



BOARD REPORT

March 8, 2010

5:00 p.m.

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

Recognitions / Communications:

- Request from Patron. Bruce Boehmer, parent of two sons currently being home schooled, addressed the BOE requesting permission for the boys to participate in GBHS activities in 2010-2011. At that time the boys would have dual enrollment (five classes in the Leavenworth Virtual School and one class in GB High School). The KSHSAA recently approved activities participation for students having enrollment in an accredited virtual school in combination with public school enrollment. The USD 428 Board has no policy addressing the concept. There was discussion regarding state funding, weekly eligibility reporting, attendance, and more. The Board asked Superintendent Vernon to poll other similar school districts regarding their status regarding such requests and to secure sample policies for the Board's review at a subsequent meeting so the policy as well as all other related matters could be considered.
- Board Member Comments. Jean Cavanaugh congratulated students for their athletics and activities achievements during the winter season. She spoke of a recent Barton County College soccer tournament in which local youth participated, and she thanked BCC Soccer Coach Oliver Twelvetrees for his guidance of young athletes. Mrs. Cavanaugh encouraged school administrators to stress to students the dangers of alcohol consumption and the benefits of avoiding drinking situations.

Dr. Larry Kutina complimented the Great Bend and Hays Schools as well as planners for their recent *PINK OUT* effort at the basketball game of 2/26/10. Money was raised for a great cause.

- USD 428 Education Foundation. The Education Foundation trustees will host a reception for 2010-2011 mini-grant recipients at 3:45 p.m., on April 19, 2010, at the DEC.

Second Reading of K-6 Science Resources Adoption: On 2/8/10 the BOE heard the first reading of the K-6 Science resources adoption for implementation in 2010-2011.

K-6 Science Resources Publisher: FOSS (Full Option Science System) Updated Version

On Curriculum Day, teachers will inventory the present science kits to determine cost effectiveness in refurbishing or replacing the kits. Specific costs will then be known. At the 4/12/10 Board meeting the administration will make a recommendation for action.

First Reading of 7-12 Science Resources Adoption: The new 7-12 Science resources adoption is being recommended for the 2010-2011 school year. This has been presented to and approved

by the District Science Department and the Curriculum Steering Committee. District teachers have used the materials in their classrooms.

<i>Miller & Levin Biology-Foundations Series</i>	Pearson/Prentice Hall	C: 2010	Biology I
<i>Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology</i>	Pearson/Prentice Hall	C: 2009	A & P I and II
<i>Conceptual Physics</i>	Pearson/Prentice Hall	C: 2009	Conceptual Physics
<i>Chemistry Concepts / Applications</i>	Glencoe Science/McGraw-Hill	C: 2009	Conceptual Chemistry
<i>Biology</i>	Glencoe Science/McGraw-Hill	C: 2009	Biology II and III
<i>Science Spectrum Earth/Space</i>	Holt	C: 2008	General Science
<i>Physics</i>	Holt	C: 2009	Physics I
<i>Chemistry</i>	Pearson/Prentice Hall	C: 2008	Ad. Chemistry I and II
<i>Glencoe Science Level Green</i>	Glencoe Science/McGraw-Hill	C: 2008	Grade 7
<i>Holt Science & Technology</i>	Holt, Rinehart, Winston	C: 2007	Grade 8
<i>Weather and Climate; Inside the Restless Earth; Introduction to Matter; Cells, Heredity, and Classification; Electricity and Magnetism; Forces, Motion, and Energy; and Sound and Light.</i>			

Bobbi Jo Grieb, Science Committee member, described both the seventh and eighth grade science products. She noted that the science resources address most State Assessments indicators and that remaining indicators are taught supplementally. She appreciates the educational labs which are offered, noting that the labs can be edited to conform to the teacher's specific focus. The eighth grade resources fit well with students' forthcoming high school classes.

Kristin Baker noted that the proposed high school chemistry books, which would provide a good basis for learning chemistry, are presented with math support. The chemistry instruction enables valuable real-world connections. Kacey Ford continued the science presentation with details of general science and physics, noting that the resources are aligned with standards and that current students who have viewed the materials are impressed the resources.

Alex Specht described the biology resources, showing that the science concepts are covered well but in more concise terms than in most books. Resources include interactive labs. The anatomy and physiology books are also very *readable*, yet concise. He described the A&P Coloring Workbook as *excellent*. Students use this workbook for individual learning as well as classroom cooperative learning.

The recommended science resources are cross-curricular. The number of books being purchased should be ample for the block schedule as well as for any future scheduling variation which could occur. The science resources recommendations as well as the related costs will be brought to the BOE on 4/12/10 for action.

Approval of *Work Fit* Physical Capacity Testing:

Kala Steffen, BCC Workforce Development Training Coordinator, has proposed the district's participation in *Work Fit*. The testing procedure, which is ADA, EEOC, and HIPPA compliant, matches physical abilities to the physical demands of a job and would be utilized for new custodial, maintenance, grounds, transportation, and food service employees. Following a review of the contract, fee schedule, and integrative employee placement information, the Board approved the *Work Fit* physical capacity testing.

