



BOARD REPORT

October 12, 2009

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.

Recognitions / Communications:

- 2008-2009 Boardsmanship Academy Awards. Three members of the USD 428 Board of Education completed requirements of the KASB Boardsmanship Academy for 2008-2009.

<i>Honor Roll Level I:</i>	<i>Jean Cavanaugh</i>	<i>50-99 points</i>
<i>Honor Roll Level I:</i>	<i>Kevin Mauler</i>	<i>50-99 points</i>
<i>Honor Roll Level I:</i>	<i>Dwight Young</i>	<i>50-99 points</i>

The KASB Boardsmanship Academy encourages school board members to seek continuing education to help them become more informed. Throughout the year KASB sponsors workshops and seminars at which school board members receive points based on the length and content of each seminar.

- Board Member Comments. Jean Cavanaugh referred to a *USA Today* article entitled “Hispanic Students Aspire to Higher Education” which included factors that deter many young persons. These include the need to support the family, limited English skills, lower-than-desired grades, and more. A number of Great Bend Hispanic students attend college, including Barton Community College. For those at BCC, there is a student club which provides leadership training and encourages positive goal setting. Mrs. Cavanaugh noted that GBHS physical education students recently had tennis instruction at a court in Veteran’s Park. There seemed to be inadequate tennis equipment to maintain the interest of all students. Mrs. Cavanaugh’s granddaughter, who attends Arizona State University, will spend two weeks during winter break to travel to Dubai.

Kevin Mauler attended the recent KASB Region 8 meeting, and he listed the resolutions and proposals which will be posed at the Delegate Assembly during the upcoming annual conference of December 4-6, 2009, in Overland Park, KS. These included school finance, strategies for student achievement, wording in the bid law, teacher contract notification dates, and more.

- USD 428 Education Foundation. The USD 428 Education Foundation trustees will host their annual dinner and auction on November 24, 2009, at StoneRidge. Also, the application forms for the 2010-2011 minigrants will be released to teachers on December 3, 2009.

Renewal of Neighborhood Revitalization Program: The City of Great Bend has requested that USD 428 renew the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, an interlocal agreement, originated in 2001, to give economic incentives to business and home owners to improve the appearance of the city and to increase property valuations within designated areas. Assistant City Administrator Nick Gregory explained that the economic incentive is a rebate of property taxes to the owners of new and improved properties for a specified time. Without the support of all taxing entities, the rebate would not be sufficient to entice persons to construct and improve property. The Board approved extending the three-year Neighborhood Revitalization Program to 2013.

Curriculum and Instruction Report:

- Curriculum Day in USD 428 – October 19, 2009. There are no classes for USD 428 students on 10/19/09 so that teachers and administrators can focus on curriculum and school improvement. The day will begin with grade level / department meetings. David Barnes, KSCE Science Consultant, will be a guest speaker. There will then be fourteen sessions presented by district staff throughout the morning, and fellow educators can select and attend sessions which are relevant to their curricular needs. *School improvement* will be the focus for the afternoon curricular work.
- Priority Assessed Learning Standards (PALS). Ruth Heinrichs provided to BOE members the *Pocket PALS* (Priority Assessed Learning Standards) for grades 3-12 for math and reading. KSDE's standards and benchmarks (specific to Grade 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and High School) are described within the booklets. Additionally, USD 428's 2009-2010 goals (professional expectations and outcome expectations) are itemized.
- Kansas Assessments. USD 428 teacher representatives will participate in the annual Kansas Assessments fall conference on October 26 and 27, 2009. Additionally, some principals will be attending a *Nuts and Bolts* session with a similar focus.
- K-12 Adoption. The process has begun for a new adoption for K-12 science resources for 2010-2011. The District Science Committee plans to pilot materials of interest, visit schools in which specific science materials are used, and seek information from experts. On Curriculum Day, a KSDE Science Consultant will speak about strengthening the science program and aligning resources to the Kansas Science Standards.
- Building Report Cards. The 2008-2009 report cards will be released to the public at the 10/13/09 meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education; and the building, district, and state report cards will be posted on the KSDE website at www.ksde.org. The report cards include assessment results, adequate yearly progress (AYP) results, Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) status, Standard of Excellence, graduation data, and teacher quality data.

