

Holton USD #336
Board of Education --Second Regular Meeting
August 30, 2004, 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Heckerson, Jim Chamberlain (6:02), Alan Bagby, Keith Eubanks, Brent Nelson, Mark Pruett, Joni White (6:17).

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Rahe, Jo Krogman, Alan Beam, Rich Bechard, Jay D. Nelson, Elaine Nielson, Susan Sipe, Mark B. Wilson, Mark C. Wilson, David Powls, Mike Scheele.

President Heckerson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Member Pruett and seconded by Member Bagby to approve the agenda of the August 30, 2004, second regular board meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

A motion was made by Member Eubanks and seconded by Member Pruett to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2004, first regular and August 23, 2004, special board meetings. Motion carried, 5-0.

Jim Chamberlain arrived at 6:02 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) Supt. Rahe presented a Boardmanship award from KASB to Mark Pruett.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) None

NEW BUSINESS:

Susan Sipe shared a presentation she gave at the United School Administrators meeting earlier this year which related to leadership goals, responsibilities and outcomes.

The Leadership team presented 04-05 goals and plans to reach those goals. The five target goals: public relations; morale; buildings; curriculum; and focus. To meet these goals Dr. Rahe outlined the following steps.

1) Public Relations: The district will contract with Greenbush to publish a quarterly district newsletter. It will be distributed in *The Holton Recorder* and *Advertiser*. The first newsletter to come out October 4th. Staff and students will be doing more speaking engagements highlighting district programs. The high school will be having presenters; e-mailing progress reports; a school site council at each building; students will be doing more programming on Channel 19. At Colorado Elementary sending home information weekly on student activities; staff will be meeting and visiting with parents at end of day. The middle school will also be sending out quarterly newsletters developed by students. At Central Elementary they will be e-mailing parents, continuing Parent Newsletters, classroom newsletters. Principals and superintendent will be out in the district viewing, visiting and presenting at various functions, getting the good news to the patrons and

parents. The board thanked David Powls for the newspaper coverage and assistance with the Newsletter distribution.

2) Morale: Important to all staff and students to keep positive attitudes throughout not only the school year but throughout life. Buildings working on ways and ideas to keep morale up and motivated. Some ideas were "Teacher of Week", secret pals, KICK and TAPT awards, FISH activities. Current theme is "Island" theme, fresh fruit during In-Service, Luau theme first day. All getting involved. Optimist's served meal first day of In-service; district served hamburgers on second day. September theme to be "Cruise" theme. Other changes: high school lunch change, good comments "buckets", thank you's and appreciation notes, encourage healthy staff activities. Supt. Rahe also noted that there will be no school on French Market day due to In-Service Day. Activities planned to allow staff and students to still participate at French Market.

3) Buildings: Dr. Stewart will have his report ready for next meeting on September 13th. Then the board will need to decide plan of action. Visit with patrons, get all ideas and opinions for solutions. HTK architects to be at September meeting also. Colorado Elementary building having to watch carefully its electrical use to avoid blowing fuses. All day kindergarten needed to allow district to meet State Standards, next year all grades will be testing. Mark B. Wilson thanked the district and high school for converting locker room into office space for staff from mobile and district office.

4) Curriculum: Training this p.m. Working on Foreign Language and Science solutions for K-7. Continuing work on Social Studies alignment, guided reading program K-5, Science option, possible new staff. All staff and students learning new tools and technology. Will be doing more research and developing ideas from those schools already "Exemplary Status".

5) Focus: Administrators had great opportunity at retreat to focus on reasons for being and doing what district needs. Stressed welcoming, encouraging and motivating staff and students. This is a great place to be and a great opportunity to influence students. Must control individual attitudes, stay focused. Everyone appreciates positive attitudes.

Board sees biggest issue as communications. Positive feedback a good plan. Need to "ask", visit and listen with staff, students and patrons. Expressed thanks to all administrators for wonderful job.

Rich Bechard shared extracurricular programs philosophy. Working on developing character based athletic program, competitive team, play by the rules, well disciplined. Holding meetings with coaches, players and parents. Senior students set the standards for others by example. Parents role, supportive. Coaches key to program. Difficulty is assessing the program. Best season ever last year, very few penalties in all sports. Work easier due to good fans and good people. Hope to build successful, competent and caring characteristics.

The board was impressed with the presentation and for pro-active approach. May take a long time to really assess program success.

A motion was made by Member Chamberlain and seconded by Member Eubanks that Holton USD #336 recess to executive session at 7:35 p.m. for 15 minutes returning to regular session at 7:50 p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

a. Matters pertaining to non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals. Motion carried, 7-0. Supt. Rahe, Elaine Nielson and David Cunningham, by phone if needed, remained in executive session with the board.

Returned to regular session at 7:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Member Pruett and seconded by Member Eubanks that Holton USD #336 recess to executive session at 7:50 p.m. for 10 minutes returning to regular session at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

a. Matters pertaining to non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals. Motion carried, 7-0. Supt. Rahe and Elaine Nielson remained in executive session with the board.

Returned to regular session at 8:00 p.m.

No further action taken.

President Heckerson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Juanita (Jo) Krogman
Clerk, Board of Education, Holton USD #336
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