

# Minutes

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

**June 9, 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: Dana Obermeyer, Jessica Murphy and Adam Elliott (Jennifer Elliott and Brenda Edleston were absent)**

**Also Present: Kevin Suther – Superintendent, Michele Sutter - Board Clerk Mary Wright, Kyle Cook, Kaci Heller, Maddie Harold, Taylor Gustafson, Clint Merritt, Laurie Rutherford, Taya Rowley, Kameron Krogman, Megan Heller, Danny Heller and Steve Simpson**

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**Jessica Murphy made the motion to adopt the Agenda as presented. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.**

**Dana Obermeyer made the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Adam Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.**

### **SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **Spring Sports State Qualifiers**

**Mr. Merritt, Athletic Director, had head softball coach, Kyle Cook, lead off the state qualifiers recognition. Coach Cook brought with him Seniors Maddie Harold, Taylor Gustafson, and Kaci Heller. He said they had a great season, and it was a very special year. They went 23-4 at the varsity level, and it was their 2nd year in a row to have a winning season with JV as well. The team had goals this year to go to Regionals and qualify for the State Tournament. The team made both those goals, and Coach Cook was extremely proud of them.**

**He said as a team, they batted .418 and scored 17 home runs. On the mound, they had 253 strikeouts. A highlight this year was that they swept Rock Creek. They also split with Southeast of Saline and Wamego, which provided them a tie for the NCKL Champions. They lead the NCKL offensively in the following categories: batting average, hits, doubles, runs scored, and home runs. Individually, Jai Rodgers led the league in batting with a .594 average, while Maddie Harold led on the mound with the**

most wins at 15.

Chapman also had 6 All League NCKL players this year, which included the 3 Seniors mentioned above.

Kaci Heller has caught every game since she was a Freshman, and this year she hit .409. She also threw out 7 base stealers.

Taylor Gustafson had an average of .415 and was the 4th batter in the lineup for the Irish.

Maddie Harold finishes her career with over 500 strikeouts in her career.

Coach Cook said that before these 3 Seniors were in high school, the prior team went 1-16. The Senior girls have truly helped to turn the program around.

He also said that it was great to have the community support, especially at the home Regionals. It is a memory they will keep forever.

## Track

Head Coach Steve Simpson brought Kameron Krogman and Taya Rowley to talk about their year as Senior athletes.

Taya is the co-record holder in pole vault and placed 6th at state. Cameron was their top sprinter and was the 100m League champion while qualifying for the state meet in the 200m, 4 x 100 relay, and the 4 x 400 relay.

Coach Simpson said that 100 kids started the year out on the track team and 92 finished the year.

He said he was very proud of his Seniors and that they were a young team this year, which is good for the future.

They broke or tied 5 school records this year.

They had both NCKL and Regional champions on the team, with 15 athletes total qualifying for State.

Senior Drew Elliott was 1st in state in the 1600m, 4th in the 800m, while breaking 4 school records this year, which included the 3200m, 1600m, 800m, and 400m.

Others placing at the State Track meet were Claire Wasyk, who was 3rd in the triple jump, Kaicen DeWeese, who was 6th in the pole vault, and Abigail Gaston, who was 8th in the discus.

Coach said when you have that many young kids out, it's important to have Senior leadership and great assistant coaches, which he had both. He said he was very proud of his program and wished the Seniors good luck in the future.

## OLD BUSINESS:

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **TRANE**

Superintendent Suther explained there was a Change Order (#1) for our open PO for the Heat Exchanger Plates. They removed 506 plates, and 105 had pinhole damage, which is revealed by X-rays done on each one. The total cost is \$15,705.56, which is well under the \$20,000 threshold, but it is linked to the original order so he wanted the Board to approve the changes. Pictures were shared with the Board to show how much clean-up was needed as the buildup had a honeycomb appearance. This is caused by over 13 years of use, plus the damage from the hard water in Chapman. The new plates are available and the cleaning has been completed so the installation can begin on Wednesday, June 11th so the buildings can have air conditioning again.

