

The Board of Education of Unified School District No. 501 met in regular meeting at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, April 1, 2004, in the Burnett Center Conference Room of the Burnett Administrative Center. Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, called the meeting to order, and attendance was recorded as follows:

Board Members: Mr. Mark S. Braun, President
Mrs. Carolyn L. Campbell, Vice President
Mrs. Cheri Barrington (absent)
Mr. Ron Browning
Mr. Tim S. Clothier
Mr. Doug Glenn
Mr. Bruce E. Mallory

Officers of the Board: Mr. Joseph W. Zima, School District Attorney and Clerk of the Board
Ms. Marilyn Greeve, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. L. Sawyer, Superintendent
Dr. Susan Rogers, Associate Superintendent

Media: Ms. Barbara Hollingsworth, The Topeka Capital-Journal

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: TO AMEND THE AGENDA, MOVING THE PROCLAMATION FOR WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AND ADD APPROVAL OF BOND RESOLUTION 04-06 (AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS) AS AN ACTION ITEM, AND ADOPT THE AGENDA AS REVISED.

BY: MRS. CAMPBELL

SECOND: MR. BROWNING

VOTE THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO RECESS

MOTION: TO RECESS TO A RECEPTION HONORING 25-YEARS-OF-SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

BY: MR. GLENN

SECOND: MR. BROWNING

VOTE THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

The Board of Education recessed at 6:04 p.m.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONVENES

The meeting reconvened at 6:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Braun introduced Mr. Jason Palmer, Highland Park High School student, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Palmer's father, Avondale East Elementary School Principal Duke Palmer, was being honored as a 25-Years-

of-Service employee. Mr. Braun presented Jason with a Certificate of Recognition and expressed the Board's appreciation.

RECOGNITION OF 25-YEARS-OF-SERVICE EMPLOYEES

ITEM A - RECOGNITION OF 25-YEARS-OF-SERVICE EMPLOYEES

Mr. W. L. Sawyer, superintendent, recognized employees with 25-years-of service and thanked them for their distinguished service. Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, thanked employees for their commitment to USD 501, on behalf of the Board. Board Members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of recognition and a pin as Mr. Brad Stauffer, director of communications, presented the following employees:

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| *Becky Bahner, Burnett Center | Eileen Bombardier, Eisenhower M.S. |
| *Brenda Brinker, Hope Street | Mary G. Brooks, Quinton Heights |
| Brian D. Brunkow, KATS | *Lynne Christ, Holland Center |
| Ellen Duckworth, Robinson M.S. | *Madeline Elliott, Burnett Center |
| Gloria Fish, Burnett Center | Pamela Gentry, Highland Park H.S. |
| *Marciana Glassman, Holland Center | Robert Grimes, Quincy |
| *Linda Hayse, Topeka High School | Nancy Hedstrom, McClure |
| *Dorothy Henry, Burnett Center | Scott Henson, Avondale West |
| *Russell Hodison, Topeka High School | *Michael Homan, Security Services |
| Judith Howe, Lundgren | Loretta Kirchhofer, Avondale West |
| James Knowland, Whitson | Janet Land, Highland Park H.S. |
| Pamela Lewis, Avondale East | James M. Liotta, Landon Middle School |
| Steven McKinley, Jardine Middle School | Julie Mokhtee, Topeka High School |
| *Cindy Nussbaum, Holland Center | Duke Palmer, Avondale East Elementary |
| Cynthia Preston, McEachron | *L. Darlene Reece, Landon Middle School |
| *Thomas Rothschild, Chase Middle School | Janice Sellers, Quincy |
| Linda Spurgeon, Highland Park H.S. | *Ethne Twombly, Robinson Middle School |
| Paula Welch, Lundgren | Richard P. Wilds, Capital City |
| Corey Wilson, Topeka West High School | *Cheryl Woldt, Whitson |
| *Bennie Young, Topeka High School | |

*employees not present

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ITEM T – PROPOSED PROCLAMATION FOR “WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD”

Mr. W.L. Sawyer, superintendent, introduced Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, to read the following proclamation:

Proclamation
Of
Topeka Public Schools, U.S.D. 501
Week of the Young Child
April 18-24, 2004

Whereas, children are an important part of our future; and

Whereas, the early years for children's learning and all aspects of development are important; and
Whereas, parents, early childhood educators and allied professionals, business leaders, community leaders, and the public at large are asked to make the early years the best they can be for all children; and
Whereas, the Week of the Young Child will be celebrated nationally the week of April 18-24, 2004,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 501, Topeka, Kansas, does proclaim the week of April 18-24, 2004, as the

"WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD"

in recognition of the fact that our educational program is increasing the awareness of early childhood education.
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this proclamation be provided to principals and other site administrators for display in all buildings in USD 501 and included in the minutes of the Board of Education meeting, April 1, 2004.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We, the Board of Education of Topeka USD 501, do hereby affix the signature of our President and the official seal of the Board of Education this First Day of April in 2004.

