

**Sublette USD #374  
Official Minutes**

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 19, 2021 in the boardroom at the Administrative Office at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

|              |               |                  |            |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------|
| Jay Meyer    | Dave Holloway | Cornelius Froese | Cesar Pena |
| Grant Webber | Pete Dyck     |                  |            |

Members Absent –Lee Mason

Others Present- Jaime Banman, Lena Guenter, George Friesen, Christina Friesen, Tina Reimer, Susie Giesbrecht, Cody Parr, Jacob Friesen, Whitney Greeson, Jerry Penner, Jill Garetson, Tiffany Koehn, Cornelius Guenter, Jacob Guenther, Daniel Rijfkgogel, Jenny Rijfkgogel, Cody Forester, Justin Groth, Pete Reimer, Pete Dyck, Lena Dyck, Sara Wiebe

Rex Bruce, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Bob Murphy Middle/High School Principal; Rachel Lee, Elementary Principal; and Sonya Pena, Curriculum Director.

**Item #1 Call Meeting to Order /Approve Agenda**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Pena moved, seconded by Mr. Froese, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item #6a Approve the MS/HS Athletic Handbook. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #2 Approve Minutes**

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Holloway, to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2021 regular meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #3 Approve Bills and Authorize Payment**

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Froese, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Webber, Mr. Pena and Mr. Dyck reviewed Purchase Orders and supporting documents presented for payment. Mr. Holloway moved, seconded by Mr. Froese, to approve the bills as listed on the List of Warrants dated 07/31/21 and authorize payment. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #4 Approve Budget Transfers**

Mr. Pena moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to approve the following transfers: \$6,297.67 from General Fund to Bilingual, \$36,561.81 from General to Special Education. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #5 Approve Grade School Handbooks**

Mr. Pena moved, Seconded by Mr. Holloway to approve the Grade School Handbooks. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #6 Approve MS/HS Student and Faculty Handbooks**

Mr. Dyck moved, Seconded by Mr. Pena to approve the MS/HS Handbooks. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item#6a Approve MS/HS Athletic Handbook**

Mr. Holloway moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to approve the MS/HS Athletic Handbook. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #7 Approve new Adult Lunch Price**

Mr. Pena moved, Seconded by Mr. Dyck to approve the increase in the Adult Lunch Price to \$4.60 per meal. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Webber entered the meeting at 7:30pm.

**Public Forum**

Community members were present to discuss the mask policy plan for the staff and students of USD 374. Many stated they did not wish to see the students be required to wear masks in school. Mr. Bruce informed everyone that masks would be required during any transportation of students. This is due to a federal mandate, not district. Mr. Murphy shared that he had learned that Seward County Community College (SCCC) was requiring masks on campus. Therefore, he stated that any VoTech students taking their classes would be required to abide by the rules of SCCC. Mr. Bruce wanted to remind everyone the goal of USD 374 is to keep the kids in school and to do whatever we can to make that possible. He also stated we should have on site testing available for Strep, Covid and Flu for those students who exhibit symptoms. Tests will require parental consent.

**Reports**

**Curriculum**

Mrs. Pena stated the new teachers had the new curriculum map set up for the year and many were working on weekly lesson plans in preparation for the new year.

**Principals**

Mrs. Lee reported that she was excited to have the first ever district enrollment in conjunction with the MS/HS. Offered during enrollment this year will be the opportunity for students to go shopping for school clothes in the Grade School gym. She stated that the community had been extremely generous in their donations of gently used clothing, ranging in sizes infant to adult 3x. She said this would mean a lot to our families in need to be able to have nice clothing options available. Clothing is available at no cost but any free will donation received will go to our local school back pack food program.

Mr. Murphy reported the pictures had been taken for Senior Banners. These will line the hallways and will be up to showcase our seniors. Mr. Murphy also reinforced that after much hard work, district enrollment is ready to go. August 28 is the Back to School Bash. This is for all grades K-12 and will be on the lawn of the High School. There will be food, games, open swim from 1pm-3pm and movie night. Mr. Murphy also talked about

getting some nice lawn furniture for the outdoor amphitheater for the kids to enjoy and be able to hang. He also said that since Mr. Bruce is no longer going to be doing the Southwest Kansas Basketball, he had been approached by several in the community about keeping that event going and would update as more information became available.

#### Activities Director

Mr. Befort reported that summer weights had concluded. He said participation was good and going into fall sports there are over 50 signed up for weights. CPR classes have begun for coaches and fall sports highlight will be August 26<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he will need to let KSHSAA know by September 13<sup>th</sup> whether or not we will be making the change to 8 man football. There will be a special board meeting for this on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon.

#### Superintendent

Covid tests, strep tests and flu tests should be coming to our district to administer to students throughout the year. Mr. Bruce stated that the E-Rate Grant was available again and he had applied for it. It pays for 80% of our internet. The new grant will go towards new Chromebooks and iPads for the district. He informed the Board that KASB Boardsmanship training had available classes and encouraged the Board Members to participate. After discussion with the Board, it was decided that a KASB representative would come to Sublette on September 7<sup>th</sup> for in person Boardsmanship training and goal setting for the upcoming school year.

#### **Item#8 Remove Monty Marlin from Signature Cards at Centera Bank and add Bob Murphy.**

Mr. Holloway moved, Seconded by Mr. Froese to remove Monty Marlin and add Bob Murphy to the MS/HS Signature card at Centera Bank. The motion carried 6-0

#### **Item #9 Approve School Opening Plan**

The Board reviewed the School Opening Plan which will currently allow for masks to be optional. It was agreed that this could be revisited at any time if the challenges change for the district. Mr. Webber moved and Mr. Froese seconded to approve the motion. The motion carried 6-0

#### **Adjourn**

With no other business on the Agenda, Mr. Holloway moved, Seconded by Mr. Froese to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0.