

**Sublette USD #374
Official Minutes**

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 9, 2026 in the Boardroom at the Administrative Office at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Joey Boone Shyree Wiswell
Grant Webber Pete Dyck Lee Mason

Members Absent: Juan Chacon, Ruthie Vaughan

Others Present:

Rex Richardson, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Rachel Lee, Elementary Principal; Sonya Pena, MS/HS Principal; Lyle Befort, Assistant MS/HS Principal and Activities Director; Renee Phoenix, Curriculum.

Guests:

Whitney Greeson, Cy Greeson

Item #1 Call Meeting to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item #2 Approve the Agenda

Mr. Mason moved, Seconded by Mr. Boone to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #3 Approve Minutes

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2026 meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #4 Treasure's Report- Approve Transfers

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Boone, Mr. Dyck, Mrs. Wiswell, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Webber reviewed Purchase Orders and supporting documents presented for payment as listed on the List of Warrants dated 1/31/2026 and approve the following transfers: \$91,006.33 from General Fund to At Risk; \$27,450.42 from General Fund to 4-Year Old At Risk; \$23,652.77 from General Fund to Daycare; \$49,034.15 from General Fund to Bilingual; \$3,550.60 from General Fund to Vocational; \$3,218.91 from General Fund to Professional Development; and \$48,528.85 from General Fund to Special Education. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to approve the purchases. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #5 Communications

Mr. Weber read the note of Thanks from the Rolla School District to USD 374 for continued support during their transition in Administrative Staff.

Item #6 Reports

Principals

Mrs. Pena reported the district is looking into adding more CTE Pathways including FACS and Business. The work key awards have been handed out. The ACT testing will be in February, along with student lead Parent Teacher Conferences. Absenteeism from sickness was declining as students and staff were getting over the recent illnesses that plagued our district.

Mrs. Lee reported the Haskell County Science Fair and the Fifth and Sixth Grade Science Fair will be in February along with Inservice and Parent Teacher Conferences. Her staff and student numbers were also improving after illness.

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Curriculum: Ms. Phoenix stated they are looking into Highlight Jump Math for curriculum. Spring Math is math intervention and is evidence based. KSDE will hopefully release test results soon. SAC and CCC meetings continue. TASN meeting is scheduled February 13th.

Ms. Patterson informed the Board of a full in-service day on Friday, February 13th. She also reported Trooper Ben was here and talked with the staff.

Activities: Mr. Befort reported winter sports are wrapping up and sign up sheets for spring sports have been available to the students. Scholar's Bowl will head to State Competition on February 14th.

SWPRSC- Mrs. Vaughan was not present to report on the meeting.

HPEC- Mr. Webber did not attend but in reviewing the minutes stated there were some new hires, some terminations, teacher evaluations and the results of the audit were presented.

Item #7 Public Form

Whitney Greeson and Cy Greeson expressed their concern about no longer having a welding program due to a resignation from the instructor. They expressed concern about the welding program and asked what could be done to get an instructor back in the classroom.

Item #8 HPEC Cooperative Agreement

Elkhart School District wants out of the High Plains Education Cooperative. HPEC extended an offer of compromise to which the Superintendent refused to even present to his Board of Education. Because of the impact the withdrawal will have on other district's Other High Plains Education Cooperative districts are asked to vote of whether or not to allow Elkhart to withdraw from the Cooperative. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Shyree to vote against allowing the withdrawal. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #9 Haskell County Wrestling

Last year interest was expressed in restarting the High School Wrestling program. This year, a sign up sheet was available for one week. It was returned with no signatures. There appears to no longer be any interest. Satanta wanted to include younger kids but also had some budgetary concerns that may not make it feasible for them to participate in this with us. Our new High School P.E. teacher will bring three kids of his own who are very active in wrestling and it may ignite some interest for next year. We will revisit next meeting.

Item #10 Facility Audit

Douglas Roofing and Kinney Glass are completing estimates on roofs and windows in the district to get an idea of the cost involved. We also are working with a company for the Track and two companies for the HVAC. We would like to get the Library, Choir/ Band room and Art room replaced sooner rather than later.

Item #11 2026-2027 Calendar

More than 70% of the votes supported the approval of Calendar #2, which include 4 early release days to allow for teacher In-Service and Professional Development. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to approve Calendar #2. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #12 MS High Plains League Music

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to allow for early dismissal for the MS/ HS on March 10 to allow for hosting MS High Plains League Music Contest. The motion carried 5-0.

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Item #13 Donations

Mr. Matt Lee and Mrs. Rachel Lee would like to donate a riding John Deere mower to the school district. The Christian Church also donated \$3,806.68 to pay all lunch balances in Elementary and MS/HS. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to approve receipt of these donations. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #14 Executive Session- Non-Elected Personnel

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to enter into Executive Session for 20 minutes, to include Mr. Richardson. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened at 8:20p.m. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to re-enter into Executive Session for another 20 minutes to also include Mrs. Pena. She entered at 8:30p.m. The Board reconvened at 8:40p.m. Mr. Mason made the motion, Mr. Boone seconded to re-enter into Executive session for another 5 minutes. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened at 8:46p.m. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to once again enter into Executive Session for another 5 minutes. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened at 8:52p.m. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to enter into a final Executive Session. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened at 8:57p.m.

Item #15 Personnel Employment

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Boone to accept the resignation of Monty Marlin as High School Science teacher. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to approve the hiring of Charlotte Sanders for High School Science. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to approve the hiring of Monty Marlin for Assistant High School Boys Golf and Matt Meng as High School Track. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Boone to pay out Mr. McMullen's vacation ½ in February and ½ in March. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Boone to Extend Mrs. Pena's and Mrs. Lee's contracts by one year and Mr. Richardson's contract by 2 years. The motion carried 5-0.

Item #16 Superintendent Report

Mr. Richardson wanted to remind the Board State Scholar's Bowl would be in Salina on Saturday, February 14th. The district will pay for hotel accommodations.

With no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Boone, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes are not considered official until approved by the Board at its next regular meeting.

President

Clerk

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