Topeka Public
Schools



April 1, 2004
Board of

Mark S. Braun
Board of Education President

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPT THE PROPOSED PROCLAMATION FOR WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD AS PRESENTED.

BY: MR. BRAUN

SECOND: MR. MALLORY

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

Ms. Ruth Gibson, Title I Instruction Coordinator, and Ms. Brandy Hubener, Parents as Teachers liaison, accepted the proclamation. Ms. Hubener played videos showing District programs and preschool students from the Salvation Army program sang songs for the Board of Education. Superintendent Sawyer was presented with a picture made by students in the program. Ms. Gibson thanked the Board for the recognition and thanked parents for their support. Mr. Sawyer expressed his appreciation for the picture presented to him by the children.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2004, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES, AS PRESENTED.

BY: MR. MALLORY

SECOND: MR. BROWNING

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Betty Hunt, 1125 SW Plass, Topeka, requested to speak to the Board; however, she was not at the meeting.

Mr. Howard Blackmon, 2615 SW Fillmore, Topeka, requested to speak to the Board regarding the school budget. Mr. Blackmon said he supports mandatory summer school and asked that the Board reconsider eliminating that program. He said he has also reviewed the MGT study dated February 14, 2003, and their recommendations and asked when the Board would take action on those recommendations. He said he has talked with Superintendent Sawyer regarding students who do not meet the requirements for promoting to the next grade level and he is not supportive of the District's policy of allowing parents to have the final decision.

Mr. Sawyer thanked Mr. Blackmon for his comments. He said the decision to eliminate mandatory summer school was not an easy one but the Board is faced with making tough decisions. He said the cost for this four-week program is approximately \$270,000 and the decision was made to use those funds during the school year for programs that would benefit students throughout the year. He asked Dr. Susan Rogers, associate superintendent, to address the audience regarding new programs being initiated in elementary schools.

Dr. Rogers said grant funds have recently become available through an Early Reading First grant to support a K-3 Summer Reading Program at six elementary schools. She said transportation would be available for this program.

Mrs. Windi Thomas, 3541 SW Wesparke Ct., Topeka, requested to speak to the Board regarding busing. Ms. Thomas said her children attend Bishop Elementary and distributed a map showing their home in proximity to the school. She asked that the Board reconsider providing transportation to students living more than one mile from school. She said she is concerned for her children's safety.

Ms. Jinaki Modupe, 2421 SW Bradbury Ave., Topeka, requested to speak to the Board. Ms. Modupe said students are being left behind despite the No Child Left Behind act. She said she is concerned that budget cuts might include increased class sizes, pay to participate in band and sports, increased textbook fees, and the elimination of mandatory summer school. She asked that the Board consider what is best for all students – not just a few.

Mrs. Stephanie Freeland, 1200 SW Clay St., Topeka, requested to speak to the Board. Mrs. Freeland spoke in support of former principal, Mrs. Sandy Lassiter. She asked when her name would be cleared.

Ms. Cindi O'Neal, 2537 SE Monroe, Topeka, requested to speak to the Board. Ms. O'Neal said parents of Quinton Heights Elementary School students support Mrs. Sandra Lassiter and have not forgotten her dismissal. She said there was no conflict between Mrs. Lassiter and the community, her students, and children.

Ms. Janel Johnson, 2844 SE Virginia Ave., Topeka, requested to speak to the Board. Ms. Johnson said she is still requesting a meeting with Ms. Barbara Davis, general director of elementary learning, regarding Mrs. Sandra Lassiter. She said tutoring had just recently begun at Quinton Heights Elementary and she wondered if this would have happened earlier if the school was located West of Burlingame Road.

