



Board of Directors

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Superintendent Scheduled to Attend Board Meeting

Pat Happer, Regular

Tim Beying, Alternate

Date: March 23rd, 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 President Scott Gibson called the meeting to order. Members present: Robin Croxell, Kelli Bottorff, Justin Finley and Jerry Barnes. Members absent: Caleb Clark, Jana Farmer and Ramon Gonzalez.

Others present: Doug Anderson, Executive Director; Amy Conklin, Special Education Assistant Director; Linda Chalker, Clerk of the Board; Lisa Morando, Business Manager; Terri Coughlin, Principal at JDLA; Pat Happer, USD #340 Superintendent.

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. Jerry Barnes seconded and motion passed 5-0.

Monthly Communications

1. Receive Communications from Visitors Present

None

Discussion Items

1. Keystone Priorities

- a) **Summer School/Extended School Year**—Doug reported that Keystone will work with our districts to ensure that students with disabilities have the opportunity to receive further enrichment over the summer break consistent with their general education counterparts. Some students also qualify for ESY services that are provided by Keystone.
- b) **JDLA Update**—Terri Coughlin, JDLA Principal, shared that there are currently 37 students enrolled in school, with ages ranging from 7-21 years. There are 30 students who are receiving services through The Guidance Center. Structural changes include an 8-period day to reduce the time in each content area and the addition of community-based projects which have greatly helped student morale. Terri also invited Board Members to participate in the 2nd annual Pinewood Derby Race on the afternoon of Thursday, March 31st with the 3rd grade students from Valley Falls Elementary School, or on Friday morning, April 1st with the JDLA students. The top winners will be racing their cars in the final heat slated for Friday afternoon. Terri reported there will be 2 open teaching positions and with the statewide shortage, it is difficult to find people highly qualified for every content area, but all have special ed certification. Concern was expressed that if the U.S. Government's free lunch subsidy is discontinued next year, student inability to pay for lunches will impact the JDLA budget as all students are fed regardless of their ability to pay. Lisa will bring back costs associated with both breakfast and lunch to next month's meeting for further discussion.
- c) **Legislative Priorities:** Both Doug and Scott encouraged everyone to reach out to their legislators to vote NO on the Parent Rights and Transparency bill (HB2662, 2513), the Mandatory Enrollment bill (HB 2615), and the Education Savings Account bill (HB2553) as they are written in a manner that will not benefit students with disabilities. Doug also asked people to thank the legislative representatives who are pushing for meeting the state's obligation to provide 92% of excess cost as required by state statute.
- d) **Keystone Use of Facilities Document**—It was proposed that the Keystone gymnasium be opened up for the area youth sports programs to use during the next school year. A building use policy with details was shared with the board in their packet.

2. Budget Summary

- a) **Summary Report**—Lisa reviewed the current budget summary report. The 5-year food cooperative bid is due for renewal this year, with approximately 9 schools participating. Lisa and Doug met with Keystone's health insurance broker regarding increases for next year. Possible responses to estimated increases in

insurance cost were discussed. Doug supports paying the amount equivalent to a single policy.

- b) **Para Snow Days**—The issue of snow day pay for paras was discussed. The board agreed to pay an additional 2 days for paras for snow days this year. So far, there have been 2 paid snow days for Keystone paras, with 4 snow days occurring.
- c) **ESSER II Funding**—Doug explained that there was no money allocated in ESSER III for special education, therefore, Doug is working with the superintendents to ensure that Keystone staff are included in any activities supported by those funds in the future.

3. Personnel

- a) **Vacancy Report Licensed/New Hires by District**—Amy reported that we recently had 3 para resignations with 1 para hire to fill an open position. 2 teachers have been hired for next year along with a school psychologist.
- b) **Recruiting Efforts**—Recruiting efforts are ongoing.

At 7:52 p.m., Terri Coughlin left the meeting.

Executive Session

At 7:52 p.m., Justin Finley made a motion to go into Executive Session in the meeting room for 20 minutes, to discuss the latest teacher negotiations proposal pursuant to the exception under KOMA, reconvening in this room at 8:12 p.m. The Executive Session included Doug Anderson, Amy Conklin and Lisa Morando. Kelli Bottorff seconded and motion carried 5-0.

At 8:12 p.m., open session resumed.

At 8:12 p.m., Justin Finley made a motion to go into Executive Session in the meeting room for 5 minutes, to discuss the latest teacher negotiations proposal pursuant to the exception under KOMA, reconvening in this room at 8:17 p.m. The Executive Session included Doug Anderson, Amy Conklin and Lisa Morando. Kelli Bottorff seconded and motion carried 5-0.

At 8:17 p.m., open session resumed.

At 8:17 p.m., Justin Finley made a motion to go into Executive Session in the meeting room for 5 minutes, to discuss the latest teacher negotiations proposal pursuant to the exception under KOMA, reconvening in this room at 8:22 p.m. The Executive Session included Doug Anderson, Amy Conklin and Lisa Morando. Kelli Bottorff seconded and motion carried 5-0.

At 8:22 p.m., open session resumed.

Action Items

1. Personnel Update—Contract and Resignations, March 2022

ACTION

Kelli Bottorff made a motion to approve the March 2022 personnel update as presented. Justin Finley seconded and motion passed 5-0.

2. Administrator Contract Extensions

ACTION

Kelli Bottorff made a motion to approve 1-year contracts for Keystone Administrators Doug Anderson, Terri Coughlin, Belinda O’Dell and Amy Conklin to cover the period July 1, 2022-June 30, 2024. Jerry Barnes seconded and motion passed 5-0.

3. Para Snow Days

ACTION

Robin Croxell made a motion to approve paying up to 4 snow days for paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Jerry Barnes seconded and motion passed 5-0.

4. Use of Facility

ACTION

Jerry Barnes made a motion to approve the Use of Facilities Document as presented. Justin Finley seconded and motion passed 5-0.

Miscellaneous Items from Board Members

- 1. Director’s Comments**—Doug thanked the board for extending administrative contracts. He referenced articles in the KC and Topeka papers about teacher and mental health provider shortages, and thanked staff for assuming extra duties during this difficult time. He also recognized the positive partnerships between Keystone and area superintendents, and thanked Perry Lecompton for the loan of a wheelchair lift that will be installed in a Keystone van for the Turning Point program.
- 2. Any Board Member Wishing to Speak**—Jerry and Scott both thanked everyone for their hard work during these trying times and thanked the staff for trying to keep positions filled.
- 3. Other**—

Adjournment

At 8:31 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Scott Gibson
President

Linda Chalker
Clerk of the Board

Date _____