

## APPROVED

Holton USD #336  
Board of Education --First Regular Meeting  
Feb 15, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Allen Arnold, Todd Holaday, Steven Bowser, Bob Phillips, Jay Watkins, Mike Ford, Shelby Patch

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

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

**A motion was made by Member Ford and seconded by Member Patch** to approve the amended agenda of the Feb 15, 2010 regular board meeting. Motion carried, 7-0.

**A motion was made by Member Watkins and seconded by Member Ford** to approve the minutes of the Jan 11th, 2010 regular board meeting and Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 special board mtg. Motion carried, 7-0.

**A motion was made by Member Watkins and seconded by Member Patch** to approve the warrant numbers 48125 through 48260 and Feb payroll as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Rex Larison wanted to follow up on the information he distributed to the board at the community meeting. He wanted input as to why our cost per student is higher than surrounding districts and if we are getting the best value for our dollar.

Dr. Karleskint said in summary that our cost per student is higher due to many factors. Our district has smaller class sizes, more paras in the classrooms, higher teacher salaries and benefits paid by the district along with multiple programs that we offer our students such as Technology and Vo-Ag. This has allowed our district to meet and exceed the expectations set by the state as far as student AYP is concerned.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### 1. Lew Mills gift - Karen Ford

Karen Ford met with her middle school math teacher whom she felt had a significant impact on her education. He has given monetary gifts in the past for teachers to do educational projects . After visiting with Karen, Lew presented her with a \$500.00 check. She would like to do an English project with the Jr class. She has requested help from Kurt Haussler and Debbie Harshaw in completing this project and they both said they would be interested. The board would like for her to put together a plan and return at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year and inform the board of what the project will consist of.

**A motion was made by Member Arnold and seconded by Member Patch** to accept the gift of \$500.00 from Lew Mills for an English project to be headed by Karen Ford. Motion carried, 7-0.

### 2. Virginia and Frosty Farmer gift

Virginia and the late Frosty Farmer presented a gift of \$1,500. It was discussed with Virginia how she would like the money to be distributed. The amount of \$1,000 is to be used for a picnic table at the new patio area near the football stadium and \$500 to be given to the fitness center.

**A motion was made by Member Patch and seconded by Member Ford** to accept the gift of \$1,500.00 from Virginia Farmer to be used as stated above. Motion carried, 7-0.

### 2. Middle School update - Ralph and staff

Ralph Blevins, Annette Marten, Audrey Baxter, Rita Ent, Keri Miller, Erika Allen, Brian Hickman, Stacy Lasswell and Terry Hime presented to the board. A packet of information was distributed to the board members that consisted of HMS data on attendance, enrollment, AYP data, MAPS data and Tier instruction in both Math and Reading. They also discussed how they are monitoring progress in students and their improvement with intensified instruction. Also discussed was Science data and motivation strategies being used with students. Knowing that one of the items that is being considered for cuts is summer school the staff at HMS has requested to have summer school. They would do it at no cost and it

would be for the kids in extreme need. It would be cut down to three weeks in June. They would ask the district to provide a vehicle and gas to transport needed students and the middle school facility to hold the classes in.

They also handed out information concerning switching from the block schedule to the eight period day. They provided data on how this change would affect the students along with advantages and disadvantages.

### 3. Technology Update - Tom Sextro

Tom Sextro, Stephen Vermillion and Gloria Meerpohl were present to provide information to the board. A packet was distributed which summarized the current computers, ELKI projectors, printers and district base stations throughout the district. Graphs pertaining to age and building locations of different equipment were discussed.

Tom also presented an opportunity through the E-rate program to apply for an Aruba Network grant that would potentially allow the district to upgrade its wireless infrastructure in different school buildings. Paperwork would have to be filed and then the Federal Government distributes the money until it is gone. We don't know at this time what districts it will be distributed to.

If the district is chosen to receive a grant Tom will return to the board to decide if the district would like to move forward with projects.

**A motion was made by Member Ford and seconded by Member Phillips** to approve Tom Sextro submitting the paperwork to apply for the Aruba Network grant. Motion carried, 7-0.

### 4. Policies and Procedures for General Ed intervention evaluation/eligibility - Mark B Wilson

Mark B. Wilson brought to the boards attention that our Special Ed Cooperative has to create a book of policies, practices and procedures for General Ed intervention and Evaluation/Eligibility. This is due to the fact that our district is receiving Federal ARRA money and is a new requirement by IDEA. We are creating our policies and procedures in alignment with the current written state policies and procedures.

**A motion was made by Member Patch and seconded by Member Holaday** to adopt the General Education interventions and evaluation/eligibility policies, practices and procedures as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.

5. Fresh Start update- Dee Barrow

Dee Barrow gave an overview of Fresh Start and some of the data she has since management was taken over by USD 336.

