

**Sublette USD #374
Official Minutes**

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 9, 2024 in the boardroom at the Administrative Office at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Lee Mason
Pete Dyck

Juan Chacon
Grant Webber

Ruthie Vaughan
Shyree Wiswell

Members Absent:

Cornelius Froese

Others Present:

Rex Richardson, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Sonya Pena, Middle School/High School Principal; Lyle Befort, Asst. Middle School/ High School Principal, Activities Director; Rachel Lee, Elementary Principal

Guests – Paula Landeros, Rhesa Webber, Leigh Bird, Ryan Bird, Ardon Zanghi, Chrissy Zanghi, Whitney Groth, Kaleb Groth, Britney Marlin, Ginger Orwig, John Ornelas, Faith Chaffin, Tregg Rodriguez, Melissa Macias.

Item #1 Call Meeting to Order /Approve Agenda

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell, to approve the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session as item #2. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #2 Executive Session- Student Related Matter

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to enter into Executive Session for 20 minutes to include Saul Landeros, Ardon Zanghi, Chrissy Zanghi, Ryan Bird, Leigh Bird, Melissa Macias, Rhesa Webber, Lyle Befort, Sonya Pena. The Board reconvened at 7:30p.m.

Item #3 Approval of August Minutes

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to approve the agenda and add a second executive session. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #4 Treasurer's Report

There was nothing to report as we are in the process of implementing new accounting software. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell. The motion carried 6-0.

#5 Communications

The Board received a Thank You note from the family of Jose Bustillos for the plant sent to his memorial service.

#6 Introduction of new staff members.

This was moved to the October meeting.

Reports

Principals

Mrs.Pena reported there had been KESA training the first two days of school She stated she would like to see Facebook updates weekly about events and activities at the MS/HS. She stated new teachers were finding their way as the year was beginning.

Mrs. Lee reported there were two more students enrolled at the elementary. She stated we are waiting on the new HPEC Special Education teacher to arrive. Until she does, someone will be filling in for her. We received a Dollar General Grant and a Patterson Pre-K Grant. The Patterson Grant funding continues from last year to fund our Pre-K program. We received the BEST 21st Century After School Grant to fund our After School Program. The program has approximately 88 students enrolled and goes until 5:40 p.m. She also reported the United Methodist Church purchased all of the school supplies for the elementary students, for a cost of around \$8,000. She also stated her new teachers were settling in.

Curriculum-Ms. Patterson and Ms. Avritt informed the Board the Back to School In-service went well. They stated that Spanish textbook samples had been ordered and Pre-K was enjoying a new curriculum. They reported they had attended classes at Fort Hays State and would be attending conferences in Wichita on Tuesday October 1st, through Thursday October 3rd. SAC meeting have started back up. The Curriculum Coordinator Committee is in need of Site Council Members. Mrs. Pena stated that the previously retired teachers had learned to submit their plans digitally.

Activities Director – Mr. Befort all fall sports and activities were underway and going well.

SWPRSC

There was no attendance so nothing to report.

HPEC

Mr. Webber reported the meeting was on the 15th and he was out of town. He stated in looking over the minutes there had been a couple resignations and one hired.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum

Item #7 Auditorium Doors/ Windows HS

Mr. Richardson stated the bids for the project were included in their Board Packets. The Board discussed if there was any cost that could be reduced or eliminated. They decided to table the motion to the next meeting to allow time to explore potential options. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #8 Centera Bank- Save for America

Britney Marlin presented the Save for America program to the Board. She stated that it helps the kids build a savings to use for college and asked for approval to continue the program in the elementary school. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to continue. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #9 Patterson Grant

Mr. Mason moved, Mr. Dyck seconded to approve the acceptance of the Patterson Grant. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #10 Safe Defend

Our Safe Defend system is becoming obsolete and Mr. Richardson has been looking at the best way to upgrade. Currently, the best option seems to go with a system that is three years old. The cost is \$33,750 and includes equipment and installation for all buildings. It will allow more and easier access by staff to the Safe Defend boxes. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Chacon to approve purchase. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #11 KASB Policy Update

Mr. Richardson asked the Board to approve the one update as presented. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #12 Executive Session Non-Elected Personnel

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to enter into Executive Session for 20 minutes to include Mrs. Pena, Mr. Befort and Mr. Richardson. They reconvened to open session at 8:23 p.m. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to return to Executive Session for 5 minutes. The motion carried 6-0. At 8:29 p.m. the Board returned to Open Session. Mrs. Wiswell moved and Mrs. Vaughan seconded to return to the final Executive Session for 5 minutes. The motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Pena and Mr. Befort left the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The Board reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

Item #13 Personnel Employment

Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mrs. Vaughan to rescind the contract of Mr. Shawn Chen. The motion carried 6-0. Mr. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to approved the hiring of Mr. Owen Marlin for HS Science. The motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Vaughan moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to increase the Supplemental contract of Mrs. Paula Leverett by \$1,000 to cover additional duties of her work with a band student. The motion carried 6-0.

Item #14 Superintendent Report

Mr. Richardson just reminded the Board Members to let the district know whether or not they would be able to attend fall conference in Wichita in November.

Adjournment

With no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Mason to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0.

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

President

Clerk

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