



BOARD REPORT

January 9, 2012

5:00 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Board Members: Wade Babcock; Doug Bender; Joyce Carter; Dr. Larry Kutina; Kevin Mauler; Cheryl Rugan; and Dwight Young.

Approval of 2010-2011 Business Audit: On 12/12/11, Vickie Dreiling, representing Adams, Brown, Beran, and Ball, presented to BOE members a first reading of the 2010-2011 business audit. ABBB issued a clean audit opinion, having no reportable budgetary, statutory, or compliance violations. The BOE approved the 2010-2011 audit.

Shady Grove Property: The Shady Grove property continues to be offered for sale through local realtors. The BOE will be notified immediately if an offer would be received so a special meeting could be called to consider the details. If no offers are forthcoming after a period of time, the BOE may consider sale through an auction process.

Approval of Roofing Bids: Bids, as listed below, were opened 1/5/12 for roofing projects at Park Elementary School and GB Middle School. The district's architect has reviewed the submitted bids.

<u>Contractors</u>	<u>Base Bids</u>		<u>Combo Base Bids</u>	
	<u>Park</u>	<u>GBMS</u>	<u>Park</u>	<u>GBMS</u>
Arrow Roofing and Sheet Metal	\$ 86,869	\$472,000	--	--
Color Unlimited, Inc.	\$ 92,965	No Bid	--	--
Diamond Roofing	\$ 69,320	\$524,994	\$63,015	\$501,130
High Plains Roofing, Inc.	\$ 79,850	\$498,780	\$78,250	\$489,960
Larry Walty Roofing, Inc.	No Bid	\$461,900	--	--
Roof Masters	\$118,575	\$490,000	--	--
Ryan Roofing	\$118,000	\$498,000	\$116,000	\$495,000
Washington Companies, Inc.	\$103,953	No Bid		

Following discussion of base bids and combo base bids, the BOE approved the bids listed below.

Park Elementary School	Diamond Roofing	\$ 69,320
Great Bend Middle School	Larry Walty Roofing, Inc.	\$461,900

Report on 7th Grade Competitive Sports: Activities Director David Meter addressed the BOE with information relating to 7th grade sports competition: basketball, football, soccer, track, volleyball, and wrestling. The basic component for competitive sports is finding a schedule. A decision would further require a study of potential student benefits as well as related personnel and financial matters. Data was provided on relevant topics.

*Number of coaches	*Number of games	*Uniforms	*Facilities
*Cost of salaries	*Meals	*Loss of instructional time	
*Team levels (A; B; Combined)	*Officials	*Transportation	
*Number of participants	*Equipment	*Substitutes	

Mr. Meter and GBMS Activities Director Kathy Hafner explained there is no league available at this time for the GBMS students, although future decisions of some schools could subsequently change that. Some youth participate in private traveling teams, while others participate in the middle schools' instructional leagues. Competitive sports would require cutting the number of participants to squad sizes. The middle school concept promotes participation, and a Board member noted that cutting participants goes against that philosophy.

There was discussion. Mr. Meter's recommendation was to maintain and strengthen GBMS athletics as it is now and to wait to learn the decisions other schools (potential competitors) regarding 7th grade competitive sports.

First Reading of 2012-2013 Program of Studies: Ruth Heinrichs and GBHS Principal Tim Friess identified the proposed updates to the 2012-2013 GBHS Program of Studies, and they answered related questions. Most proposed revisions related to aligning course descriptors with State Pathways and Course Codes. Following the review, the BOE approved the 2012-2013 Program of Studies with the proposed revisions. GBHS guidance counselors, parents, and staff can now begin planning students' educational courses for next year.

Wellness Initiative -- 2/14 (Valentine Day) to 4/28 (USD Number): In the spring of 2011, many district employees participated in a wellness initiative aimed at *personal fitness and stress relief* – and results were amazing. Plans are now underway for the 2012 version of *Give Your Heart A Break*. Participants, as team members, may focus on losing weight or on logging miles they walk (the distances inside and outside buildings are being posted for reference). Plans include on-site encouragement from leaders, motivation tips, weigh-ins, and prizes. The BOE approved the 2012 *Give Your Heart a Break*.

Curriculum and Instruction Report:

- **Common Core Standards.** Mrs. Heinrichs reported on the district's transitioning process for *common core standards*, which will be fully implemented by 2014-2015. The standards, implemented recently though formulated over a period of years, are aimed at increasing student achievement through increasing the rigor for readiness.

There will be changes to the state and district curriculum in varying ways such as introduction of subject matter at lower grade levels, mastering anchor standards, exposure to higher-level resources, literacy focus across all subjects, and more. USD 428 educators have begun unwrapping and implementing standards. Although *common core* testing will occur in 2014-2015, there will likely be earlier pilot testing.