**08-09-school year**

118 students counted in the audit.  
33 students graduated

**09-10-school year**

128 students counted in the audit.  
30+ expected to graduate

Fresh Start has 3 full time employees and they are open 9 am to 9 pm M-F for students and often the staff is there earlier and later. Two of the three staff members are bi-lingual. They also have remote computer stations located at the Jackson County Jail, Sac & Fox, Golden Eagle and PBPN community center. This allows students to work at these locations. Dee has access at any time to see what students are currently using and who has been on the system.

Students come from Atchison, Holton, Jackson Heights, Onaga, Royal Valley, South Brown County, Valley Falls, Vermillion and Sabetha. Currently 38 of the 128 students are under the age of 18. These are students who have dropped out of MS and HS and are currently obtaining their degree from Fresh Start. Dee commented she has a number of parolees and even has had students at the Jackson County Jail she has helped to get HS degrees and GED's. They also have had a large number of Spanish speaking population that are taking classes at the facility.

The audits have become much more detailed in the last year and are requiring much more planning and tracking of students and their progress from year to year. With federal monies they want to ensure students aren't in the program for more than the four years it would normally take. Dee encouraged anyone wanting more information to contact her or if

they know anyone who could benefit from the program to send them her way.

President Bowser called for a 10-minute recess at 8:36.

#### 6. Football field patio - update

Mitch Beims reported we have received 2 bids and are waiting on a third.

All seats have been renewed except 50. At this time he will be contacting those individuals to see if they still want them since they have not turned money in at this time. After paying off the seating last year and having around \$2,000 left when adding it to this years profits we should have around \$10,000 +. Mitch would like consensus of the board to seek infromatory bids for expansion of the stadium seating on the East end since that is where we will be doing work for the patio already. This way we have an approximate cost to plan around.

It was a consensus of the board to allow Mitch to seek infromatory bids on expansion to the east of the current seating in the football stadium.

#### 7. 2010-2011 Calendar

Committee members were Mark C. Wilson, Mitch Beims, Robin Fernkopf and Mark Middlemist.

**A motion was made by Member Watkins and seconded by Member Ford** to approve the 2010-2011 school year calendar as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.

#### 8. Early Dismissal for High School on Friday, February 19th at 1pm

Mitch Beims said we are hosting regional wrestling tournament Friday. 15 schools will be arriving with wrestlers and the tournament starts at 2:00 p.m. Requesting to do 1 lunch at 12:30 and dismiss school at 1:00 p.m.

**A motion was made by Member Arnold and seconded by Member Phillips** to approve release at 1:00 p.m. for the High School on Friday, February 19, 2010. Motion carried, 7-0.

**A motion was made by Member Ford and seconded by Member Phillips** that Holton USD #336 recess to executive session at 9:05 p.m. for 30 minutes returning to regular session at 9:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

- a. Matters pertaining to non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s). Motion carried, 7-0.

Jim Karleskint remained in executive session with the board.

Returned to regular session at 9:35 p.m.

**A motion was made by Member Patch and seconded by Member Holaday** that Holton USD #336 recess to executive session at 9:35p.m. for 25 minutes returning to regular session at 10:00p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

- a. Matters pertaining to non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s). Motion carried, 7-0.

Jim Karleskint remained in executive session with the board.

Returned to regular session at 10:00p.m.

**A motion was made by Member Holaday and seconded by Member Phillips** to extend regular session for 60 minutes at 10:00 p.m. Motion carried, 7-0.

**A motion was made by Member Phillips and seconded by Member Ford** that Holton USD #336 recess to executive session at 10:00p.m. for 15 minutes returning to regular session at 10:15p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

- a. Matters pertaining to non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s). Motion carried, 7-0.

Jim Karleskint remained in executive session with the board.

Returned to regular session at 10:15p.m.

## **PERSONNEL:**

### **1) New employment/Resignations**

**A motion was made by Member Patch and seconded by Member Ford** to approve resignations for Neta Halton; Elem, Jan Brandt; Elem, Brenda Noakes; SE PDT, Nancy Jernberg; SE Speech. Motion carried, 7-0.

**A motion was made by Member Watkins and seconded by Member Patch** to adjourn the meeting and reconvene February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. Motion carried, 7-0.

No further action taken.

President Bowser adjourned the meeting at 10:27 p.m.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22nd- Parent Teacher Conferences  
February 23rd - Parent Teacher Conferences  
February 25<sup>th</sup> – 6:00p.m. Reconvene Board Meeting  
March 8th - Board of Education Meeting

Minutes as recorded by:

Dee Folk  
Board Clerk, Board of Education, Holton USD #336  
515 Pennsylvania, Holton, KS 66436