

**Sublette USD #374  
Official Minutes**

The Sublette Unified School District No. 374 Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 4pm.

Members Present:

Shyree Wiswell      Cesar Pena      Grant Webber      Pete Dyck  
Present via Zoom and Telephone: Cornelius Froese  
Members Absent: Lee Mason and Cody Forester

Others Present: Rex Richardson, Superintendent; Charity Ochs-Lathen, Clerk; Bobby Murphy, MS/HS Principal; and Lyle Befort, Activities Director

Guests: There were no guests present

**Item #1 Call Meeting to Order /Approve Agenda**

The President called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Froese to approve the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #2 Approve Minutes**

Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck, to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2023 Special Meeting and Regular Meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #3 Treasurer's Report**

Prior to the meeting, Mr. Dyck, Mr. Pena, Mr. Webber and Mrs. Wiswell reviewed Purchase Orders and supporting documents presented for payment. \$59,877.38 from General to At Risk; \$1,654.68 from General Fund to 4-Year Old At Risk, \$4,864.65 from General to Daycare; \$17,301.36 from General to Bilingual; \$16,813.68 from General to Food Service; \$2,512.89 from General to Vocational Fund, \$636.15 from General Fund to Small Rural Schools. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell, to approve the bills as listed on the List of Warrants dated 04/30/23 and authorize payment and transfers. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #4 Communications**

The Board received a Thank You note from Ms. Phoenix for the Public School Foundations donation to allow for the purchase of Ozobots for her classroom.

**Reports**

**Curriculum**

Mrs. Pena submitted a written report. She reported all P.O.s from teachers for next year's purchases have been completed. Work will be done on a tiered intervention plan for behavior for next year. She is planning an Amazing Race game for staff Wednesday evening as a fun ending to the year.

**Principals**

Mr. Murphy submitted a written report. He reported Prom was well attended. FFA had their district and chapter banquets. They hosted Day at the Farm in conjunction with Satanta FFA for the elementary students. They also competed at a state event in Manhattan. HS choir attended the large group music festival in Dodge City and the Band and Choir traveled to state solo and ensemble in Salina where they did very well! Prom was well attended and went well. All classified evaluations have been completed and turned into Mr. Richardson. Seniors participated in signing day and had a lot of fun doing that. There was a career fair for all students.

Several businesses from the community were brought in to showcase their business for our students. Baccalaureate was well attended. Everything is ready to go for HS Graduation and MS Promotion.

Mrs. Lee submitted a written report. 30 students were enrolled in Pre-K. The Fifth Grade had their D.A.R.E. presentation during Friday morning meeting. The instruction is geared toward decision-making and utilizing the D.A.R.E. model. Content covered included Safe and responsible choices, risky situations, responding to pressure, signs of stress, evaluating your decision, confident communication, and bullying. The After School program will wrap up on Thursday, May 10. Kindergarten graduation was May 17, and Sixth Grade promotion on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Retirement celebrations for Mike Lower, Shelly Wagner and Debbie Weeks were Thursday, May 18. She thanked the Board of Education for their continued support and guidance.

Counselor-

Mrs. Murphy submitted a written report. District testing is finished. KELPA scores for ESL students are back and state assessment scores have been released. Reports will be sent out to parents. Feedback on Sr. signing day had good feedback and 27 of 29 students participated. The seven applications for the CTE pathways were submitted and approved. Character Strong curriculum will continue to be used for the MS students. The HS students will utilize EverFi and Jostens to provide the curriculum needed to meet the SEL standards.

Activities Director

MS track has ended. Eighth Grade Boys won the HPL meet for the second year in a row. The HS Baseball team is 10-10 going into regionals. The Softball team is 19-1 and first seed in regionals. HS Spring Sports Awards was May 18<sup>th</sup>.

SWPRSC- Mr. Pena was unable to attend so nothing to report.

HPEC- Mr. Webber was unable to attend so nothing to report.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

**Item #5 KASB Policy Updates- June 2021**

Mr. Richardson gave the recommendation to approve the policy updates as presented. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck. The motion carried 5-0.

**Item #6 Sound System at Baseball and Softball Fields**

Mr. Leon with the Sublette Recreation Commission asked if the district would be interested/ able to help with a new Sound System for the fields. He stated it would probably be 9 months before equipment would be available. The Board agreed to revisit this and explore the options available.

**Item #7 Capital Outlay Projects- Long Range Planning**

Mr. Richardson presented the Board with a list of projects needing done in district. He discussed the ones that were most important, along with cost and asked if the Board was ok with all of the before moving forward, in which they were.

**Executive Session- Negotiations to include Mr. Richardson**

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to go into Executive Session for 5 min. The Board returned to Open Session at 5:02p.m. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mr. Dyck to return to Open Session for 3 min. The Board reconvened at 5:05p.m.

**Executive Session- Non Elected Personnel to include Mr. Richardson**

Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to go into Executive Session for 10 minutes. The motion carried 5-0. The Board reconvened at 5:15p.m. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Webber to return to Executive Session for 5 min. to also include Mr. Befort. The Board returned to Open Session at 5:20p.m. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Webber to return to Executive Session for an additional 3 minutes. The Board returned to Open Session at 5:23p.m.

**Personnel Employment**

Mr. Dyck stepped out of the meeting.

Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to accept the resignation of Brandy Leon, Third Grade Teacher. The motion carried 4-0. Mr. Pena moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to accept the resignation of Dr. John Le, HS Science. The motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Pena to accept the resignation of Ms. Litzy Hernandez-Gonzalez, Custodian. The motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Wiswell moved, seconded by Mr. Pena to accept the hiring of Mr. Mike Lower, part time support for High School/ District. The motion carried 4-0. Mr. Webber moved, seconded by Mrs. Wiswell to the Hiring of Kasey Wellmann, HS Science; Tregg Rodriguez, MS/HS Physical Education; and Melissa Berg, HS English/ FACS. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Dyck returned to the meeting.

**Item #8 Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Richardson invited everyone to the End of Year luncheon that would celebrate the retirement of Mr. Lower, Mrs. Wagner and Mrs. Weeks.

**Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Dyck moved, seconded by Mr. Webber to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

*NOTE: These minutes are not considered official until approved by the Board at its next regular meeting.*