The process may cause a realignment of the district's current textbook adoption schedule, perhaps with utilizing some curricular funds for relevant resources as the process develops. Delaying textbook adoptions to later dates could ensure that chosen series will include *common core standards*.

- **Report on Teacher Evaluation.** The informal observation and the teacher evaluation process were implemented in 2011-2012, and Mrs. Heinrichs shared related information.

The informal walk-through instrument is a valuable tool for immediate as well as long-term school improvement. Administrators regularly make brief classroom visits, utilizing the observation form on their iPads, and securing data. Administrators' sharing information with teachers has brought good interaction and conversation, with positive educational results.

The district's recently redesigned teacher evaluation instrument, also with iPad utilization, is specific for both the administrator and the teacher. Evaluations are completed utilizing rubrics that are clearly defined and that give awareness of the growth necessary to progress to higher professional levels.

The Teacher Evaluation Committee remains ongoing in order to ensure quality observations and evaluations. An aim is to let the documents reflect the continual unwrapping of common core standards, collaborative planning by teachers and administrators, school improvement, and more.

Business / Operations Report:

- District Projects: The HVAC / lighting project at the District Education Center is nearly complete. The renovation should provide both climate comfort and energy efficiency.
- GB Middle School Floor Bid. Mr. Brungardt presented proposed plans for replacement of GBMS floor coverings. Through the district's architect, the middle school flooring has been rated in three levels for replacement need. Mr. Brungardt provided a detailed summary of suggested floor coverings (carpet, tile, and rubber tiling) and estimated costs. There was discussion of the longevity of tile over carpet. Tile would be best for hallways and classrooms, although one floor (the technology room) would be more appropriately covered by carpet. Following discussion, the BOE agreed that the bids should be let accordingly. Alternate #1 would be the rubberized tile in the band room. Alternate #2 would be carpet in the halls.
- School Finance Update
 - ✓ New Plan for School Finance. In 1992, Kansas adopted a school funding reform that redistributed (equalized) funding among school districts. In 1992 all districts were required to collect a 32-mill levy for their general fund, and the state redistributed funds at a rate of \$3,600 per student. This change in funding was to benefit both the students and the local taxpayers. The process now faces potential changes. Mr. Brungardt noted that, if state funding becomes unequalized as it had been prior to 1992, USD 428 would be at a disadvantage since the district does not have the means to raise the same amount of funding per students as do districts with higher valuations.
 - ✓ 21st Century Supplemental Grant. As part of school finance, Mr. Brungardt proposed acceptance of the 21st Century supplemental grant. On 6/22/11, the district was awarded a five-year 21st Century grant for funding after-school instruction at Park and Riley Elementary Schools, the only eligible schools based on demographics. On 12/19/11, USD 428 was awarded a supplemental grant for \$74,266 to be expended by 6/30/12 for summer school instruction at the two schools and for the purchase of two Apple iPad 20 user carts, twenty additional iPads, and software per school. The BOE approved the supplemental grant.
- Plaque of Original Memorial Stadium Contributors

The BOE, at their meeting of 1/10/11, approved purchasing and installing a wall hanging labeled *Contributors Help Build First Memorial Stadium*, the text of which includes a brief history and a contributor list. The plaque has been permanently placed within the Panther Athletic Center on the west wall of the breezeway.

Superintendent's Report:

- Calendar Development. The Calendar Committee will soon formulate the district's 2012-2013 calendar. Board members are encouraged to present calendar suggestions and to provide input they have received from patrons.

- Approval of Contributions. Board members approved the following contributions, and appreciation was extended to the donors.
 - ✓ To GBMS's *Young Kilbys Science Club*. Golden Belt Community Foundation, through the Kansas Health Foundation Youth Endowment Fund, wishes to provide a \$233.65 grant award to the *Young Kilbys Science Club*, represented by teacher / club sponsor Gary Pinkall. The amount would fund one Orion StarMac 90 mm telescope.
 - ✓ Staff Development for Early Childhood Teachers. Russell Child Development Center wishes to contribute \$925.00 to the Barton County Co-op of Special Services to five persons' attendance at the KDEC Conference in Wichita.

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

Consent Agenda: Board members, by consent, approved the following details, with the retirement of Mrs. Blevins accepted with regret.

- Approval of BOE Meeting Minutes: November 14 and 29; December 5, 2011.
- Bills and Financial Reports: Approved as presented by Dan Brungardt.
- Personnel Report:
 - *Administrator Retirement:* Laura Blevins, Principal of Lincoln Elementary School.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: Board members were reminded of upcoming meetings.

- **BOE Luncheon Meeting:** at noon on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, at Riley Elementary School.
- **KASB Governmental Relations Seminar:** two-day seminar on February 29 and March 1, 2012, in Topeka, KS.

Adjournment: The Board of Education meeting was adjourned.

