

LEROY-GRIDLEY USD 245

SOUTHERN LYON COUNTY USD 252

School, coaching staff OK'd BOE handles personnel matters

Mark Petterson
Managing Editor

LEROY — The LeRoy-Gridley USD 245 Board of Education met 7 a.m. Friday for a 45-minute special meeting to consider staffing, coaching and sponsor recommendations.

Six of the seven school board members were present: Heather True, president, Nathan Morray, Nikki Houston, Jay Dee Weers, Craig Nickel and Kevin Ohl, as well as Superintendent Russ Mildward. Board member Jeremy Lind was absent.

The board entered into two executive sessions — one for 10 minutes and the other for five minutes — to discuss staffing recommendations under the nonelected personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act.

Upon return to open session, the board approved the following certified and classified staff, as presented, for the 2020-21 school year:

✓ Gridley Elementary: Kindergarten—Mrs. Trostle, First grade—Mrs. Skillman, Second grade—Ms. Hatch, Third grade—Mrs. Jacob, Fourth grade—Mrs. Morray, Fifth grade—Mrs. Roush, Pre-K—Mrs. Luney, Title—Mrs. Witteman, Counselor—Mrs. Jewell, Special education—Mrs. Vander Linden, Physical education—Mr. Thomsen, Music/band—Mr. Robinson, Sped para—Mrs. Strawder, Sped para—Mrs. Brown, Sped para—Mrs. Kraft, Sped para—Open, At-risk para—Jordyn Stone, At-risk para—Victoria Prock, At-risk para—Judy Lind part-time PM, At-risk para AM/vocational PM—Janna Cole, Janitor/maintenance—Ron Zlab, Cook—Joy Redding, Cook—Sharon Ryan and Secretary—Kayla Kraft.

✓ SCC Middle School: Math—Mr. O'Neal, Science—Mr. Dickinson, English—Mr. Loomis, Computers—Mrs. Fischer, FFA—Mr. Castle, Social Worker/Counselor—Mrs. Jewell, Special education—Brian Rand, Physical education—Mr. Thomsen, Music/Band—Mr. Robinson, At-risk para—Becca Houston, Sped para—Mrs. Heath, Secretary—Linda Webb and Janitor—Nancy Hess.

✓ SCC High School: Social studies—Mr. True, FACS—Mrs. Fischer, Foreign language—Mrs. Troike, Computers—Mr. Newton, Special education—Mr. Rand, English—Mrs. Lee, Math—Ms. Brummel, Science—Mr. Smith, Counselor—Mrs. Jewell, Physical education—Mr. Thomsen, Music/band—Mr. Robinson, FFA—Mr. Castle, At-risk para—Mrs. Doggett, At-risk para—Ms. Temple, Sped para—Mrs. Temple, Sped para—Mrs. Sanders, Sped para—Ms. Watts, Secretary—Linda Webb, Cook—Scoti Williams, Cook—Mandy Copeland, Janitor/maintenance—Mike Simon.

Coaches and sponsors

The board voted to non-renew Christina Morray as middle school volleyball coach and middle school basketball coach. Since the middle school has been moved to LeRoy and Morray will be a teacher at Gridley Elementary School, the board had concerns about loss of instruction time.

The board approved Morray to be assistant high school girls basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year with the understanding drive time from Gridley will result in her missing the very beginning of practice.

The board approved Jeff True to be the middle school volleyball coach and Ken O'Neal to be the middle school head basketball coach, both for the 2020-21 school year.

The board approved Scoti Williams as middle school cheer sponsor and district spirit club sponsor for the 2020-21 school year.

Following a five-minute executive session to discuss the coaching and sponsor recommendations for the 2020-21 school year, the board approved the following coach/sponsor recommendations:

✓ SCC High School: Head Football—Trevor Smith, Assistant Football—Jason Harred, Head Volleyball—Jeff True, Assistant Volleyball—Pam Lee, Head Basketball Boys—Trevor Smith, Head Basketball Girls—Jeff True, Assistant Basketball Girls—Christina Morray, Head Track—Jeff True, Assistant Track—Trevor Smith,

