

FORT LARNED UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 495
BOARD OF EDUCATION
LARNED, KANSAS 67550
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2015

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Jay Haremza, Kimi Bowman, Leroy Lyon, David Sanger, June Barger, Sharon Lessard, Jenny Manry, 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

Leroy Lyon moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2015 Regular Board Meeting as presented.

Jenny Manry second.

Yes 7 No 0

5. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Sharon Lessard moved to approve the bills as presented.

Jay Haremza second.

Yes 7 No 0

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jean Simmons, Finance Director, handed out the securities deposits from the banks to board members to look over. Jean shared that the middle school had an insurance claim on their fire alarm due to a lightening strike or power surge. The middle school has also noticed that several of the cameras are not working also. Jean stated that they are trying to get all the damage taken care of at the same time to ensure that the district is only having to meet the one deductible. The finance department does not roll funds over to the new school year until the audit with Agler & Gaeddert. Jean wanted to make the board aware that the audit will be performed some time in November. The district has received tax monies from both Baron and Pawnee counties and is still receiving interest income from bond & interest as we wait for the new projects to get started.

7. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

None at this time.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Attorney Client Privilege

Sharon Lessard moved at 6:38 p.m. that the Board recess to Executive Session for consultation with School Attorney under Attorney-Client Privilege for purpose of sharing information relating to observations and alternatives of legalities under contract. The Board will return to open session in this room at

6:53 p.m. Included in the Executive Session are all present Board Members, Jon Flint, Superintendent and Phil Martin, school Attorney.

Jenny Manry second.

Yes 7 No 0

Jay Haremza and Jenny Manry abstained from the Executive Session.

The open meeting was called to order at 6:53 p.m.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION
a) Non-elected Personnel

Sharon Lessard moved at 6:54 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 7:03 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 _____ p.m

10. NOMINATIONS

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

Carl Parker
Katie Sperry

Bus Driver/Transp.
Thurs. /Fri. School

Kimi Bowman second

Yes 7 No 0

11. SEPERATIONS

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

DeShawn Anderson Para/TRI/NS

David Sanger second.

Yes 7 No 0

12. TRANSFERS

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

Linda Mace Para/TRI/LHS from Para/TRI/ALC

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

13. CLASSIFIED HANDBOOK

Jon presented a short synopsis of the changes. The changes were straight forward. The supplemental pay was changed to \$14 per hour to stay in line with certified. It is actually paid as overtime. The fringe was adjusted for classified employees also.

Jay Haremza moved to accept the changes for the 2015-2016 Classified Handbook.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

14. POLICY UPDATES

Jon Flint stated that one of the policy changes that are being proposed needs some clarification. Policy EEDA discusses summer activities. The board chose Option #1 for that policy, which states that the district will not provide transportation for summer activities. Jay Haremza asked about policy GAAF and whether each building had an ESI room for students similar to that at the ALC. Jon shared that if we have students that need services such as that; they are transported to the ALC presently. Jay asked if the new elementary building would have an area. Jon stated that it would. Jon also shared that the ALC will be moving to the middle school and they will need to designate an area for that. Policy KGD was also discussed in reference to firearms and employees that have conceal and carry permits. Leroy asked for clarification on this and asked what options such as SRO officers and other resources had been researched. Jenny Manry asked Phil Martin, school attorney, to look into what other districts our size do in regards to SRO officers. Jay Haremza stated that he felt the policy we have in place at the moment was the best option.

June Barger moved to approve the following policy changes to the USD 495 Policy Handbook.

Leroy Lyon second.

Yes 7 No 0

15. BOARD ELECTION AT LARGE DISCUSSION

Discussion was held regarding a change in the method of school board elections. The board would like to investigate moving elections to an all at large format. June Barger, Board member, stated that people are connected in many ways today, not just neighborhoods. She feels that districts do not apply much anymore. Phil Martin is researching the process of changing the election format and will report back to the board next month. The hope is that will allow more people to run for office in the community. The discussion will continue at next month's board meeting.

16. SALE OF USED EQUIPMENT

David Sanger moved to approve the sale of the following equipment:

Several A/V Television Carts
Various File Cabinets
Various Office Desks
Book Cases
Office Chairs
Misc. Computer Desks

The items will be sold at a local auction house as is.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

17. REPORTS

- a) Principals
Dick Bixler (WS)

Westside will hold their second annual open house in conjunction with parent teacher conferences on October 22. The week of October 5th, Westside is slate to have tours of the facility given to by two different state representatives. On November 23, KSDE will send Lori Houch and her supervisor to tour classrooms at Westside. The goal is for them to better understand the upique situation and location of Westside and to observe each classroom, teacher, and staff. They will evaluate each area and give feedback.

