to buy. Vocational students have been busy making toys to send to pediatric cancer patients and students are also sending Valentine's Day cards to senior citizen centers in the area. Culinary classes will be making drinks and cookies for the upcoming Parent Teacher conferences. The facility is expecting close to 12 parents that day. Jon Flint, Superintendent, asked about the moisture and mold problem the school office had been experiencing and whether any mold testing had been

done yet. Dick stated that the mold testing had been done and the results had been negative.

Troy Langdon (LHS)

Troy thanked the board for granting the Monsanto donation to the vocational department. He stated that Mr. Norris was excited and had some ideas on what he would buy for the classes. On Friday, the high school will be participating in a Department of Civil Rights audit. The audit will only pertain to the CTE classes. This is the first time that Mr. Langdon has been part of this audit. He shared that two other schools in the league were being audited also. Driver's Education will be held this summer. Dr. Sanger asked if classes were filled to capacity each summer. Troy stated that they are completely full each year. He shared that KSDE will help the district find an instructor. The two instructors from the previous years will not be returning this summer. Troy also said he had been looking to possibly add another science class to the course offerings for next year, and would bring more information to the board outlining it at a later date.

Lea Harding (HS, PH, NS)

Lea shared that Math and Reading Night had been a success. Jenny Colglazier and Sandy Lucas both had activities this year also. The students and families seemed to enjoy it and the staff handed out over 300 books. A concern Lea has had is the inundation of Do Hard Things projects that are being brought to the elementary schools. She stated that she has had to turn some students away because the amount of projects they are being asked to participate in is interfering with instructional time. State assessments will begin after Spring Break. Lea shared that she had recently read that results would not be available until next year, which is a change from what was previously stated by the state. The JumpStart preschool grant is up for renewal. The format to renew has changed. It is now a Survey Monkey and they are having trouble getting the link to work. Lea shared that Lisa Spain, JumpStart teacher, has testing and mandates that now go along with the renewal and program. Lea stated that this testing usually takes up to 3 days and requires a substitute. Lea commended Lisa for doing a great job with all that is asked of her from the state.

Shane Sundahl (LMS)

State assessments will begin next week at the Larned Middle School. 5th and 8th grade will be tested first with 6th and 7th grades following. Shane will meet with the 8th grade students to discuss the upcoming promotion ceremony and what is expected from them to participate. The 8th grade boy's basketball team was the CKL Champs this year. Shane stated that he is working on getting a plaque and photo to commemorate this accomplishment. The wrestling season has started and the team had just won their first duel match. A 7th and 8th grade dance had been held after the Winter Royalty game at the high school. There had been good attendance at that. The 5th and 6th grade students will be holding a dodge ball tournament in the coming months.

c) Jon Flint, Superintendent

Jon Flint spoke about the district realignment bill that is being discussed. He feels we need not worry about it. Senator Holmes feels the bill has no legs and will not get anywhere. There are two other bills being proposed. One will grant tax credits to help pay for private school tuition. The student's FTE money will follow them where they attend. There is also one that proposes a reduction in state funding for bond issues. Jon stressed that this will not affect our current bond. The district is grandfathered in under the old plan. The new guidelines only provide funding for instructional areas. A pre construction meeting was held at the high school. Attendance at that was good. The elementary project was zoned and the district is currently working on annexation. Mr. Massey has been in contact with the city attorney and the process has been started. Thursday, February 18th, is bid-opening day. The bid invitations went out as a package with the high school project and new elementary school together. The plan is to have bid tabs in March to be approved by the board. Ground breaking should be done sometime toward the end of March. Jon stated that there had been some water damage at Westside, which led to a staff member having some health concerns. He wanted to reiterate the mold testing had been done and the results had been negative for mold. Jon stressed that we do provide staffing to the facility, but the district has no control over the state of the facility. He said the district would hear back from the state about the bid that was submitted to provide educational services to Westside next year sometime by the middle of February.

d) Board Discussion

Jay Haremza, Board Vice President, stated that he would like to invite another board member to help look for options that are available for the superintendent's evaluation. Kimi Bowman stated that she would volunteer to help look at options. Jon Flint, Superintendent, stated that McRel does have the superintendent option on their program.

18. ADJOURN

June Barger moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Jenny Manry second.

Yes 7 No 0

Board President

Board Clerk