Meeting Minutes. Minutes were provided for the following meetings: Professional Development Council (PDC) on 9/14/09 and 10/5/09; and Curriculum Steering Committee on 10/6/09.

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

- 2010 U.S. Census. Unified School District 428, Barton Community College, the City of Great Bend, and other local agencies will join efforts to promote the forthcoming 2010 census. It is important to the school district to have an accurate census, as some federal funding relates to that data. The BOE approved a request from Mr. Brungardt to apply for a \$2,999 grant from the Census Bureau to promote the census process. The money will not go to the school district but will go directly to local vendors for banners and other promotions.
- Meeting with Officers of Parent Organizations. In ongoing communication with the district's PTAs, PTOs, and Booster Clubs, the administration will schedule an 11/09 meeting with the officers. The focus of this annual meeting is a review of appropriate business operations, the necessity of securing Board of Education approval of contributions, and other topics the officers wish to discuss.
- Capital Outlay Information. As discussed while building the 2009-2010 budget, following determination of school enrollment, the administration would bring to the BOE information relating to Capital Outlay projects. Noting that student enrollment is fairly comparable to the prior year, the Board reviewed potential projects and the status of each, as listed below.

CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS:

- ⇒ New Bleachers and Press Box at Memorial Stadium (\$590,000).
- ⇒ Press Box at Memorial Stadium (\$58,000).
- ⇒ Addition and Renovation to GBHS Auditorium (\$430,474).
- ⇒ GB Sports Complex (Baseball Fields) Development: *Fund at the one-mill rate for five years.*

CONTINUOUS CAPITAL OUTLAY:

- ⇒ Technology: *Fund at \$5,000 per school for replacement equipment and bulbs.*
- ⇒ Roof Maintenance: *Set aside \$80,000 for general roof maintenance.*

The Board clarified the Capital Outlay fund balance in conjunction with long-range planning and fiscal responsibility. Board members, by consensus approved the two items (technology and roof maintenance) within *Continuous Capital Outlay* as well as the five-year funding @ one mill for lighting at the GB Sports Complex.

There was discussion regarding the need for the bleacher, press box, auditorium, and stage projects for the benefit of the students and the community while maintaining fiscal soundness. No BOE action was taken; however, it was suggested that a potential time line and bid sequence be developed for BOE consideration. If there would be Board action to proceed, the projects could move forward with the stipulation that subsequent projects would be halted upon Board action if fiscal doubts would arise. The administration will present a time line and proposed bid sequence for study at the BOE meeting of 11/9/09.

Superintendent's Report:

- H1N1 Flu Update for GB Schools. Superintendent Vernon provided a two-week history of recent student absenteeism due to sickness. The highest percentage of student absence (15%) was on 10/5/09, although the rate has lessened since that date. The category is *absence due to sickness*, so this includes flu plus other ailments.

- Schools for Fair Funding. Schools for Fair Funding is a group of districts whose representatives meet regarding the inadequate funding for Kansas schools and the accompanying challenges which relate to offering the best education possible for Kansas students. Although there are currently thirteen districts who make up SFFF, forty-nine school districts were represented at the 10/2/09 meeting of the organization. The next SFFF meeting will be held 11/13/09, and attendance and actual participation will be of interest.
- Receipt of Contribution. In regard to policy, the BOE members were notified of a contribution, and Board approval was given.
 - To Jefferson Elementary School: The Jefferson School PTO wishes to purchase eight pencil sharpeners @ \$85 (\$680) for classrooms. An additional eight pencil sharpeners will be purchased through Jefferson's budgeted funds, thereby providing a new sharpener for each Jefferson classroom.

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: September 14 and 24, 2009
- Bills and Financial Reports: As presented by Dan Brungardt.
- Personnel Report:
 - Certified Teacher Appointment*
 - Mrs. Alyson Burkhart, .4 Itinerant Early Childhood Special Education Teacher.

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

- **BOE Luncheon Meeting:** at noon on October 29, 2009, at GB High School.
- **Annual KASB Convention:** on December 4-6, 2009, in Overland Park, KS.
- **Quarterly IBB Meeting:** at 3:30 p.m., on December 7, 2009, at the DEC.

Executive Session: The BOE met in executive session, as authorized by KSA 75-4319, paragraph 1, for the discussion of nonelected personnel.

Personnel: The BOE approved the administrative recommendation to place a teacher on probation until the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.