

BALDWIN CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 348
P.O. Box 67
Baldwin City, KS 66006
District Office
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting

DISTRICT OFFICE
708 CHAPEL STREET
BALDWIN CITY, KS. 66006

MONDAY
October 11, 2010
6:30 PM

- A. President Alison Bauer called the Board of Education meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Board Members Alison Bauer, Ruth Barkley, Blaine Cone, Ande Parks, Scott Lauridsen, Joshua Mihesuah and Ruth Barkley. Bill Busby was absent. Also attending were Superintendent Paul Dorathy and Clerk of the Board, Laura Morford. See attached attendance sheet. *Call to Order by Board President*
- B. Joshua Mihesuah moved and Blaine Cone seconded to approve the amended agenda. The board agreed to add Ann Wallsmith to Item E, Recognition. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no. *Approval of Amended Agenda*
- C. Blaine Cone moved and Ruth Barkley seconded to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interest of the individuals to be discussed, and that we return to open session in this room in 15 minutes. Mr. Dorathy was invited into executive session. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no. Time: 7:01 p.m. *Executive Session*
- Alison Bauer moved and Ruth Barkley seconded to extend executive session 5 minutes. Mr. Dorathy remained in executive session. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no. Time: 7:16 p.m.
- D. Blaine Cone moved and Ande Parks seconded to approve the Consent Agenda and the September 20, 2010 regular board meeting; and monthly operating account in the amount of \$129,389.18, bond account in the amount of \$986,433.49. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes, 0 no. *Approval of Consent Agenda*
- E. The board recognized Alica Thomas for her service to the profession. Gus *Recognition*

Wegner elaborated on the many areas she serves. She shared her experience in Ethiopia from a Fullbright Hayes grant she was awarded. BHS student, Mr. Moseman introduced Ann Wallsmith was recognized as a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholar Proram. Mr. Mosemen said it is one of the most prestigious awards a student can receive.

- F. Charlene Potter said she does not envy what you have to do, however she is disappointed at the discussion to close schools. She stated her opinion on why the two schools should not be closed. She stated the outdoor education they both offer has been ranked at the top in the state of Kansas. She is concerned about the damage to the communities. Please consider at the top of the list, quality education for the students, all students.

Public Comment

Chris Wagner stated she is a parent and staff member. She read a list of questions for the board to consider.

Pam Carvodo of rural Baldwin. She stated she wanted to address the board as well as the audience. She read her thoughts concerning closing two school buildings. She stated we need an open discussion before any discussion are made.

John Hulce, Sr. said he graduated from MSES in 1964. He stated he is unhappy with the decision being made to close buildings. He said he was one of the few in the Marion Springs area to vote yes for the bond and the promise made by the board was the rural school would not be closed. Mr. Hulce continued stating his concerns. He stated concerns about the length of the ride on the busses.

Alan Schwartz said he has lived in Marion Springs his entire life. He shared his opinion about what a rural school setting has to offer.

Justin Hoffman said he doesn't know a lot about the budget, school closing and such, he stated he believed that if the schools closed they will never be open again. Please reconsider a decision to not close the buildings.

Jeannette Blackmoor would like to see a task force for the purpose of revenue generation. These schools are the fabric of the community. Consider trust and cost.

Kent Johnson said he has tried to become involved and become educated on the concerns at hand. The longer we sit and try to find fault here, it will deteriorate. The kids are his main concern and what their perception is becoming. He said at the last board meeting, do something else. He said it was thrown out to get rid of another principal. He said he has not heard any idea that will work and is open to hear from the board.

Alan Schwarz spoke again suggesting a fundraiser.

Mindy Gilliland said she would hate to see school closed and shatter families, unfortunately the sign of the times have changed since one room school

houses. With the economy as it is, I am here for my kids.

Cindy Upton has a child at Vinland. She wanted to air her concerns to close two schools without really looking at the numbers. She would like to board to look at the numbers today, not 18 months ago. She said the inter model impact has not been properly addressed. She agrees that once the buildings are closed it will be permanent. She asked, we close the schools, cut positions and so forth, what will happen with further cuts. She asked the board to go visit the outlying schools before you decide to close the schools.

Amy Carlson is speaking on behalf of her own children. She said at each one of the meetings, the discussion has been K-5 and would like to know what discussion will happen for 6-12. The offerings are not there, students are transferring.