Athletic Director—Jay Applegate, STUCO—Scoti Williams, Scholar's Bowl—Trevor Smith, FFA—Eric Castle, Yearbook—Alan Newton, Vocal Music—Justin Robinson, Vocal Instrumental—Justin Robinson, PDC Chair—Pam Lee, PDC Secretary—Amber Jewell, District Website—Alan Newton, Leadership—Amber Jewell, Curriculum Chair—Pam Lee, Testing Coordinator—Amber Jewell, KIDS Coordinator—Linda Webb, Transportation Director—Jay Applegate, Senior Class—Dayle Fischer, Senior Class—Pam Lee, Junior Class—Justin Robinson, Junior Class—Lisa Brummel, Sophomore—Trevor Smith, Sophomore—Maria Temple, Freshmen—Eric Castle, Freshmen—Nikki Houston, Cheer—Cathi Temple, Cheer—Maria Temple.

✓ SCC Middle School: Head Football—Kent O'Neal, Assistant Football—Robert Dickinson, Head Volleyball—Jeff True, Head Basketball Boys—Matt Thomsen, Assistant Basketball Boys—John Jarvis, Head Basketball Girls—Kent O'Neal, Assistant Basketball Girls—John Jarvis, Head Track—Matt Thomsen, Assistant Track—Robert Dickinson, STUCO—Amber Jewell, Quiz Bowl—Robert Dickinson, Cheer/District spirit club—Scoti Williams.

✓ Gridley Elementary: Care Team Chair—Donna Luney, CCC—Jerilee Trostle.

Prior to adjourning, Supt. Mildward updated the board about the remodeling of Gridley Elementary School. At this point, he said the project is going as planned.

Correction

In the Burlington USD 244 Board of Education story in the June 18 edition of The Republican, the amount of hazard pay for the technology staff members was reported incorrectly. The article stated it was \$840 per person for six staff members. The correct amount is approximately \$840 total for the six technology staff members, as each staff member is to be paid \$11 per day in hazard pay. The Republican regrets the error.

HARTFORD — The Southern Lyon County USD 252 Board of Education handled several personnel matters at its regular monthly meeting Monday, June 15.

Several resignations were approved, including those of Bill Ballinger as the Olpe Maintenance Director, Diana Ballinger as Olpe bus route driver, Cherie Peak as Olpe head cook, Lynn Miller as an Olpe early childhood paraprofessional and Kathryn Beemer and Natalia Guthrie as Neosho Rapids early childhood paraprofessionals.

Nancy King and Kathryn Whitcomb were approved for the open elementary teaching positions at Olpe Elementary School, with grade levels to be determined after consideration of staff strengths. Annamie Wilson and Jamie Peralta were approved as full-time early childhood paras with benefits, and the movement of Kylie Stithem from part time para to full time para with benefits, also at Neosho Rapids, was approved.

The reassignment of Michael Ratcliff from district baseball head coach to district baseball assistant coach and of Dalton Laird from district baseball assistant coach to district baseball head coach was accepted.

The classified letter of employment, list of classified employees, staff increases and early childhood wage scale were approved for the 2020-21 school year were approved as presented.

Job descriptions for coach/sponsor, athletic/activity director, building technology leaders, aide/paraprofessional — full time and part time, part time custodian summer worker and administrative assistant/KDE/KIDS input supervisor/food service/grant writing were presented. They will be in the consent agenda for the July board meeting for approval.

All of the above actions came after the board held three executive sessions totaling 30 minutes to discuss personnel pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA with the board, superintendent and administrators present.

Six board members were present for the meeting, Kevin Flott, Jon Breshears, Steve Re-

deker, Emily Darbyshire, Gene Windle and, via Zoom, Charles Steffes. Board member Rich Sleezer was absent. Also present were Superintendent Michael Argabright, Board Clerk Cassie Dieker, Hartford principal Douglas Hes, Olpe principal Shane Clark and, via zoom, visitor Kevin Darbyshire.

Argabright presented information on ongoing grants. KRR is still waiting for DCF funding for approval. Early childhood has received \$135,000 from Kansas Preschool Pilot, \$288,000 from early childhood block grant, one \$5,000 grant, two \$500 grants and an additional \$50,451.15 for the 0-3 year old program. Additionally, Mike and Beth Skalsky were thanked for nominating USD 252 for a \$2,500 Monsanto Grant that was awarded to the district. The \$2,500 will be used for shop tools and supplies.

The 0-3 year old infant unit at Olpe has been approved to open. They will begin taking children July 6. All spots are full at this time.

