

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Unified School District No. 473, Chapman, KS

March 10, 2025

Betsy Edwards, School Board President, called the Regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 pm at the Education Center located at 822 N. Marshall, Chapman, KS.

Other Board Members Present: Kelly Kuntz, Brenda Edleston, Dana Obermeyer, Adam Elliott, Jessica Murphy and Jennifer Elliott

Also Present: Kevin Suther – Superintendent, Michele Sutter - Board Clerk Zach Lucas, Chelsey Armbruster, Marjaul Ferris, Dan Sell, Shelby Amancio, Kyle Cook, Taya Rowley, Alyssa Calovich, Cambree Obermeyer, Cael Rowley, Levi Willmann

Jennifer Elliott made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Brenda Edleston made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

3.01 Approve the Minutes from the Regular February 10th, 2025 BOE Meeting and also the Special February 17th, 2025 BOE Meeting

3.02 Financial Reports: Treasurer, Food Service, Petty Cash

3.03 Payment of Bills

3.04 Public Participation

SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS:

Wrestling State Qualifiers

Coach Zach Lucas and Coach Marjaul Ferris were present to recognize the state wrestler qualifiers. Chapman High School took 2 boys and 4 girls to the state tournament this year. Coach Lucas said so many more were seconds from qualifying to go. Cael Rowley went 25-14 and Levi Willmann went 24-9 while finishing with several top finishes at tournaments this year. All of Chapman's wrestlers were able to stay in the bracket both days. The records were impressive with Cambree Obermeyer 42-3 , Alyssa Calovich 34-5 , Taya Rowley 29-8 and Faith Enger 29-12. Coach Lucas said these athletes had a lot of success by putting in a ton of work with early mornings and long tournament days. He said this was an awesome group to coach with a lot of returning athletes next year. Coach Lucas thanked the Board and told of his appreciation for their support for this program. Coach Ferris said they anticipate at least 8 girls coming

up from the Middle School program next year and are excited about the high participation rate.

4A State Championship

Taya Rowley - 2nd place

Alyssa Calovich - 4th place (Two time State Placer)

Cambree Obermeyer - 5th place

Faith Enger (Won her 1st match and went 1-2)

*Chapman Girls 7th in State as a team out of 30 teams who scored points.

Cael Rowley - 2 wins/2 losses

Levi Willman - 2 wins/2 losses

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Fort Riley Liaison

Shelby Amancio introduced herself to our Board as our new liaison for Ft. Riley. She is a licensed teacher who lived in Hawaii for 30 years. She said Kansas is very different from Hawaii but it is very spacious and beautiful. The main focus of the job is to work with child and youth services. One of the roles is to provide information to families about the school districts she represents. At any given time, USD 473 has up to 20% of the students who have a military connection. Board Member Adam Elliott asked her how many schools she works with? There are around 16 schools she will reach out to but by far her largest are Geary, Manhattan-Ogden and Chapman. She hopes to be very informed and involved with our district so she can give information to the military families coming in about USD 473 when it comes to enrollment, activities, and support.

Inclement Weather

*** CALENDAR CHANGE ***

Superintendent Suther explained that all schools in the state of Kansas are required to have 1,116 hours for 1st - 11th grade students and 1,086 hours for seniors in a calendar year. With all the inclement weather this year causing USD 473 to close school, the district is going to have to make up some time as we've exceeded the number of hours built into the schedule. Mr. Suther said that in his 24 years here, he can only remember one other time where we had to extend the school year.

The plan will be as follows:

*Chapman High School will begin the day five minutes earlier at 7:55 am starting on March 3rd.

*All seniors will attend a full day on May 8th and on May 9th they will be released at 1:00 pm.

*All buildings will attend full days on May 14th and May 15th. 8th graders will move

promotion to Wednesday the 14th vs. the 12th and they will go a full day.

The KSDE auditor stated when we have a late start of 10 am due to inclement weather, the district can still count it as a full day with no hours lost.

Adam Elliott made a motion to approve all changes to the 2024-25 school calendar to meet the required hours due to inclement weather. Jennifer Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Surplus

Superintendent Suther is asking the Board to declare the old band uniforms as surplus which includes tops, pants, and hats. A short video produced by the band department was put together thanking our Board of Education for their new uniforms. Mrs. Smallwood gave a "uniform tour" and showed how the new uniforms have some features that they kept to resemble the old ones. There are 110 uniforms for surplus to be sold or donated. It's been at least 25 years since the band program has purchased new uniforms.

Dana Obermeyer made the motion to approve all band uniform items presented as surplus. Adam Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

E-Rate Application

Kyle Cook, District Technology Director, presented the e-rate application that he and Superintendent Suther compiled after all the bids came in. E-Rate is a federal communications program.