Ms. Catherine Ellsworth, 1036 SW Sunset Ct., Topeka, requested to speak to the Board. She said her son is attending Landon Middle School this year and is fitting in well. She said the diversity and leadership at that school is great. She said in addition, her son qualified for accelerated classes at Topeka High School and it has been a good fit for him. She said the accelerated program offers her son intellectual peers and motivates him. She said she supports Topeka Public Schools and encouraged the Board to continue their good leadership.

□ ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no requests to speak.

DISPOSITION OF BUSINESS BY CONSENT

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS BY CONSENT AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD PRESIDENT OR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO SIGN THE SPECIAL PROJECT CONTRACT(S) AND THE PURCHASING CONTRACT(S) FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| <u>ITEM B</u> | <u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> |
| <u>ITEM C</u> | <u>PURCHASES</u> |
| <u>ITEM D</u> | <u>PERSONNEL REPORT</u> |
| <u>ITEM E</u> | <u>BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS FOR KATS CLINICAL PROGRAM</u> |
| <u>ITEM F</u> | <u>AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH VA EASTERN KANSAS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM FOR KATS LPN DEGREE PROGRAM</u> |
| <u>ITEM G</u> | <u>CONTRACT WITH IBM FOR RELOCATING IBM MAINFRAME COMPUTER AT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u> |
| <u>ITEM H</u> | <u>SERVICE CONTRACT WITH IBM FOR MAINFRAME COMPUTER</u> |
| <u>ITEM I</u> | <u>LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION FOR HOSTING 2004 CLASS 5A STATE GIRLS' SOCCER TOURNAMENT</u> |
| <u>ITEM J</u> | <u>LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION FOR HOSTING 2004 CLASS 5A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME</u> |
| <u>ITEM K</u> | <u>LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION FOR HOSTING 2004 CLASS 5A STATE BOYS' SOCCER TOURNAMENT</u> |

- ITEM L CONTRACT WITH LACKEY ELECTRIC, INC. FOR PARKING LOT LIGHTING AT HIGHLAND PARK HIGH SCHOOL
- ITEM M CONTRACT WITH CENTRAL MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. FOR HVAC ADDITION IN COMPUTER ROOM AT TEC
- ITEM N CONTRACT WITH CAPITOL CONTRACTORS CO., INC. FOR FLOOR TILE REPLACEMENT AT SHANER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- ITEM O MATHEMATICS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS
- ITEM P DONATIONS TOTALING \$1,200 TO RACHAEL CHAN MEMORIAL AT TOPEKA WEST HIGH SCHOOL FROM VARIOUS DONORS
- ITEM Q DONATION OF 1989 FORD PROBE VEHICLE VALUED AT \$2,500 TO \$2,900 TO THE TOPEKA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM FROM JOHN HOFFER CHRYSLER

BY: **MRS. CAMPBELL**

SECOND: **MR. MALLORY**

DISCUSSION: Mr. Glenn asked how the Mathematics Partnership Program grant funds would be used to address the Board's math initiative. Dr. Rogers said the District would be partnering with the University of Kansas, Dr. Susan Gay. She said the program would focus on special education grades 4-8 or approximately 30 teachers.

Mr. Clothier commended Mr. Michael J. Wilson and sports park staff for attracting several tournaments to Hummer Sports Park. He commented this District is diverse in academics, as well as in sports.

VOTE: **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ITEM S – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. W. L. Sawyer, superintendent, introduced Mr. Brad Stauffer, director of communications, to update Board Members on the legislative session. Mr. Stauffer distributed a legislative report from Ms. Denise Apt and noted she was unable to attend the meeting because the legislature was holding a late night session prior to their break.

He said the House Education Committee finished its discussion of House Bill 2940 and two plans were submitted to the House. He said the most favorable would bring \$5 million to this District and an additional \$1 million for bilingual education, special education students and students at-risk. He said the Senate Education Committee passed the bill out (HB 2940) and a new Republican plan (HB 2937) today but both failed on the Senate floor. He said the legislature is scheduled to adjourn on Friday or Saturday this week. He said after the adjournment they might bring back HB 2940 for a debate and a decision on that and the Omnibus legislation. He said the building-based budget bill was presented by the Senate with significant amendments, including exempting districts with less than 2,500 students and requiring the legislature to fund the cost of implementation.

Mr. Clothier asked how many school districts have less than 2,500 students. Mr. Stauffer said most districts do not have 2,500 students. Mr. Clothier asked if consolidation had been discussed. Mr. Stauffer

said it had been discussed in the past but because it would mean numerous school closures, it is not a popular option.