Bids for concrete projects at Olpe Schools were presented and the board approved a bid from Bruce Davis Construction in the amount of \$12,280. Updates were also given on flooring at Olpe Elementary, Olpe playground and Hartford High School baseball field.

Argabright presented information on the administrative in-service, which has been scheduled for the later part of the month. He also presented a draft copy of the strategic plan and district board goals, requesting board input on both items. Both documents will be in the July board meeting for approval.

Dates were suggested for board meetings for the 2020-21 school year, including July 15, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 12 (with an 8 a.m. facility tour), Nov. 9, Dec. 9 (at Olpe computer lab), Jan. 13 (at 11 a.m. at Neosho Rapids Elementary School), Feb. 10, March 8 (at 11 a.m. at Olpe Schools), April 14 (at 11 a.m. at Hartford), May 12 and June 14. The board approved 7 p.m. July 15 at the Board of Education Office in Hartford as the time, date and location for the July meeting. The remainder of the dates will be formally set at the July meeting.

Hes and Clark presented up-

dates on the continuous learning plan. Summer school has started with about 60 kids in attendance in the buildings. Summer conditioning has also started with all activities held outdoors. Summer weights are scheduled to start in July, and driver's education has been approved to start. Food Service will continue to serve meals through July as long as numbers continue to hold steady.

In two separate motions, the board approved the financial reports and authorized the board clerk to make any necessary transfers, as allowed by law to the food service, contingency, special education, profession development, K-12 at-risk, drivers education, vocational and capital outlay funds and pay bills from unencumbered cash balance of the general fund and supplemental general fund monies as of June 30 and to not exceed budget expenditures as set by Kansas law.

A possible in-service calendar change due to COVID-19 was presented. Calendar changes will be determined at a later date.

Argabright reported Honor Flight trips have been suspended through the end of December. The district will look toward an April trip and continue to fundraise as allowed. He and the board congratulated the graduating senior classes of Hartford and Olpe and expressed gratitude to all who have put in hours of planning and work to prepare for graduation ceremonies and who will help with the ceremonies.

In other action, the board approved amendments to the early childhood calendars for closure for cleaning June 29-July 2; the 2020-21 certified/licensed, classified staff, athletic/activity and substitute handbooks; Title I and Reading Recovery reports for the 2019-20 school year; student transfers for the 2020-21 school year — Olpe Schools — Avery Evins, JD Miller and Cyrus Smith and Neosho Rapids — Novalee Patton and Evelyn Pearson; Brenda Redeker for central office training at \$21.58 per hour; pledged securities, journal entries, SLCEF account balances and petty cash and activity reports; payrolls for May 5 and June 5 totaling \$320,295.77; bills due and payable totaling \$110,461.73.

New Strawn City Council elects president

NEW STRAWN — The New Strawn City Council took care of a variety of business when it met Thursday, June 11, for its regular monthly meeting. The council elected Rhonda Taylor to serve as council president until May 2021 appointments are made.

Governing body present were Mayor Mark Petterson and council members Richard Croll, Jeanne Haas, Gary Haehn, Rhonda Taylor and Jim Weeks. Others present were Zoning Administrator Martha Newkirk, Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, City Clerk Joni Hernandez, City Attorney Tom Robrahn, Coffey County Commissioner Bob Saueressig and Nolan Strawder.

The council met in a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected nonelected personnel job duties with the city attorney present in the back room of City Hall. No action was taken in regular session.

Staff Reports

Zoning Administrator Newkirk issued building permits to Harold and Lois Keller for an accessory building/shop and to Linsey Knipp for a 10' x 12' shed.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Allen has been staying in contact with property owners regarding cleanup efforts. He has also handled dog complaints. Anyone wishing to initiate contact with Allen should contact city hall during normal weekday business hours, 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Maintenance Operator Dwight reported taking daily water samples/chlorine residuals, monthly bacteria water samples, mowing grass, working with code enforcement officer concerning tall grass, receiving A/C tune-up kit for John Deere tractor, installing street signs (need to order a few more), ordering new brush pile sign, seeding island at city lake, removing caution tape around parks,

receiving chlorimeter, need to replace leaf blower, repairing water line (valve issue), working with temporary laborer, trimming trees, and marking Kansas One-Calls (Dig Safe).