Jessica Murphy asked if TRANE had the new/replacement plates in stock. Mr. Suther said yes, they are all ready to go.

Adam Elliott made the motion to approve the change order for the HVAC TRANE heat exchanger project for the additional \$15,705.56. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

### **2025-26 Handbooks**

Superintendent Suther loaded the yearly handbooks with their changes into BoardDocs for the Board to review and approve. All changes were indicated in a different color. All four elementary schools are covered under one handbook. The other handbooks are for CMS, CHS, One to One Device, and the Athletics Handbook. The other handbooks include the USD 473 Certified and Classified Personnel. There are seven total to review and approve.

Jessica Murphy made the motion to approve all the USD 473 handbooks for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

### **KASB Policy Updates**

Superintendent Suther shared the June 2025 KASB Policy updates with our Board. He had loaded them online for them and then briefly touched on each one verbally in the meeting.

Betsy Edwards questioned Policy DFH, "Fundraising Activities". She wanted more clarification from KASB to be certain that it does not conflict with current practices like our Vendor Fair and CEO student program. The question would be if our employees can sell personal business items on school property for the vendor fair, and if students can continue to develop their businesses within the CEO class. Mr. Suther is going to look into that for the July meeting. This could be as simple as adding some wording into the policy to match what USD 473 does locally.

Jessica Murphy made the motion to approve the updated June policies with the exception of Policy DFH "Fundraising Activities". Dana seconded the motion; motion

carried 4-0.

### **Breakfast & Lunch Fees and Enrollment Fees for 2025-26**

Superintendent Suther presented to the Board the proposed USD 473 new lunch prices and fees for 2025-26. KSDE requires yearly lunch prices to increase by a minimum of 10 cents each year, and he is recommending only that increase. Our district has been able to carry surplus over in the Food Service budget, with all students being reimbursed during the COVID years. It is predicted that USD 473 will have to account for more transfers from the General Fund to cover the costs starting next year. The plan is to keep the enrollment fees the same, but increase the semester piano fee from \$75 to \$125. The piano fee has not increased for over a decade, but with the increased participation and costs for the instructor, there needs to be a change to the fee. USD 473 still believes that the program is a great deal, with students able to take lessons during the day every week for at least 16 weeks, monthly showcases, and concerts each semester.

Adam Elliott made the motion to approve the breakfast and lunch fees and the enrollment fees for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

#### **25-26 fees:**

##### Elementary:

Breakfast \$2.50  
Lunch \$3.40

##### Middle School:

Breakfast \$2.60  
Lunch \$3.50

##### High School:

Breakfast \$2.70  
Lunch \$3.60

##### Adult:

Breakfast \$3.00  
Lunch \$5.00

**Enrollment fees are remaining the same, except for piano lesson fees.**

Elementary - \$75  
CMS & CHS - \$100 plus \$25 Sports Fee  
Piano Fee - Semester \$125

### **Set Year-End Board Meeting**

Superintendent Suther stated that historically, we do the end-of-the-year meeting during the final week of June. On June 23rd, the superintendent and treasurer will work with Greenbush to assess the needed transfers and the starting fund amounts needed in each account. Those figures and transfers will be brought to the year-end meeting for Board approval. Also at this meeting, Mr. Suther will bring any personnel items as well as final bills for approval.

Dana Obermeyer made the motion that the year-end Board of Education meeting be set for Thursday, June 26th at 7:00 am, located at the Education Center. Jessica Murphy seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

## Personnel

Dana Obermeyer made the motion to approve all Personnel items as presented to the Board. Adam Elliott seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

## **Resignations:**

Gareth Hoffman - Chapman Middle School Assistant Track Coach

## Board Member Elections

This was an Informational item only, as Superintendent Suther wanted to make sure that the Board knew that the Board leadership for President and Vice-President are voted on at the beginning of the July meeting, so they could be thinking about interest in those positions.

## Adjourn

Jessica Murphy made the motion to adjourn. Dana Obermeyer seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned - 7:18 pm



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Betsy Edwards, Board President



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Michele Sutter, Board Clerk