The RFP for E-Rate funding is developed by Smoky Hill Learning Center who USD 473 contracts out to for assistance. USD 473 received one bid each for the internet connection service at Blue Ridge and Rural Center Elementary from KanRen who is the current provider for both of these locations. Both buildings will be provided 200 Mbps internet service. Three bids were submitted by the deadline for new switches which includes all of our USD 473 buildings plus the installation. According to E-Rate guidelines we must analyze each item on the list and give a ranking. The overall ranking determined by price, installation, and compatibility was highest for Olson Communications.

For each bid, USD 473 will only owe 30% and the E-Rate Federal Funding pays for 70%. (This is based on our free/reduced status as a district.)

Adam Elliott asked Mr. Cook about a lifespan for the switches. He was told it's around 10-15 years.

Brenda Edleston made the motion to accept the bid for internet access proposal for Blue Ridge and Rural Center Elementary with KanRen. Kelly Kuntz seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Jessica Murphy made the motion to accept the bid for new switches for all USD 473 buildings for equipment and installation cost through Olson Communications, pending

they are approved with an E-Rate Service Provider Identification Number. Jennifer Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Job Descriptions

Athletic & Activity Development Coordinator & Assistant HS Principal and AD Job Descriptions:

One of the focus areas for the position is to begin a site council for athletics & activities which hopefully can get started this April stated Superintendent Suther.

After reading the job descriptions that our Administrative Team and Human Resources Director compiled, Adam Elliott said it looks like we are looking for an Administrator. Is that what we need? Brenda Edleston said we need to have flexibility and probably depends on the candidate. Mr. Suther said it's preferred but not required. Adam said he envisioned this relying heavily on not only tasks needing to be performed but a lot of PR skills. When it comes to pay this can depend on the qualifications of the candidate and will reflect that of an assistant administrator or director position.

Betsy Edwards asked if the supervision needs would happen both at the High School and Middle School? Mr. Suther said it would be flexible to fill in where we need them. It is envisioned to have the position become active at both levels to become familiar with the students & staff along with helping with supervision depending on the weekly schedule of home events.

Mr. Elliott asked if KSHSAA requires an Administrator be at every event or if it is more of a USD 473 Policy? Mr. Suther said we certainly want one at the very least, at every home game. It is our policy to cover all home events. This is not a set requirement by KSHSAA. It is impossible to cover all away events but there are administrators from those schools who are on duty for assistance.

Mr. Elliott asked if we should lead with a Master's in Educational Administration Degree since the job could entail just a bachelor's degree. Mr. Suther agreed that we do not want to discourage applicants by being limited since it could be an applicant who has a Bachelor's in Education and has been a coach or inspires to complete their Master's Degree while starting out in the position. Mr. Suther was going to make that change on the job description to be more clear.

Directors and Supervisors Contracts

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to extend all the Directors and Supervisors Contracts for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Brenda Edleston seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Andrea Koster - Human Resources Director

Kyle Cook - Information Technology Director

Tara Tiernan - School Nurse

Amanda Zook - School Nurse

Rick Hall - Maintenance Director
Carla Mitchell - Head Custodian Supervisor CHS

Personnel

Jennifer Elliott made the motion to approve all personnel items as presented. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Resignations:

Michael Wahlmeier - Chapman High School Head Girls Basketball Coach

Erin Bell - Chapman High School Head Volleyball Coach

Kyle Cook - Chapman Middle School Boys Basketball Coach

Transfer:

Kiah Keller - Chapman Elementary Teacher transfer to Chapman Middle School ELA teacher

Employee Recognition Dinner

Superintendent Suther reminded the Board about this prestigious event that Brenda Edleston created 4 years ago that has been very successful. The invitations will be mailed out soon but the dinner is Wednesday, April 9th at 6:30 pm in the High School commons area. We are celebrating (4) retirees, (3) 15 year honorees, (1) 25 year honoree and our Outstanding Service to Students and Outstanding Service to the District honorees.

Jennifer Tiller, Food Service Director, caters this event every year and does an outstanding job with the menu. Her efforts are always appreciated by everyone.

Executive Session - Personnel

Kelly Kuntz made the motion for the Board to go into Executive Session for 30 minutes after a 5 minute break, in order to discuss personnel items pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the Board room at 8:00 pm. Superintendent Suther is invited into the session. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to open session at 8:00 pm.

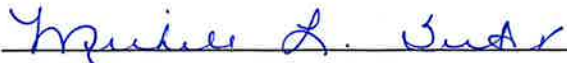
Adjournment

Kelly Kuntz made the motion to adjourn. Jennifer Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned - 8:01 pm



Betsy Edwards, School Board President



Michele Sutter, Board Clerk