City Clerk Hernandez reported: receiving alcohol tax quarterly distribution, city hall will be closed July 3, the bonded indebtedness report is due July 25, a budget workshop with CPA Phil Jarred is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. July 9, an audit review is scheduled for 7 p.m. July 9, COVID-19 update, community center, the ad valorem distribution increased \$8,600 from 2019, KPERS OGLI, letter to residents regarding speeding sent with last water bills, received special highway quarterly distribution, TrustPoint added temporary seasonal laborer to insurance policies, and website.

Miscellaneous

The council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2020-

02, forbidding netting of fish at New Strawn City Lake. Illegal netting carries up to a \$750 fine. Dwight will get four new "No Netting" signs for the park in addition to brush pile signs to help with direction for those who reside within city limits.

On a 4-1 vote, the council approved a \$500 rental fee for the Community Center for Radiant Life Church/Nolan Strawder as a non-profit event from June 26 through July 5. Haehn opposed the motion. Fireworks sales allowed June 27 through July 5.

The Council unanimously approved last month to postpone Strawnfest 2020 and to continue to monitor and re-evaluate to decide a future date for the celebration.

It was a consensus of the council to plan a dedication/ribbon cutting of the Community Center remodel project and new playground equipment. Possible dates are Sept. 12 or 19.

Haas presented more city

logo ideas to present to artist Jim Stukej, who will design the new logo.

Haehn asked about fishing licenses for the city lake. In addition to a current Kansas fishing license, a city fishing permit is required. City fishing permits are sold with a trout stamp through May 1. Cost is as follows: Residents of USD 244 Burlington and New Strawn area — Adult \$10, Youth \$4. Residents living outside of USD 244 — Adult \$15, Youth \$6. Anyone at least 16 years old must also possess a Kansas state fishing license. The Rec Commission contributes \$1,500 annually to New Strawn for the purchase of the trout. The daily creel limit is two. There is a 'No Catch and Release' provision in effect as once they have been hooked, the fish will die.

Haas commented the letter from the mayor distributed with the water bills was good information.

Haehn stated he saw chickens running at large in two

different locations in New Strawn. City Attorney Robrahn noted the city's code requires chickens to be penned. A fine of up to \$50 per day may be imposed.

Taylor expressed concern that New Strawn was left out of a free lunch program for kids and a weekly recreation shuttle service for kids. Other towns in the county have the library listed as a pickup point.

The council also approved:

- The May 14 council meeting minutes.
- Warrants dated May 15 through June 11 for \$11,437.02 and additional warrants in the amount of \$836.10.
- May 2020 payroll for \$8,047.18.
- Electrical license to Jeffrey D. Foster.
- Fireworks permit to Radiant Life Church/Nolan Strawder.
- Fireworks Permit to Garrett's Fireworks.
- Haying permit to Prairie Wind Golf Course.



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Selling Online

Tract 1: Residence, outbuildings and five acres more or less located at 1151 13th Rd. just west of Burlington. The attractive cottage-style home was constructed in 1910 consisting of 1,292 sq. ft. with 3 BR and 1 BA. Features include an open kitchen, wood burning fireplace, beautiful original trim, 36'X24' garage, 30'X40' shop with concrete floor, mature shade trees, beautiful landscaping, City water. This property is also being offered in conjunction with Tract 2 and will sell in whichever form garners the most proceeds. **Sells July 21st, 2020 at 1 P.M.**

Tract 2: This is a parcel of efficient tillable totaling 74 acres more or less with the majority soil type being good Class 2 Woodson silt loam. There is a small pond in the extreme southwest corner with some timber. Electric service and City water are adjacent to the property. Seller is retaining 1/3rd share of the current wheat crop. Buyer to receive 1/3rd share of 2020 soybean crop to be planted and be responsible for 1/3rd of the chemical expense. This property is also being offered in conjunction with Tract 1 and will sell in whichever form garners the most proceeds. **Sells July 22nd, 2020 at 1 P.M.**

Tract 3: This tract is the combination of Tracts 1 and 2. The property will sell in whichever form garners the most proceeds. **Sells July 23rd, 2020 at 1 P.M.**

Please visit VaughnRoth.com for further details and terms and conditions of sale. Disclaimer: This property is being offered subject to all terms and conditions of sale.

SELLER: Mike and Brian Chrisman



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