

BURLINGTON USD 244

Board approves measures in response to school closure

**Katie McMurray**  
Reporter

BURLINGTON — The Burlington USD 244 Board of Education met in special session Friday morning, March 20, and approved a pair of resolutions and a motion to allow limited staff and students in the buildings for learning purposes. All three measures are in response to the closure

of schools due to the coronavirus pandemic. The first of the two resolutions passed authorizes continued wage payments to all regular employees, including regular salaried and hourly employees and employees under current contract with the board who are instructed not to report to work on days they would otherwise be required to be working during

an emergency closing. The authority is effective March 23 through June 30, unless the board takes action to authorize payment during a longer duration. The second resolution passed suspends all credit requirements above and beyond the minimum required credits set by the Kansas State Department of Education, which are contained in Board

of Education Policy IHF, for the graduating class of 2020. Students must meet all standards set out in K.A.R. 91-31-35, unless otherwise modified by the Kansas State Board of Education or the Kansas State Department of Education, to qualify for graduation in May 2020.

Superintendent Craig Marshall said the wage payments resolution is based on the need to guarantee pay for employees during the COVID-19 pandemic so the district will get state funding that was already allocated for school districts, while the graduation requirements resolution was recommended by the Kansas Association of School Boards for this year only due to COVID-19.

"We are suspending for only this year the 23 credit policy and moving it to 21 credits," Marshall said. "Twenty-one credits is what the state mandates. Local boards can increase graduation requirements."

The motion regarding individuals in the buildings for learning purposes will allow for limited staff and students for learning purposes in small groups of nine or less and all six feet apart. The number per

group and minimum distance apart were both set upon the recommendation of the Coffey County Health Department and under advisement of County Health Officer Dr. John Shell. The recommendation is subject to change based on information from the Coffey County Health Department, and the district is not planning to have non-essential staff or students in the buildings through March 27.

"This is to make sure we follow guidelines of nine or fewer and maintaining the six-foot social distance rules if we have staff and students in our buildings during COVID-19," Marshall said. "As of March 20, we are not going to have students in our buildings until further notice. We will only have essential staff in our buildings following the nine or fewer and six-foot social distance rules."

The only other action taken during the meeting was to approve the donation of Burlington City Hall buildings located at 301 and 303 Neosho St. to the district.

"We want to thank the City of Burlington for the donation of the 301 and 303 Neosho buildings to USD 244 for administrative offices," Marshall said. "This donation will allow us to continue to look at our options with community-based daycare in the future. We are very pleased that the City of Burlington is supportive of USD 244 and quality daycare for our families."

Present for the meeting were Superintendent Craig Marshall, Board Clerk Tracey Moerer, board member Selena King and, via phone, board members Monique Hart, Stacy Augustyn, James Higgins, Shane Fejfar, Michael Thorp, and Lucas Allen.

SCC competes in math relays

Southern Coffey County High School "mathletes" competed in the Allen Community College Red Devils Invitational Math Relay Thursday, March 12. The 30 mathletes competed amongst 300 students from surrounding communities. Five different individual events for each grade level followed a variety of relay events which consist of four team members.

True - 1st, Maddie Spencer - 2nd, Sabra Clements - 4th; 10th: Aiden Voorhees - 3rd; 11th: Trinity Yoho - 5th.

Math potpourri - 9th: Aden Harmon - 4th; 12th: Derek Ratzlaff - 5th.

Equations and inequalities - 9th: Jalea True - 2nd, Maddie Spencer - 5th; 11th: Kyra Ohl - 3rd, Emmy Hall - 5th; 12th: Derek Ratzlaff - 4th.

Simplifications - 12th, Izic Brown - 4th.

Relay team events

Geometry relay (through 10th) - 3rd, Wade Gleue, Aiden Voorhees, Cody Brite and Rylee Mattheis.

Geometry relay (through 11th) - 1st, Kyra Ohl, Emmy

Hall, Larry Ratzlaff and Trinity Yoho.

Geometry relay (through 11th) - 4th, Dalton Harmon, Tempest Klassen, Brayton Lind and AJ DeAnda.

Calculator relay (any grade level) - 1st, Lacy Brite, Emmy Hall, Kyra Ohl and Tempest Klassen.

Calculator relay (any grade level) - 3rd, Wade Gleue, Mitchyl Walters, Aiden Voorhees and Brock Williams.

Word problem relay (any grade level) - 2nd, Jalea True, Maddie Spencer, AJ DeAnda and Sabra Clements.

Medley relay (9th through 12th) - 3rd, Aden Harmon, Brayton Lind, Larry Ratzlaff and Derek Ratzlaff.

LEBO-WAVERLY USD 243

Personnel items, tennis court refurbishment OK'd

**Ida Wilson**  
Reporter

WAVERLY — The Lebo Waverly USD 243 Board of Education met March 9 and, following five minutes of executive session for nonelected personnel, accepted the resignation of Hannah Lee as Waverly High School cheer sponsor and approved Clayton Happy as an assistant baseball coach. The board offered contracts for the 2020-21 school year to a long list of teachers, with terms and conditions to be negotiated. Present in the ex-

ecutive session with the board was Superintendent Corey Reese and the two principals.