Crystal Harris asked what the hard costs of utilities are and could those be broken into a pie chart or graph to show the savings. Where is the money coming from by closing the rural schools? She addressed transportation issues and why there are two stops in town that are already full and no payment being made for this service. She said she would like to the 2.5 mile rule to go away. She also asked if the patrons could have a dialog with board members. Alison addressed this concern, saying it is illegal to have that type of discussion as the public meeting law does not allow for it.

Kim Bielfuss said she has been at every meeting the past year. She said 6 months ago she asked the board members to ride the bus and experience every thing the kids are doing. She asked the board to understand what the board is asking the kids to do. Kim said she took a tour of the intermediate center and the primary center and felt a difference at the primary center. She asked the board for a list of items to account for the money being saved by closing the buildings. She also stated she felt the money is being spent too quickly without consideration of future budget cuts. She was also concerned about the board retro fitting a building to gain additional state monies. She said the tax payers deserve to see what the vision is for money that is being spent.

Abby Flory said folks are drawn into the community because class sizes. If kids will be forced to be packed into classrooms, you will no longer have the draw of new people. The children that are not here will be left behind. It is the kids education that comes first.

Doug Jamison understands the budget, he said he is a business man. You can play with numbers all day long, but when you have concrete numbers, the facts are right in front of you. Doug said we are one school, please spend the time to figure it out.

Dawn Barnes said her family just moved here and chose Baldwin because of the record of the district.

Chad Christie said we are all one district. Please look at the numbers, and do what is right for the district. Some of the transportation issues need to be addressed. He said he has friends that won't talk to him anymore because he supports closing schools to improve the district because of the budget. Let the

numbers lead you in the right direction.

- G. Cynde Frick reported to the Board regarding the school district's present cash balances and budget standing. **Financial Report**
- Ande Parks moved and Joshua Mihesuah seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no.
- Ande Parks moved and Alison Bauer seconded to approve to spend bond monies for the purchase of technology equipment from Apple in the amount of \$206,780.75. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no.
- H. No reports at this time. **Administrative Reports**
- I. Mr. Dorathy shared a brochure that was compiled to include the board approved strategic plan. He gave credit to Laura Morford for compiling the information approved into a brochure format. He also added the brochure was on the district website. Mr. Dorathy reminded the board that the strategic plan is a guide to follow what the district decided was the direction they needed to follow. Scott asked if this was something we needed to review because of where we are currently with the economy. The board agreed the review should happen with a the new board members, maybe a year from now. **Old Business**
- The board took a 5 minute break. Time: 8:13 p.m.
- J. No new business. **New Business**
- K. Blaine reported there was discussion about the agreement between the districts. There is a meeting tomorrow night to find out if the Superintendent's agreed then it will be brought to all the boards for approval. Then it will be sent to the state. It has been rewritten, however it has been 20 years since it has been overhauled. The charges to each individual should become more equal. **Board Member Input**
- L. Mr. Dorathy talked about the hearing scheduled in November and also shared that Kim Bielfuss invited him to the CSO meeting at MSES to visit with the group and answer questions. Scott wanted to echo what Alison said, to please contact board members as individuals and ask those questions. There shouldn't be unanswered questions, at least on an individual basis patrons would hear single board members opinions. **Superintendent's Report**
- Alison said maybe *how a board works as one voice* could be explained at the second forum in December for those interested in being a board member. Board members agreed.
- M. Ruth Barkley moved and Blaine Cone seconded that we go into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interest of the individuals to be discussed, and that we **Executive Session**

return to open session in this room in 10 minutes. Mr. Dorathy was invited to attend executive session. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no. Time: 9:45 p.m.

- N. Blaine Cone moved and Bill Busby seconded to approve personnel report as presented.

Consider
Executive Session
Matters

Recommendations:

			<u>Percentage Credit Years</u>		<u>Effective</u>
Brian Turk	BHS	Head Baseball Coach	9	2	10/11/2010
Ginger Crist	BHS	Head Softball Coach	9	10	10/11/2010
Joel Eberhart	BJHS	Asst. Wrestling Coach	2	3	10/11/2010
Joel Eberhart	BHS	Asst. Wrestling Coach	7	3	10/11/2010
Lorena Lee	BESPC	Food Service Worker	3 hours @ 5 days		10/11/2010

Resignations:

Ernie Gwin Director of Transportation 10/31/2010

Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no.

Blaine Cone moved and Ruth Barkley seconded to approve to affix proper signatures to contracts. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no.

- O. No other discussion at this time.

Discussion Items

- P. Blaine Cone moved and Alison Bauer seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 6 yes and 0 no. Time: 8:46 p.m.

Adjournment

Approved:

Attest:

Alison Bauer, President
Board of Education

Laura Morford
Clerk of the Board