First Reading of 2010-2011 Student and Faculty Handbooks:

Board members reviewed the content and the proposed changes for 2010-2011 elementary, middle school, and high school student handbooks and faculty handbooks. Superintendent Vernon described each proposed change, and there was discussion. This was a first reading, and BOE approval will be sought at the April meeting. Dr. Vernon encouraged Board members to read the handbooks and to contact him or other administrators prior to the April meeting if they have questions or concerns regarding any handbook component.

First Reading of 2010-2011 Activities and Athletics Handbooks: The Board reviewed information detailing the 2010-2011 changes to the Activities Handbook and the Athletics Handbook. This was a first reading. Approval will be sought at the April meeting of the BOE. The meal policy will be addressed when the 2010-2011 budget is known,

Approval of Internet Filtering and Anti-Virus Contract: The district's three-year contract with *Lightspeed* is ending, and a new five-year contract is being sought. The internet filtering and anti-virus technology has the following services.

- ~ Internet filtering
- ~ Spam filtering
- ~ Proxy web blocking
- ~ Hardware / software inventory
- ~ Anti-virus and anti-spyware on servers and on 2000 desktop computers
- ~ Email server protection
- ~ Email archiving
- ~ Internet bandwidth usage reports
- ~ Monitor anti-virus updates on each desktop computer

Three options were presented to the BOE to fulfill this service.

Purchase each product individually	\$27,695.00 per year
<i>Kaseya</i> all-in one service	\$23,740.00 per year
<i>Lightspeed</i> all-in-one service	\$17,400.00 per year

Lightspeed is used in many school districts in Kansas and nationwide, and their service has proven to be a cost and labor saver. The Board approved a five-year contract with *Lightspeed*.

Approval of 2010 Purchase of New Computers: Classroom computers are updated according to a predetermined schedule. The proposed 2010 purchase of new Hewlett Packard computers would cost \$273,779 through the state-approved bid program. Additionally, software was proposed for purchase @ \$17,640.52 from Greenbush, with a combined purchase total of \$291,419.52. Following the predetermined computer-purchase schedule is important in order to avoid a future technology crisis for the district, including increased maintenance and repair costs. USD 428 proposes to follow a past practice to sell the used computers to staff, with transfer of software licensure. The BOE approved the purchase and resale, as presented.

Approval of 2010-2011 School Calendar: District employees were originally provided five options for the 2010-2011 school calendar. Within the process the calendars were posted on the district's web site for review and responses by interested persons, and two calendars seemed most favored. The Board, after considering Option #1 and Option #3, approved Calendar Option #1 as the 2010-2011 school calendar.

Curriculum and Instruction Report:

- USD 428 Curriculum Day on 4/5/10: Ruth Heinrichs noted that on Curriculum Day there will be grade-level and department meetings as well as three one-hour breakout sessions for teachers and also time for principals to work with staff. The sessions, facilitated by USD 428 teachers, feature topics such as classroom management, Interwrite tablets, effective use of class time, technology, Ruby Payne's framework of poverty, special education topics, sports injuries, music sessions with KMEA input, and more.
- Kansas Assessments Update. The testing has begun; and initial reporting of scores is favorable. Dates are not yet known for the KSDE test-monitoring dates at Lincoln Elementary School and GB High School.

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

- Food Service Equipment. School Food Service currently utilizes point-of-sale equipment which was purchased in 1994. The district is unable to get affordable repairs on the outdated units; and, therefore, Director Karl Sprague is looking for potential replacements for the unreliable equipment. Information will be brought to the BOE at a subsequent meeting.
- Financial Update. As USD 428 faces funding challenges, the administration is enacting cost cutting options for 2010-2011, as approved by the BOE on 2/8/10. To date the plan for budget cuts in the *outer ring* involves the reduction of five teachers (through attrition, a transfer, and the release of two half-time noncontracted teachers) and the nonreplacement of some classified staff, with decisions regarding ten-month classified personnel after learning their intentions to return for the next school year. Some building budgets and activities funds are also identified.

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.

- Approval of BOE Meeting Minutes: February 8 and 25, 2010
- Bills and Financial Reports: As presented by Dan Brungardt.
- Personnel Report: *Certified Teacher Retirements*
 - Mr. John Basham, School Psychologist for Barton County Cooperative of Special Education.
 - Mrs. Barbara Hill, Teacher of Grade 3 at Eisenhower Elementary School.
 - Mr. Steve Petty, Guidance Counselor at GB High School.
 - Mrs. Karen Searle, Teacher for Barton County Cooperative of Special Services.

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

- **BOE Luncheon Meeting:** at noon on March 25, 2010, at GB Middle School.
- **Curriculum Day in USD 428:** on April 5, 2010.
- **USD 428 Education Foundation Reception for Grant Recipients:** at 3:45 p.m., on April 19, 2010, at the District Education Center.
- **KASB Spring Regional Meeting:** on April 21, 2010, at Pratt, KS.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

