



# BOARD REPORT

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December 13, 2010

5:00 p.m.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**Board Members:** Wade Babcock; Joyce Carter; Jean Cavanaugh; David Holste; Dr. Larry Kutina; Kevin Mauler; and Dwight Young.

### **Communications:**

- Board Member Comments. Jean Cavanaugh complimented Eisenhower Elementary School for presenting a program against bullying. She was pleased to learn that the KSHSAA will allow the GB High School soccer boys to attend Barton Community College soccer practice sessions. The recent annual meeting of the Kansas Association of School Boards was an informative, positive meeting. Jean noted that Eisenhower School music students recently performed at the senior citizen Christmas party and that their presentation was excellent.
- USD 428 Education Foundation. Superintendent Vernon reported approximately \$8,000 was raised through the Education Foundation's recent annual dinner and auction.

**Approval of Title VI B and Early Childhood Flow-Through Budget Application:** The public must be notified of the Title VI B and ECH budget, which covers salaries for school psychologists, ECH staff, speech therapists, and other certified staff. The 2010-2011 application amounts to \$1,013,504 for Title VI B pass-through funds (slightly lower than last year's amount) and \$40,407 for ECH (nearly equal to the previous year). For the past thirty days, the budget application has been available for public review at the Barton County Cooperative of Special Services office. The BOE approved the flow-through budget application.

**Seventh Grade Athletics:** Patrons Mike and Tatum Dunekack asked the BOE to consider initiating competitive athletics for grade 7 students beyond the current wrestling and track opportunities. Tatum noted that many children play competitive sports beginning in grade 4 and that the opportunity of 7<sup>th</sup> grade competitive sports would further build athletic skills and would subsequently benefit Great Bend's 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school athletic teams. Through numerous telephone calls, Tatum learned that many schools provide 7<sup>th</sup> grade competitive teams in football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, and track, with some offering cross country and tennis.

Tatum identified two options. Option #1 would have the 7<sup>th</sup> grade team separate from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade team, with 7<sup>th</sup> graders playing other 7<sup>th</sup> grade teams and/or 8<sup>th</sup> grade "B" teams. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams could schedule games in the same towns and at the same times in order to share transportation. Option #2 would involve having middle school "A" and "B" team for each sport, with try-outs open to both the 7<sup>th</sup>

and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and with placement according to skills. An intramural program could continue if so desired.

There was discussion regarding costs, coaching support, existing athletic uniforms and equipment, potential opponents within a reasonable distance, sport seasons, and benefits to the school district. The Board will take the topic into consideration. A report and recommendation will be developed, followed by BOE action at a subsequent meeting.

**Presentation of 2009-2010 Audit:** The BOE members received the 2009-2010 business audit report, management letter, and governance letter from Adams, Brown, Beran, and Ball, Chtd. Vickie Dreiling, CPA, issued an unqualified opinion, with no reportable budgetary, statutory, or compliance violations. She reviewed audit details, including the financial statements showing an ending balance of \$16,506,638. All funds were spent within budget authority. An accountability item was cited, though that has been resolved. A single audit of federal funds was reviewed as were activity fund details. Mrs. Dreiling complimented USD 428 personnel for cooperation and assistance during the auditing process. Board approval of the audit will be an agenda item of the 1/10/11 meeting.

**Approval of Roofing Bids:** Dan Brungardt described the scope of roofing projects planned for Jefferson and Riley Elementary Schools and for the district warehouse. Roofing bids, which had been facilitated by HTK, were opened on 12/8/10. The BOE approved the overall low bid from Diamond Roofing for \$356,610.

	<u>Arrow Roofing</u>	<u>High Plains Roofing</u>	<u>Diamond Roofing</u>	<u>Ryan Roofing</u>	<u>Wray Roofing</u>	<u>Roof Masters</u>
Jefferson	\$316,275	\$245,300	\$230,640	\$285,200	238,190	238,105
Riley	79,500	33,480	20,080	65,000	44,332	32,940
Warehouse	160,000	138,960	105,890	150,000	138,650	149,320
	\$555,775	\$417,740	\$356,610	\$500,200	\$421,172	\$420,365

**Amended BCCSE Cooperative Agreement:** The former Barton County Cooperative of Special Education agreement included Claflin, Ellinwood, Great Bend, Hoisington, and Otis-Bison school districts. Claflin, having recently joined the newly formed Central Plains school district, will no longer be included within the cooperative agreement, therefore initiating an updated agreement.

The former Lorraine school district (now Central Plains) had received special education services through the cooperative of Salina, although Claflin students received BCCSE services. There has been USD 428 communication with personnel of Central Plains as well as with the Salina special services cooperative. Although no special services agreements have been officially decided to date by those entities, it is presumed the services for that the new school district will generally be Salina based. USD 428 Board members reviewed a newly drafted agreement of Barton County Cooperative of Special Services. Updated information and the proposed new contract encompassing Ellinwood, Great Bend, Hoisington, and Otis-Bison will be brought to the BOE for action at a subsequent meeting.

**Approval of 2011-2012 Program of Studies:** Ruth Heinrichs and GBHS Principal Tim Friess identified the proposed updates to the 2010-2011 GBHS Program of Studies, and they answered related questions regarding the revisions, high school graduation requirements, and Board of Regents standards. The BOE approved the document with the proposed revisions. GBHS guidance counselors, parents, and staff can now begin planning students' educational courses for the next year.