Mr. Glenn asked if HB 2940 had passed the House. Mr. Stauffer said it had, as well as the leadership bill. He said HB 2940 had been introduced in another bill but not voted on and it came back, amended, the next day.

Mr. Mallory asked what the legislature had accomplished this session. Mr. Stauffer said no major issues have been addressed. Mr. Mallory asked what the outcome might be for Judge Bullock's decision (illegal distribution and funding of public schools). Mr. Stauffer said Judge Bullock had announced two weeks ago that he would put together a remedy plan of his own and the legislature has said they would wait for that plan. He said the remedy plan should be a significant increase for next year and indications are it would happen during the legislature's recess. He said the Supreme Court would not hear the case until late August and any decision would not affect funding for next year. He said any new funding would have to come during the legislature's wrap-up session.

Mrs. Campbell asked if there has been talk of a special session. Mr. Stauffer said there has been no recent discussion of a special session.

Mr. Braun asked if the legislature is considering revival of HB 2940. Mr. Stauffer said Ms. Apt is not certain, but it could be brought back to the Senate prior to Saturday. He referred Board Members to her report for additional information. Mr. Braun thanked Mr. Stauffer for his report.

ITEM U - PROPOSED PROCLAMATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA MONTH

Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, asked Mr. Tim S. Clothier to read the following proclamation:

**Proclamation
Of
Topeka Public Schools, U.S.D. 501
School Library Media Month
April, 2004**

Whereas, current research shows a strong relationship between well equipped and professionally staffed school library media programs and student achievement; and

Whereas, research shows that access to books and other reading material is related to narrowing achievement gaps; and

Whereas, school library media centers provide a wide range of books and materials for all children to read; and

Whereas, school library media centers provide both traditional and technologically based information resources to support learning; and

Whereas, the school library media specialist in each school teaches the skills of locating and using information, provides reading and literature appreciation activities, and guides and encourages content and recreational reading with every student; and

Whereas, the school library media specialist in each school supports the educational intent of the school and collaborates with school staff in their teaching; and

Whereas, the school library media program systematically teaches life long learning skills to ensure that students and staff continue to be effective users of information; and

Whereas, school library media centers and their supporters, nationwide, are celebrating

April as School Library Media Month and April 18 through April 24 as National Library Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 501, Topeka, Kansas, does proclaim the month of April 2004, as

"DISTRICT SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA MONTH"

and urges all those concerned with children to visit our school library media centers, to watch our students taking advantage of the opportunities offered there, and to enjoy learning.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this proclamation be provided to principals and other site administrators for display in all buildings in USD 501 and included in the minutes of the Board of Education meeting, April 1, 2004.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We, the Board of Education of Topeka USD 501, do hereby affix the signature of our President and the official seal of the Board of Education this First Day of April in 2004.

Topeka Public
Schools



April 1, 2004
Board of

Mark S. Braun
Board of Education President

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPT THE PROPOSED PROCLAMATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH AS PRESENTED.

BY: MR. CLOTHIER

SECOND: MR. BROWNING

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

Ms. Diane Leupold, media coordinator, introduced media specialist Susan Thowe to accept the proclamation. Ms. Leupold distributed a report on school libraries and mementos to the Board. She thanked Board Members for supporting school libraries and school librarians.

Mr. Braun recognized Ms. Sprague, retired media specialist, who was in the audience and noted how the role of media specialists has changed through the years.

RECESS

Mr. Braun called for a recess at 8:20 p.m., the meeting reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

ITEM V – UPDATE ON THE TERMS PROJECT

Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, said he had requested this update and introduced Mr. Bill Hall, technical services manager. Mr. Hall introduced representatives from Crosspointe, the company that developed TERMS, President and CEO Joan Keebler, Vice President of Product Development Ray Glueck, and Chief Operating Officer Gene Burkett.

Mr. Hall reviewed the process for implementing TERMS and the timelines for implementation. He addressed the problem of high school transcripts and said the conversion of academic history was unsuccessful because of so many data exceptions and non-standardization in Topeka Public Schools. He said staff was faced with this same issue when converting the business side to TERMS. He said this is a unique industry and explained the exceptions. He said transcripts were available on February 1st.

Mr. Clothier said he is frustrated because the Board had told Mr. Hall they would provide him with resources to accomplish the conversion and Board Members were not made aware of the problems with providing transcripts to students until parents and students contacted them. Mr. Hall said this Board should feel good about the accomplishments.

