

SOUTHERN COFFEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING



Photo submitted

Southern Coffey County High School is celebrating its Fall Homecoming this week. Students are dressing to a different theme each day for Spirit Week. Monday's theme was 'Murica, Tuesday's was Picture Perfect and Wednesday's was Fashion Disaster. Thursday's theme is Throwback Thursday and Friday's is Titan Out. On Friday evening, the 2020 Fall Homecoming King and Queen will be crowned during a ceremony that will begin at 6 p.m. Candidates, who are all seniors, and attendants, who are juniors, sophomores and freshmen, are, from left, seniors Kyra Ohl, Larry Ratzlaff, Taryn Lather, Adam Emmons, Emmy Hall and Nathan Bornreger, juniors Tempest Klassen and Brayton Lind, sophomores Ross Snovelle and Raleigh Decker and freshmen Kyla Houston and Reeston Cox. At 7 p.m. Friday, the SCC Titans will take on the visiting Waverly Bulldogs in their fall homecoming game. Immediately following the game, there will be a bonfire that will conclude homecoming festivities.

LEBO-WAVERLY USD 243

District celebrates debt-free status

Ida Wilson
Reporter

WAVERLY — The Waverly USD 243 has paid off its bonds and is debt free, with the announcement coming Sept. 14 from Superintendent Corey Reese at its regular monthly school board meeting. This frees up the district to invest in bringing salaries into line with surrounding districts and make other improvements. Following the meeting, the board held a bond burning ceremony on Main Street in front of the USD 243 Central Office.

President Jerry Riley presided over the two and a half-hour meeting, with board members Jim Davies, Jeff Holmes, Denise McNabb, Caroline McWilliams, Perry Ott and Todd Wallace present. Besides Reese, others present were Clerk Patty Medina, Lebo Principal Duane



Ida Wilson/The Republican

Members of the Lebo-Waverly USD 243 Board of Education ceremoniously burned paperwork related to bonds issued in early 2000 that have now been paid off. The bonds were to pay for construction at both Lebo and Waverly schools.

Ford, Waverly Principal Susan Wildeman, and educators Monique Keith, Amanda Ford and Jessica Gaddis.

The board accepted a hail claim check of \$22,604.06 from EMC for roof damage done during summer storms. It also accepted, with gratitude, a \$500 gift for Waverly Elementary School from the Milliken family. In a separate motion, the board accepted a \$1,000 donation from Mason Anchor Lodge.

The board extended bus contracts for one additional year to each of the two bus companies and increased the contracts to each company by \$3,000.

The board was behind closed doors for 85 minutes during multiple executive sessions, all held for the purpose of discussing personnel, with the board and superintendent present for the duration and principals as needed. Also present for a portion of the closed-door sessions was Jessica Gaddis, the representative from the teacher's organization.

Once the board returned to open session, separate motions were made to: hire Morgan Christiani as accounts payable secretary for the central office; increase administrator salaries by \$650; increase classified staff salaries by 25 cents an hour; approve Janella Newton as student council sponsor at Waverly High School; approve Nancy Riecker as Waverly High School senior class sponsor; and approve five out-of-district requests.

Reese discussed the Strategic Plan for 2020 to 2024, outlining a long list of projects completed, and discussed future needs and how best to finance them. Principals Ford and Wildeman gave reports including information on efforts to get the school year going, training students and teachers on remote learning, six hours of dyslexia training required by the state, Yellow Ribbon training, and an update on school sports. Information on student headcount, which was to be finalized Sept. 21, will be forthcoming.

BURLINGTON USD 244

BOE OK's multiple personnel items

Katie McMurray
Reporter

BURLINGTON — The Burlington USD 244 Board of Education approved multiple items related to personnel at its regular monthly meeting Monday, Sept. 14.

The board accepted, with regret, the retirement request of teacher Sandy Loucks effective Sept. 1, 2021. Loucks teaches English at Burlington High School and is the yearbook and newspaper sponsor.

The addition of \$.25 to the base of the para salary schedule for the 2020-21 school year was approved. This action was left off the motions list for the Sept. 3 special meeting and is not an additional raise for paraprofessionals.