## Curriculum and Instruction Report:

- Challenge Awards and Standard of Excellence. Ruth Heinrichs announced the USD 428 Challenge Awards and Standard of Excellence Awards, as noted below. Congratulations were extended to students and staff members.

<b><u>2010 CHALLENGE AWARDS</u></b>	
<b><u>Certificate of Merit</u></b>	
Riley:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math; 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading.
Park:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading
GBMS:	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
<b><u>Certificate of Recognition</u></b>	
Eisenhower:	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math.
Park:	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math.
Riley:	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math.
GBMS:	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math.
GBHS:	Reading.
<b><u>2010 STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE</u></b>	
Eisenhower:	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; Building-Wide Reading; 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; Building-Wide Math.
Jefferson:	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; Building-Wide Reading; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math; 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; Building-Wide Math.
Lincoln:	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; Building-Wide Reading; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math; 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; Building-Wide Math.
Park:	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading.
Riley:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math.
GBMS:	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading; Building-Wide Reading; 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math; Building-Wide Math.
GBHS:	Building-Wide Reading.

- Financial Literacy. Mrs. Heinrichs reported on financial literacy objectives at GBHS. She identified consumer math, family and consumer science, accounting, and special education as sources for such instruction, noting that financial literacy instruction does not reach all high school students. The topic will proceed through the district's curriculum process.
- Letter Writing / Envelopes. Mrs. Heinrichs provided K-12 objectives for improving students' letter-writing and envelope-preparation skills. Mastery of letter-writing skills and adaptation to real-life experiences are foremost. She presented an example by detailing a recent GBHS freshmen exercise, without any pre-instruction. Students were asked to address envelopes and to write letters to the principal telling what they would like improved at GBHS. Teachers graded the letters as follows: *A* grades to 114 students; *B* grades to 50 students; *C* grades to 39 students; *D* grades to 7 students; and *F* grades to 19 students. Administrators and teachers consider letter writing skills important and will continue to focus on the topic.

[Minutes were available for the 12/6/10 Professional Development Council (PDC) meeting as well as the 11/2/10 and 12/7/10 Curriculum Steering Committee meetings.]

**Amendment to Agenda:** The BOE approved an amendment of the agenda to include the topic of brass name plates from the stadium at GBHS.

## **Business / Operations / Clerk / State and Federal Programs Report:**

- Brass Name Plates. The BOE previously was informed of the brass name plates removed from the high school stadium at the time of its recent demolition and reconstruction. Dan Brungardt proposed that the BOE would consider a 4' x 8' wall hanging in the Panther Athletic Center which would be titled *Contributors to the Original Construction Project in 1955* and which would list each contributor, as written on the original name plate. The original name plates would be returned to businesses and individuals by a determined date. There was discussion regarding the style of the wall hanging as well as the possibility of adding a brief history for clarification. The topic will be returned to the BOE for action at a subsequent meeting.
- Approval of Quotes for Door / Hardware Replacements. USD 428 received quotes from C.V. Cale, Inc., for door and hardware replacements as previously described to the BOE. The Board approved the quotes, which total \$15,856.
  - Washington Site: \$3,506
  - GB High School \$6,874
  - Riley Elementary School: \$5,476
- Technology Update. The administration continues to seek ways to grow in technology yet to control costs. Dan Brungardt described two units which could help the district meet these goals.

He demonstrated the *N Computer*, a \$100 item, which could operate programs at the elementary and middle school levels. The small unit, operating from one CPU, could enable the computer program on three to five monitors. It is not designed to work on the laptop carts or in the programs at the high school computer labs. Certainly this would maximize technology at a relatively low cost.

Additionally Mr. Brungardt demonstrated *IPads* and described various potential uses in the district. This could include replacing textbooks, changing Board of Education to a paperless system, aiding teachers, and more. At this time the State Assessments cannot be taken on *IPads*.

## **Superintendent's Report:**

- Teacher Evaluation Committee Update. The committee met on 12/13/10 to continue the complex task of developing an effective teacher evaluation document and process. Superintendent Vernon stressed the great value of rubrics in the teacher evaluation process. The well identified definitions / rubrics would provide clarity, exactness, and understanding to the evaluator as well as to the teacher. The teacher evaluation review process continues.
- Approval of Donation Request. The Autism Interdisciplinary Team within the Barton County Special Services sought and received BOE approval to request a \$300 donation from Wal Mart Supercenter for the benefit of students. The gift certificate, if awarded, will be used to purchase sensory items (i.e., squeezable or bendable products for placement within "fidget boxes") to assist autistic students in maintaining calmness and attention to academic tasks.

**Bills and Financial Reports:** Dan Brungardt presented the warrants, financial report, travel summary, and health insurance status report to the Board members.

**Consent Agenda:** Board members, by consent, approved the following details after removing the Personnel Report to discuss details in executive session

- Approval of BOE Meeting Minutes: November 8, 18 and 29, 2010
- Bills and Financial Reports: As presented by Dan Brungardt.
- Personnel Report:  
Certified Teacher Appointment:
  - Ms. Cassandra Borg, Teacher of Math at GB High School

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:** Board members were reminded of meetings / events.

- **Chief Negotiators Seminar:** on January 6, 2010, in Salina, KS.
- **BOE Luncheon Meeting:** at noon on January 25, 2011, at Park Elementary School. (There is no BOE luncheon meeting in December of 2010.)
- **KASB Governmental Relations Conference:** on February 15-16, 2011, in Topeka, KS.

**Executive Session:** The BOE moved to executive session for the discussion of nonelected personnel.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