Ms. Keebler, Mr. Glueck and Mr. Burkett spoke briefly to Board Members. Ms. Keebler provided a brief history of Crosspointe and indicated their firm is expanding to the Midwest, from Florida. Mr. Burkett assured Board Members he is on-call 24 hours a day for consultation and would assist staff with solutions to their problems.

Mr. Mallory said the District seemed to focus on exceptions and were naïve and optimistic to a fault. He expressed appreciation to Crosspointe representatives for meeting with staff and two Board Members (Mr. Braun and him) prior to the Board meeting.

Mr. Braun apologized to students who did not receive their transcripts in a timely manner. He thanked Crosspointe representatives for their time, saying he feels Board Members now have a better perception of the conversion problems.

Mr. Clothier thanked representatives from Crosspointe for coming to Topeka and expressed his appreciation for their commitment.

Mr. Hall thanked Board Members for their support through this process.

ITEM W - SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. W. L. Sawyer, superintendent, distributed the following announcements:

- April 6District Citizens Advisory Council Meeting,
7:00 p.m. Burnett Center Conference Room
- April 6 KASB Seminar, "KASB Employment Law Seminar"
- April 15 Youth Officials Meeting, Burnett Administrative Center,
Superintendent's Conference Room, 7:00 a.m.
- April 15 Distinguished Staff Awards, Capitol Plaza Hotel – 6:00 p.m.
Board of Education Meeting, Burnett Administrative Center
Approximately 7:30 p.m.
- April 20 Intergovernmental Cooperation Council Meeting,
Washburn University Vogel Room
- April 21 KATS Joint Cooperating Boards Dinner,
Kaw Area Technical School, 6:00 p.m.
- April 22 Business Partners Recognition Reception
Williams Fine Arts Magnet School, 1:30 p.m.
- April 29YWCA Women of Excellence Luncheon, Sunflower Ballroom,
Capitol Plaza Hotel, 11:45 a.m.
- May 5Retirement Dinner, Capitol Plaza Hotel, 6:30 p.m.
- May 6 Board of Education Meeting, Burnett Administrative Center,

5:30 p.m. Executive Session, 6:30 p.m. Board Meeting
May 6 KASB Spring Regional Meeting, Region 2, Emporia High School
Emporia, Kansas

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM Y – AUTHORIZATION TO REPUBLISH 2003-2004 BUDGET

Mr. W. L. Sawyer, superintendent, introduced Ms. Pam Leinwetter, director of budget/grant accounting. Ms. Leinwetter told Board Members that because the audited student count was higher than anticipated, she would like the Board to approve republishing the 2003-2004 budget. She said with their permission, the budget would be published this Saturday in the daily newspaper, a public hearing held and final approval of the budget at the Board's April 15, 2004, meeting. She said the budget is increased to \$69,348,576 from \$68,676,414 because of an increase (140) in pupils.

MOTION: TO AUTHORIZE REPUBLISHING THE 2003-2004 BUDGET.

BY: MR. CLOTHIER

SECOND: MRS. CAMPBELL

DISCUSSION: Mr. Glenn asked if the LOB is affected. Ms. Leinwetter informed him it was not affected.

VOTE: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

ITEM Z – PROPOSED BOND RESOLUTION 04-06

Mr. W. L. Sawyer, superintendent, introduced Mr. Michael W. Jones, general director of fiscal services and Board treasurer. Mr. Jones introduced bond counsel Greg Vahrenberg, Piper, Jaffray, Inc. to address the Board on refinancing bond issues. Mr. Vahrenberg explained two District bond issues could be refinanced and it would save taxpayers approximately \$245,040. He said there are some unspent proceeds from the 1999 issue and now would be an excellent time to apply these funds towards the refinancing. He said in order to take advantage of this, it would be necessary for the Board to adopt Resolution 04-06 being presented to them tonight.

Mr. Braun asked what the fee was to refinance. Mr. Vahrenberg explained that Piper, Jaffray, Inc. received 0.75% of the principal amount of the bond issue but there are additional fees associated with refinancing. He said the detailed charges are available to them. Board Members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Vahrenberg for his services.

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 04-06 AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD PRESIDENT, BOARD TREASURER, AND CLERK OF THE BOARD TO SIGN ALL ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS.