Six resignations were accepted. They include Larry Guidry as a bridges paraprofessional effective Aug. 10, Tom Dolenz as a BHS custodian

effective Aug. 11, Shayla Belfort as a BES paraprofessional effective Aug. 24, Jennifer Combes as a USD 243 paraprofessional effective Aug. 25, Patricia Knight as a bridges paraprofessional effective Sept. 11 and Brad Harrington as a BHS custodian effective Sept. 11. There were two terminations approved, Ciara Malone as a BES paraprofessional effective Aug. 12 and Kimberly Estes as a BMS paraprofessional effective Sept. 14.

Twenty-three new hires were approved. Hired for the 2020-21 school year is Grant Shell as a BHS assistant football coach. New paraprofessionals include Kimberly Wilcox for bridges, Kimberly Estes for BMS, Kayla McFaul for BHS and Jennifer Fure and Shayla Belfort for BES, all effective Aug. 17; Emily Fritz for USD 243 effective Aug. 24; Maria Temple for BHS effective Aug. 26; Malory Luney for USD 245 effective

Aug. 31; Lacey Durham for USD 243 and Ardith Shove for BES, both effective Sept. 8; and Samantha Harris for USD 243, Lane Johnson for USD 243 and Sarah Faircloth for BES, all three effective Sept. 14. New grant-funded food service personnel include Judith Mason for BMS effective Aug. 21, and for the district, Brenda Strawder effective Aug. 20, Jennifer Purdy effective Aug. 21 and Luthy Meyer effective Sept. 8. Additional new hires include Harold Presley as a BES custodian effective Aug. 26, Gracie Lawrence as a grant-funded BES custodian effective Aug. 27, Russell McMurray as an FHTC driver/bus driver effective Aug. 26, Derek Tompkins as a mechanic for the bus barn effective Sept. 15 and Gatlin Wayne as a BHS custodian effective Sept. 11.

Six board members were present for the meeting, Monique Hart, Stacy Augustyn,

James Higgins, Shane Fejfar, Michael Thorp and Lucas Allen. Board member Selena King was absent. Also attending were Superintendent Craig Marshall, Board Clerk Tracey Moerer, BHS Principal Stacy Reed, BMS Principal Matt Spring, Special Education Director Lindsey Graf, Assistant Technology Director Craig Kuhlmann and new staff members, who attended the meeting for new staff introductions.

The board received one bid for a burglar alarm. The district had no use for the alarm, located on the side of the new district office building, and put it up for sealed bid. The bidder will pay for removal. The board approved the bid, which was from Mike Hoch in the amount of \$200.

In other action, the board approved bills and financial reports, Sept. 3 special meeting minutes and Aug. 10 linkage and regular meeting minutes.

CHS board approves CEO hiring, use of COVID grants

Tracy Campbell
For The Republican

Jeremy Clingenpeel verbally accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer during the August monthly meeting of The Coffey Health System Board of Trustees. Clingenpeel is the CEO at Satanta District Hospital in western Kansas. His finalized contract goes into effect on September 28. He was selected from 94 applications. Clingenpeel replaces Leonard Hernandez who will lead Susan B. Allen Hospital in El Dorado. Hernandez had been CEO at Coffey Health System for five years.

At the start of the meeting, Environmental Services Supervisor Toby Paige was officially presented the CHS Health Care Worker of the Year Award by Hernandez.

"Toby has been a fixture at Coffey Health System for nearly 30 years. He took care of countless Coffey Countians in his 22 years as an EMT, then spent five years in the facilities department," Hernandez said. "In 2018, we called upon Toby to lead the environmental services team. His two decades in EMS brought a clinical perspective that elevated every aspect of cleaning and infection control throughout the organization. Toby's leadership and commitment was vital through the COVID-19 pandemic."

Finances continue to rebound from a dip caused by

the COVID-19 pandemic. July revenue stands at \$2.26 million with expenses at \$2.18 million. Donations and pandemic-related grants totaled an additional \$797,816. A portion of these funds will be used to remodel some admissions areas to enhance infection control and patient privacy.

Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez explained that a portion of the year-to-date COVID grants could be used to proceed with the established budgeted salary adjustment plan of 2017.

"It's become very hard to recruit new employees, especially at the entry level pay scale," he said. "As you'll remember, we had a three-year plan that would first bring all staff to 37.5 percent of the (Kansas Hospital Association) pay scale, then build to 50 percent which puts us in the salary range at which other hospitals are hiring."

The cost to bring 124 staff up to the 37.5 percentile totals \$9,857 per pay period. Employees who already at or above 37.5 percent within their job designations will receive a 3 percent increase. This increase does not include physicians and contract staff.