Troy Langdon (LHS)

Soft skills focus is still taking place in seminars every Monday. Troy shared that on that particular Monday interview skills had been touched on. Troy

stated that the new Commissioner of Education is a proponent of teaching and reinforcing soft skills to today's student.

State Assessment information is out. Troy is in the process of discussing results with KSDE. He shared that these results will be discussed at the next league meeting and he will bring results and details back after that.

After school tutoring is going well. More and more students are participating. Mr. Butler had only six students attend his ACT prep class, which was a bit disappointing. Fort Larned will be providing an activity with the high school students in the future. It will be a Man Vs. Wilderness activity. Students will also be attending a career fair at North Central Vocation Tech School. This will give students an opportunity to see what opportunities are available to them.

Larned High School is now a 3A division school. The golf team made it to state today. Dorothy Keenan was the top medalist. Activities are now down to post season and the end of the nine weeks is tomorrow.

Lea Harding (HS, PH, & NS)

Lea is patiently waiting on state assessment data. She also held a Title I presentation recently. There were over 100 people in attendance. Building reports are done for the year.

Elementary staff is participating in a book study this year and it has provoked good discussion. Goals this year at the elementary level focus on behavior and using data to adjust their teaching.

Shane Sundahl (LMS)

The cameras at the middle school suffered damage due to a lightning strike or power surge this summer. Shane stated that the cameras are back online and working. There are still two outside cameras that will need repaired yet.

Grade level state assessments are back, but individual ones are not yet. Shane and the staff are patiently waiting for them.

Shane thanked the staff for allowing the 8th grade students to go to the Cosmosphere. Shane shared that Mr. Stearns sets up activities for the students to participate in as they tour the facility.

b) Directors

Kris Schneider, Technology

Kris has been researching anti virus options for the district. Several people in the district have been trying out Bit Defender anti virus. The program has caught over 10000 malicious attacks while being installed on just 30 machines. Kris hopes to get this software installed on all the machines in the district. He is also looking at printing options. The cost of printing, especially color copies is very high. The program he is looking at allow students and staff a bank account of printing each month. Kris shared that this program would pay for itself over 2-3 months. Kris informed the board that Apple was having trouble with their management system. The district was having trouble pushing out applications and things. Apple is currently changing their system and we are patiently waiting for them to complete the process.

Patty Holaday, Tri-County Special Services

Patty shared some statistics with the board. Currently 313 students receive special education services from USD #495. Patty has also updated ESI paperwork. This year the staff has not had to use the ESI. The ALC currently has 8 students. The hope is to transition the students back to the classroom. Patty shared that she is excited to be back in Special Education. She had previously taught over 20 years in the Special Education department. Patty did share that the department is still short on paraprofessionals.

c) Jon Flint, Superintendent

Jon stated that the district is still patiently waiting on assessment results and scores. They have been told for the past 3 weeks that they would be ready. The system is still experiencing several glitches. Jon shares the frustration of administration and staff. The state puts so much emphasis on these assessments, yet the data that is produced from them is not accurate. The district will be sending out a letter to all parents of ESOL students. The district failed to meet the average student growth. The percentage of students exiting the program should be higher.

Enrollment district wide is down 28 students. There seems to be no clear reason. The district does have several transient students. We receive as many of those as we lose. The hope is that once the new elementary is in place, the numbers will increase.

Surveys were handed out to board members from the state. They are compiling data to see how many board members state wide have ties to the districts they represent and whether a conflict of interest is present. If legislation takes place on this issue, it could effect who could run for school board office.

d) Board Discussion

Jay Haremza was recognized with a certificate from KASB recognizing him for his leadership on the board.

A) Concussion Protocol

Dr. Sanger presented information to the board regarding a concussion protocol he had researched for the district. The program he had been looking at was called SWAY. It is a program that can be present on the sidelines of games to help evaluate concussions. He had discussed the program with several physicians and trainers through the area and they all were in support of it. Athletes are evaluated prior to the season starting. They are evaluated 3 or 4 times. If an athlete is in question as far as a concussion, the program is administered right on the sideline to see if they fall out of their normal measurement. The program involves balance and reaction time. Another benefit of the program is that information can be uploaded to the cloud and obtained by physicians or trainers that may not be present at the game. This helps get a timely decision made. Pricing is based on a 12 month membership and is priced according to the number of athletes registered on it. The consensus of the board was that the software be purchased and they would like it in place by the beginning of wrestling

and basketball season. The board would like the media notified once we have it in place.

Dr. Sanger also stated that he would like to hold a workshop with coaches and students. He tried to do this in years past and did not have a good turnout. He feels this is a very important topic to discuss.

18. ADJOURN

June Barger moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Kimi Bowman second.

Yes 7 No 0

Board President

Board Clerk