BY: MR. CLOTHIER

SECOND: MR. MALLORY

VOTE: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM AA – SPORTS PARK UPDATE

Mr. Mark S. Braun, Board president, introduced Mr. Chris Albert, general director of central services and facilities planning, for an update on sports park projects.

Mr. Albert said there are some additional recommended projects at the sports park and asked the Board's approval to bid those projects. He said there were 603 items needing repaired by various contractors and just a few projects not completed at this time. He said once the substantial work is completed, there is a twelve-month warranty in effect. He said one prime contractor, SRI Sports, has filed bankruptcy; however, a payment bond would cover those sub-contractors not paid. He said a lien could be made on the property, but the insurance company is confident payment would be made. He said the bonding company would be responsible for the warranty as well.

Mr. Albert presented a list of projects totaling \$150,043 and asked the Board's permission to accept bids. He said the funds available at this time are \$194,647. He said the District's portion of the Capitol Federal Natatorium signage cost is pending as well.

Mr. Browning asked about fencing on the soccer fields. Mr. Albert said that has been completed.

Mr. Clothier said there is some concern on the height of the backstop on the ball diamonds. He suggested they be raised in order to prevent injuries.

Mr. Braun asked if all the projects for the schools, which is part of that same bond issue, have been completed. Mr. Albert said they have been completed and that he has not received any calls from schools this past year.

MOTION: TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND APPROVE THE PROJECTS PRESENTED.

BY: MR. MALLORY

SECOND: MR. CLOTHIER

VOTE: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0, Mrs. Barrington, absent).

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Tim S. Clothier said he recently returned from a recruiting trip to Central Missouri State. He noted that Mrs. Barrington and Mr. Wilson are currently recruiting in Oklahoma.

Mrs. Carolyn L. Campbell thanked Mr. Glenn for his response to a Letter to the Editor printed in the Topeka Capital-Journal. She said she had just returned from a National Association of School Board Annual Convention. She said she attended the Black Caucus general session and other sessions and discussed some of those sessions. She thanked Mr. Braun for his response to an individual who had written the Board with concerns. Mr. Braun said after he had written his letter to her, he found out she does not live in this school district.

Mr. Mark S. Braun said the Topeka High School band just returned from a performance at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. He said he has heard several good comments concerning their performance.

CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECESS TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION REGARDING NONELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL AND FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ATTORNEY(S) REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND OTHER LEGAL MATTERS; THE MEETING TO BE CLOSED BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE DISCUSSIONS AND THE OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD TO RESUME AT 11:00 P.M. OR SOONER, SAME LOCATION, WITH NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN.

BY: MRS. CAMPBELL

SECOND: MR. GLENN

VOTE: THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-1, Mr. Clothier, against, Mrs. Barrington, absent.)

The Board of Education recessed to an executive session at 10:26 p.m., with the following present:

Board Members: Mr. Mark S. Braun, President
Mrs. Carolyn L. Campbell, Vice President
Mrs. Cheri Barrington (absent)
Mr. Ron Browning (left at 10:26 p.m.)
Mr. Tim S. Clothier
Mr. Doug Glenn
Mr. Bruce E. Mallory

Officers of the Board: Mr. Joseph W. Zima, School District Attorney and Clerk of the Board (left at 10:45 p.m.)

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. L. Sawyer, Superintendent (left at 10:45 p.m.)
Dr. Susan Rogers, Associate Superintendent (left at 10:45 p.m.)

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONVENES

Following discussion, the Board of Education reconvened at 10:52 p.m., with the following present:

Board Members: Mr. Mark S. Braun, President
Mrs. Carolyn L. Campbell, Vice President
Mrs. Cheri Barrington (absent)
Mr. Ron Browning (absent)
Mr. Tim S. Clothier
Mr. Doug Glenn
Mr. Bruce E. Mallory

Officers of the Board: Mr. Joseph W. Zima, School District Attorney and Clerk of the Board

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. L. Sawyer, Superintendent
Dr. Susan Rogers, Associate Superintendent

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADJOURNS TO 6:00 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2004.

BY: MR. MALLORY

SECOND: MR. GLENN

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0, Mrs. Barrington and Mr. Browning, absent).

The Board of Education adjourned at 10:54 p.m., in the Burnett Center Conference Room of the McKinley L. Burnett Administrative Center.

Joseph W. Zima, Clerk
Board of Education
Unified School District No. 501