"You have the funds to back it up (with COVID-related) grants. We haven't gone out and gone crazy with any of that money," he said. "Obviously, I'm not going to be here past this meeting, but I didn't bring it up because I'm leaving. I brought it up because it

is the right time to do it based upon the 2019 cost report. I brought this up to the Executive Finance Committee and they asked me to bring it to the full board."

Staff leaders shared their difficulty in hiring and retaining staff because salaries are not competitive in the regional market. "These are not large raises. This is market-based adjustments," Hernandez said.

As a Critical Access Hospital, CHS can recoup 50 percent of salary costs on the annual cost report. The board approved the plan. Chief Quality and Compliance Officer Stacy Augustyn reported the hospital, Sunset Manor, and The Meadows all received deficiency-free infection control surveys.

Augustyn also reported that

Coffey County Hospital's patient satisfaction scores rate among the top 266 five-star rated hospitals in the United States. Chief Medical Officer John Shell, M.D. pointed out that patient satisfaction encompasses a lot of things staff can't always control.

"To get a five-star rating with a lot of subjective data—how patients feel, what they think, and how they are treated—is quite remarkable," he said. "It involves everyone from the CEO to nursing staff to quality and clinical staff and to housekeeping to dietary. Everybody shares in this."

Coffey County Hospital Home Health Agency also earned a five-star rating from their software provider.

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PUBLIC AUCTION
10 a.m. • Saturday, Oct. 3
478 Highway 105, Toronto
 From Toronto go east 1.5 miles on Highway 105, turn into driveway on south side of highway, watch for signs.
Sellers: Gary and Julie O'Bannon
 2000 Mahindra 6000 Diesel tractor, John Deere 620 tractor, KYMCO MCU 250 4-wheeler, horse drawn equipment, shop equipment, trailers, lawn & garden, portable sheds, miscellaneous
 For complete sale bill and pictures check web sites:
kansasauctions.net/boone or kansasauctioneers.com
E. Boone Auctions
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 E-mail: eboone60@hotmail.com

What constitutes a "defect" in a chain of title?

There are a number of things that might cause a "defect" in a chain of title. To name just a few: A deed might be signed by only one person when that person is married and the transfer would require the spouse to sign. A deed might be forged causing a "defect" in the chain of title. A paid mortgage might not be released. There may be undisclosed missing heirs. A minor may sign a deed. An incompetent person might sign a deed. One might sign after a Power of Attorney has expired. (A Power of Attorney ENDS when the person giving the power dies.) These are just a few of the actions that might cause a "defect" in a chain of title.

Coffey County Land Title
 New Owners: Megan Evans • Kate Evans
 Dylan & Chelsea Evans
 Manager: Polly Epting
 424 Neosho St., Burlington • (620) 364-2440

NEW - 221 E 4th, Lebo - 3 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow home with basement and detached garage \$79,900.

NEW - 604 Shuey, Osage City - 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with full basement and 1 car attached garage on corner lots \$99,900.

NEW - 419 N Kansas, Lebo - 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with 2 car detached garage and large shaded corner lots \$75,000.

NEW -- 400 N Poplar, Lebo - 4 bedroom, 2 bath with over 2000 square feet and 2+ car garage, large shaded corner lots \$149,900.

604 N Park Lane, Olpe - Corner lots with 30x36 poured basement w/1 car detached garage \$30,000

314 Niagara, Burlington - 3 bedroom, 1 bath with detached 1 car garage - PRICE REDUCED \$72,500.

519 N East Street, Lebo - 4 bedroom, 3 bath home on 3.1 acres with outbuilding - CONTRACT PENDING - \$289,000.

101 E 4th, Lebo - 50x135 corner lots with 18x21 outbuilding - \$19,500.

104 East Street, Olpe - Cute 1 1/2 story bungalow, 4 bedrooms, 1 bath - \$85,000.

1595 Road W., Neosho Rapids - brick ranch style home with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths - CONTRACT PENDING \$289,000.

231 W 7th, Lebo - 2 bedroom, 1 bath with partial basement and attached garage - \$52,500.

411 S Elm, Lebo - 10,800 sq ft metal building with concrete floor. 5" reinforced concrete in large shop. Property is plumbed for 4 bath home \$238,000.

12 acres @ Graphic Arts Road for residential development. Check out website for complete details.

Lebo Lake Lot - 9 acres Lebo City Lake, great building site opportunity \$48,900.

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