

Board of Education

Northeast Kansas Education Service Center

Minutes

Date: Mar. 17th, 2004

Time: 7:30 p.m. Call Meeting to Order - USD #341 Central Office, Oskaloosa

At 7:30 p.m., President, Tom Holroyd called the meeting to order. Members present: Keith Ostrander, Tom Holroyd, Leonard Lange, Mike Miller and Carol Meneley; Jim Wheeler, Ph.D., Executive Director; Patty Hart, Director of Special Education; Shelia Clark, Assistant Director; Susan Aspinwall, Business Manager/Clerk; Dona Higgins, Accounts Payable; Scott Slava, Superintendent; and Sharon Branson, SETA Representative.

◆ Consent Agenda

Lange moved to approve the consent agenda with no changes. Meneley seconded and motion carried 5-0.

1. Action - Approval of Agenda
2. Action - Approval of Minutes
3. Action - Approval of Bills and Claims

◆ Receive - Communications from Visitors Present

There were no communications from visitors present.

◆ Receive - Communications

1. Treasurer's Report
Susan provided copies of the Treasurer's Report for the month of March.

◆ Special Education

1. Action - Personnel Update

Judy reviewed the list of contracts and resignations for approval. Miller moved to approve as listed. Lange seconded and motion carried 5-0.

2. Information/Discussion - Final December 1 count and FTE

Patty provided our final December 1 figures. She explained that these figures show Jefferson West with one less preschool student and Perry with one more. This was due to a family moving and school personnel not being aware of the change in districts. The FTE now includes assignment of students with home based programs as well.

3. Information/Discussion - Special Education Staff for the 04-05 School Year

Patty explained that administrators have consulted with building administrators and feel that all budgeted positions will need to be filled in order to provide the expected outcomes for students with disabilities. Some rearranging of staff is being considered. We have vacancies for 6 certified special education staff members. She indicated that there are very few applicants and the NEKESC administrators are concerned that we won't be able to fill all of the vacancies. New teachers are not going into the Special Education field. Three of our openings are for high school teachers and we don't have three high school certified applicants.

◆ Regional Service Center

1. Action - Approve Increase in Fund #26 - Marshall Co. Tiny-K

Susan explained that it is necessary to increase the budget for fund #26 due to increased travel costs. Funding will come from state travel reimbursement. The new amount is \$102,116. This represents a \$3,200 increase from the \$98,916 original budget. Lange moved to approve a new total of **\$102,116** for **Fund #26**. Miller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

2. Information/Discussion - Facilities

Jim reported that the facility currently being used by SRS in Oskaloosa will be available in May. If

NEKESC could move the majority of office functions to this facility, it could meet the goal of the BOE (to move NEKESC operations to a more central location) and solve space issues for JDLA. Slava reported that he had toured the facility with four other superintendents and all five felt positive about the building. They discussed the possibility of adding on for classroom space and how the building would be financed. They felt it was an ideal location for the Co-op as it is located in the center of the participating districts. Discussion followed on zoning regulations, meeting fire and safety codes, having a storm shelter, etc. if the school were to be located on the same property as the office building. Jim explained that the move for all NEKESC operations, including the JDLA, to Oskaloosa would have to be done in phases. Also, there are other parties interested in the building and if we think this is something we want to do, we may have to act on it very soon. The Lecompton community has accepted the school so keeping it in Lecompton until classroom space can be arranged in Oskaloosa will not be a problem. Member comments included: Our board is favorable if, eventually, everything could move to that location; Should try to get it, the answer to our problems; Check out the zoning with regard to a school in that area; Should we schedule a special meeting after we have the answers regarding zoning. Jim stated that if necessary, we would call a special board meeting, and if not, we will have it on the agenda next month.

Executive Session

At 8:05 p.m. Meneley moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 8:25 p.m. to discuss negotiations and non-elected personnel. Lange seconded and motion carried 5-0.

At 8:25 p.m. open session resumed. Ostrander moved to extend contracts for Shelia, Judy, and Patty for another year (2005-2006). Meneley seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Lange opposed.

Ostrander then moved to give the clerk a supplemental contract in the amount of \$4,000 for Business Management and extra duties as assigned for the current year. Meneley seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment

At 8:30 p.m. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. Meneley seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Thomas Holroyd
President

Susan Aspinwall, CPS
Business Manager/Clerk