



Board of Directors

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Superintendent Scheduled to Attend Board Meeting

Denise Jennings, Regular

JB Elliott, Alternate

Date: February 16th, 2022

Location: Keystone Learning Services, 500 E. Sunflower Blvd., Ozawkie, KS

Time: 6:30 p.m. Call Meeting to Order

At 6:30 p.m., Board Vice President Ramon Gonzalez called the meeting to order. Members present: Robin Croxell, Jana Farmer, Kelli Bottorff, Justin Finley and Jerry Barnes. Members absent: Caleb Clark and Scott Gibson.

Others present: Doug Anderson, Executive Director; Belinda O'Dell and Amy Conklin, Special Education Assistant Directors; Linda Chalker, Clerk of the Board; Lisa Morando, Business Manager; Denise Jennings, USD #339 Superintendent; Neil Phillips, CPA at Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA.

Monthly Action Items

ACTION

1. Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda Items

Monthly Consent Agenda Items

Any Board member may request that any item be removed from this consent agenda to the regular agenda for action to be taken separately.

- 1. Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting**
- 3. Approval of Bills & Claims**
- 4. Approval of Cash Summary Report**
- 5. Approval of Monthly Fund Transfers**
- 6. Approval of Check Registers**

ACTION

Kelli Bottorff made a motion to approve the Agenda & Consent Agenda Items as presented. Jana Farmer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Monthly Communications

1. Receive Communications from Visitors Present

None

Discussion Items

1. **Neil Phillips, CPA**—Neil Phillips, CPA at Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips, PA presented the recent Interlocal 608 audit to the board.

At 6:50 p.m., Neil left the meeting.

2. **JDLA Update**—Tabled until March.

3. Keystone Priorities

- a) **Accessible Van for Turning Point/Vehicle Fleet**—Doug anticipates a need for a lift van for the Turning Point program in the coming year and is therefore analyzing the advantages to converting an existing van, or purchasing a new one. Doug will prepare cost estimates for further discussion.
- b) **Negotiations Team Online Training**—Doug explained that KASB requires all members of the negotiations team to complete training each year. There will be an online option available at the end of February. Negotiations procedures will begin in March.

4. Budget Summary

- a) **Summary Report**—Lisa reviewed the budget for the month, explaining that the Medicaid State Aid Reimbursement window is February 22 - March 8. Lisa explained that the COVID protocol caused an increase in expenditures that impacts Maintenance of Effort in the years following. Lisa also shared that Keystone's inventory system is being updated.
- b) **The State of Special Ed Funding**—Doug shared a report reflecting special education costs in Kansas. This report shows the total number of students served under IDEA has risen over the years, going from 16.04% in 2016 to 17.45% in 2021 while the state funding did not increase at a pace to meet their obligation of 92% of excess cost.
- c) **Maintenance of Effort (MOE)**—Doug explained that due to corrections in the reporting system found by the Kansas State Department of Education, Keystone will make MOE this year using all 4 Indicators (State and Local Effort, Per Pupil Expenditure for Special Ed, Special Ed Local Effort and Per Pupil Local Effort.)

At 7:26 p.m., Robin Croxell left the meeting.

At 7:27 p.m., Robin returned to the meeting.

5. Personnel

- a) Vacancy Report Licensed/New Hires by District—Amy explained that we have recently had 4 para resignations, while also filling 5 open para positions. There is a Social Worker interview scheduled for next week.
- b) Recruiting Efforts—Belinda went to a recruiting fair at Fort Hays State University and spoke to many future graduates. The new recruitment videos have been posted on the Keystone website and on social media. Belinda reported that 2 school psychologist candidates recently declined contract offers due to the Keystone salary schedule being lower than neighboring districts.
- c) Interrelated Staff Evaluations—Doug and the Superintendent Advisory Council discussed strategies to accommodate the large number of evaluations conducted by Keystone administrators. They will also discuss this with building administrators at the upcoming administrator meetings.

Action Items

1. Personnel Update—Contract and Resignations, February 2022

ACTION

Jana Farmer made a motion to approve the February 2022 personnel update as presented. Kelli Bottorff seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Miscellaneous Items from Board Members

1. **Director's Comments**—Doug shared that Keystone will be hosting the Regional Science Fair on March 4th with 33 students registered. Tim Marshall's departure from Keystone was recognized at a luncheon. He was thanked for his numerous contributions to the success of the organization. The Keystone administrators will attend the KASEA Winter Conference in Topeka, with approximately 125 people registered to attend. Doug thanked the Jefferson West board, who included him in their superintendent recruiting efforts. Doug explained that we are losing 4 very good, experienced superintendents. Doug shared that he and Scott Gibson are working on a plan for Keystone's gym use and will bring a draft of this back to share with the board at the next meeting.
2. **Any Board Member Wishing to Speak**—Ramon asked if the superintendents also received the Weekly Highlights that the board receives. Board members explained they have been sharing these weekly highlights with their superintendents at their district board meetings. Jana mentioned she has been tracking 2 legislative items that will impact school districts. Justin explained that Jefferson County North has offered the newly vacant superintendent position to Dr. Brad Kempf for the next school year.
3. **Other**—

Adjournment

At 8:05 p.m., Justin Finley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Barnes seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Scott Gibson
President

Linda Chalker
Clerk of the Board

Date _____