President Jerry Riley presided over the March 9 school board meeting, which included Jim Davies, Jeff Holmes, Denise McNabb, Caroline McWilliams, Perry Ott and Todd Wallace. Others present were Reese, Clerk Patty Medina, Educator Jessica Gaddis, and principals Duane Ford and Susan Wildeman. Students Logan Pyle and Megan Foster were present to complete a government assignment.

The board approved the

refurbishment of the Lebo tennis courts. The bid was from Riggs Recreation in the amount of \$18,000. Since the school district owns one court and the City of Lebo the other, the City of Lebo will pay the district \$9,000.

Counselor Janella Newton reported on the happenings in the district regarding Career Academic Planning. There are seven pathways offered with regards to career education. Over 40 percent of the juniors and seniors in the district are taking classes at Allen Community College, and that percentage is expected to remain steady in the coming school year. About 14 percent of the juniors and seniors attend Flint Hills Technical College, and that percentage is anticipated to reach over 25 percent next year. About 30 percent of the seniors are taking advantage of professional learning opportunities such as working in nursing homes and hospitals.

Educators Stephanie Baker and Bev Gross reported on their trip to Denver, where they received training on suicide prevention. Attending the two-day Yellow Ribbon event made them certified to train others. They also received educational resources and knowledge of the "stop it" campaign. Local teachers and students will receive training soon. The education campaign will also reach out to the wide community.

Principal Susan Wildeman presented an oral report and a hard copy of the activities at the Waverly schools to the board.

Principal Duane Ford told the board that Linda Hopkins and Rochelle Wurm attended the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders. Francis Ramirez, Bev Gross, Gena Jones and Amanda Hopkins attended the Early Childhood symposium. Brad Harzman attended the Kansas Music Educators Association

State In-Service. He reported Jess Stice, the school resource officer, presented information on the harmful effects of bullying to students in third through fifth grades.

With regard to student achievement, Ford reported Audrey Durst earned an "I" or "Excellent" rating at the KSHSAA Regional Piano Festival at Baker University and a "I" rating at the KSHSAA State Piano Festival at Wichita State University. He also reported the Lebo Forensics team has eight members, and Alli Moore qualified for state forensics in prose.

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**FREE Grab-N-Go Breakfast and Lunch**

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*\*While supplies last.*

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This Week in History

Brought to you by the Coffey County Museum, 1101 Neosho Street, Burlington. Visit their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/coffeymuseum](http://www.facebook.com/coffeymuseum).

March 22 - 28

25 years ago (1995)

\* The Internet is coming to Burlington! A demonstration will be presented at the Burlington Branch of the Coffey County Library.

50 years ago (1970)

\* Three Burlington teachers will be retiring; Mrs. Justine Hill, Mrs. Kate Myers, and Mrs. Nema Dunn. Mrs. Hill spent 29 years teaching at Burlington High School. Mrs. Myers taught second grade at Burlington for 12 years and a total of 32 years in Woodson and Coffey County schools. Mrs. Dunn taught 35 years with the last four of the years teaching fourth grade in Burlington.

75 years ago (1945)

\* Carl Wuerfele has purchased the Peoples Supply Store at Aliceville. He will continue to operate the store under the same name.

\* Dr. Forrest C. Allen of Kansas University will be the speaker at the annual banquet

for the basketball and football squads of the Burlington High School. Dr. Allen, known to the sports world as "Phog Allen," is one of the best-known coaches in the country.

100 years ago (1920)

\* The entire city was greatly inconvenienced when the water works plant was shut down yesterday without the promised warning, watching everyone without water. That was bad enough, but early in the evening the Light Company's supply of water was exhausted and the plant had to shut down, leaving the city in darkness, when a warning would have given the plant time to store a little water and keep running. The water was cut off to permit the replacing of a couple of old fire hydrants with new ones.

125 years ago (1895)

\* H. E. Cowgill has started his soda fountain.

\* Will Lane, fish warden of Coffey County, received a copy of the new fish law. Law states the taking of fish by any other device than a hook and line is strictly prohibited and black bass less than eight inches in length are not allowed to be caught.

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SPRING 2020 CLEAN-UP WEEK PROVIDES FREE LANDFILL SERVICE

The Board of County Commissioners of Coffey County have designated the period of April 13th through April 18th, inclusive, a "Clean-Up Week" in Coffey County.

Waste will be accepted at the Coffey County Sanitary Landfill at no charge to the resident during this period. Commercial haulers will be charged the normal rates.

- ❖ THERE WILL BE A CHARGE TO DISPOSE OF TIRES!
- ❖ ALL HOUSEHOLD TRASH AND LOOSE PAPER MUST BE PROPERLY BAGGED OR IT WILL BE REFUSED!
- ❖ PLEASE ENSURE ALL LOADS ARE PROPERLY SECURED!

The landfill is open from 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

Each City is encouraged to proclaim a "Clean-Up Week" in conjunction with the County landfill policy during this period.

Angie Kirchner  
Coffey County Clerk

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