

**Sublette USD #374
Official Minutes**

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7pm in the Board Room.

Members Present:

Shyree Wiswell Grant Webber Ruthie Vaughan Cornelius Froese

Members Absent:

Juan Chacon Pete Dyck Lee Mason

Others Present: Rex Richardson, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Bobby Murphy, MS/HS Principal; Rachel Lee, Elementary Principal; Lyle Befort, Activities Director; Sonya Pena, Curriculum Director and Brent Fowler, Technology Director.

Guests: Sterling Hall

Item #1 Call Meeting to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Item #2 Approve the Agenda

Mr. Froese moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to approve the agenda. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #3 Approve the Minutes

Mr. Froese moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to approve the minutes from the prior month's meeting. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #4 Treasurer's Report

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Dyck, Mr. Webber, Mrs. Vaughan and Mrs. Wiswell reviewed Purchase Orders and supporting documents presented for payment. \$108,009.89 from General to At Risk; \$11,486.60 from General Fund to 4-Year Old At Risk, \$13,566.28 from General to Daycare; \$27,090.70 from General to Bilingual; \$17,800.98 from General to Food Service; \$5,967.82 from General to Vocational Fund, \$405.00 from General Fund to Professional Development and \$109,542.73 from General Fund to Special Education. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan, to approve the bills as listed on the List of Warrants dated 04/30/24 and authorize payment and transfers. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #5 Communications

The Board received a Thank You note from Mrs. Garetson.

Item #6 Student Presentations

There was no presentation.

Reports

Principals

Mr. Murphy reported that Prom went well. He stated that all purchase orders have been turned in for the 2024-2025 school year. All concerts and contests over the past month went well. The MS High Plains League Art Festival was in Stanton Co. We brought home a few awards. FFA attended State events in Manhattan. Baccalaureate was in Satanta and was well attended. Sr. Students did their walk through at the Elementary school May 6th. The Sr. Breakfast and graduation practice was May 8. Sr. awards and scholarship night went well. HS Graduation was May 11th. Eighth Grade promotion and MS awards night went well. Report cards and getting finished up and will be mailed shortly.

Mrs. Lee reported they have gotten May closed out. Summer School will be more like a Summer Camp to try and get more kids involved. It will have more activities. Currently about 60 students are enrolled and it will be 9am-Noon, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday June 4-27. Currently, we are anticipating 203 students to be enrolled in the Elementary School next year. There will be a tour of the school on Tuesday, May 21st regarding our application for the BEST grant.

Curriculum-

Mrs. Pena said all Curriculum Purchase Orders have been turned in. Ms. Brooke Patterson and Ms. Renee Phoenix have been hired to split the curriculum responsibilities. Mrs. Pena stated she would be retaining the responsibilities of KESA. She reminded the Board we were still looking for teachers for Band, FACS and FFA..

Activities Director

Mr. Befort reported that all Purchase Orders for uniforms and equipment have been turned in. We have four students going to State Track. We had one go to State Golf. Baseball and Softball are finished for the season. We hosted Haskell County Relays and there were 13 teams.

SWPRSC- No attendance, therefore there was nothing to report.

HPEC- Mr. Webber reported that there hadn't been anything out of the ordinary for May's meeting, but that April's meeting had some tense discussions involving the SPED and Virtual School situations.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

Item #7 School Foundation

Mr. Sterling Hall reported that the Foundation and school had discussions concerning the purchase of the large screened mobile computers. They are 75" and are touch screen. Wireless keyboard and mouse can also be used with them. They are replacing the smart boards. They proposed purchasing two and the district purchasing two. The cost would be around \$5,500 for two. Mrs. Vaughan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to agree to the purchase. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #8 High School Activity Account

Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to remove Mr. Bobby Murphy and add Mrs. Sonya Pena to the High School Activity Account, number 266108. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #9 District Health Insurance

Mr. Richardson informed the Board that ECG Insurance had been brought in last fall by the Al Shank Agency to help us try to find an affordable option for health insurance for our employees. We were not eligible for other group plans, but they did spend a lot of time with individuals fitting them with a Marketplace Policy. 14 people on the group plan chose to go that route. It also allowed 3 other classified employees who were previously not eligible for group coverage to get a good, affordable policy. Mr. Richardson just wanted to ask for the Board Approval to continue to allow this option to employees. Mrs. Vaughan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to approve this. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #10 Property and Casualty

Mr. Richardson updated the Board on the current Property and Casualty insurance situation. Beginning July 1st, our Property and Casualty insurance was looking to increase the deductible to 1%-2% of total property value and depreciating the roofs after 15 years. We are currently waiting on a quote back from The Conrade Group who is working with KBS and we should know something the first part of June. Mr. Richardson asked to table the matter until the June Board meeting when more information would be available.

Item #11 2024-2025 After School Grant

Mr. Richardson informed the Board that we made it to the second round of approval for the BEST after school grant. If approved, we will be adding the 4 Year-Olds to the program and maybe blend in some activities to go along with summer school. Christine will be here to tour on Tuesday, May 21st. They will meet in front of the Grade School at 12:15pm. Mr. Richardson invited any Board Members to attend.

Item #12 Executive Session- Negotiations

Mr. Froese moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations. The motion carried 4-0. After 10 minutes, the Board reconvened to open session at 8:07p.m.

Item #13 Executive Session- Non-Elected Personnel

Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to go into Executive Session to include Mr. Lyle Befort. The motion carried 4-0. After 30 minutes the Board reconvened to open session at 8:38 p.m. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to return to Executive Session for another 30 minutes. The motion carried 4-0. Mr. Befort left Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. The Board reconvened at 9:09p.m.

Item #14 Personnel

Mr. Froese moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to approve the Spring Coach Evaluations and Recommendations. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to hire Renee Phoenix and Brooke Patterson for District Curriculum Coordinators (equally splitting the supplemental); Tracie Burcham and Michelle Leonard to Year Book (equally splitting the supplemental). The motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Vaughan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to rescind the contract offers to James Shellenberger for HS English/ MS Football and Celeste Kunselman for HS FACS and MS Math. In addition, accept the resignations of Gary Page HS Girls Basketball and Volleyball; Randi Webb for Title I Para and Elle Blankenship for fifth and sixth grade para. The motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Vaughan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to hire the following for Certified Positions: Mr. Shawn Chen for HS Science (Transition Teacher); Bernie Leverett for MS Math/ HS Science; and Mrs. Brenda Wilcox for Second Grade (TAP Program). The motion carried 4-0. Mr. Froese moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to approve the following for Classified Positions: Ms. Faith Chaffin for Pre-School Para; Ms. Meredith Quimby for Kindergarten Para; Ms. Perla Olivas for Sixth Grade Para; and Ms. Lisa Hart for Title I Para. The motion carried 4-0.

Item #15 Superintendent Report

Mr. Richardson said the end of year luncheon was a nice way to end the year and head into a busy summer.

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Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to adjourn. The motion carried 4-0.

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

President
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Clerk

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