

## January 8 Board Meeting Report

Mitch Drees was the only board member absent. All action was approved on a 6-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

### V. REPORTS

BOE – None

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included: the staff is recommitting to the Cardinal Culture vision by sharing their focus with the other staff members; continued planning to start a full-time preschool program next fall; and supporting several future educators by providing learning opportunities for Katie Adam, (Bethany College student), Desiree Garman (Ell-Saline HS Senior), and Susan Grabon ((SLP intern).

Mr. Wilson – His report included: hosting Regional Scholars' Bowl on February 1 and needing several workers; and the entire school attended the movie "Wonder" as part of the end-of-semester activities.

Mr. Minneman – His report included: the Governor will give his State of the State Address January 9 and will present his budget on January 10; as January is School Board Recognition Month presented all board members with a certificate and thanked them for their commitment and service on the board; and a list of dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

### VI. BUSINESS

- A. 2016-17 Audit Report—Craig Dassow of Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A. presented the audit on last year's financial records. There were no major violations noted and he was very complimentary of the work that Ann Krone, Treasurer, and Lynn Davis, clerk, are doing.
- B. Approve Out-of-District Student—The new 1<sup>st</sup> grade student recommended for attendance was approved.
- C. Adopt 2018-2019 Calendar—The calendar for next school year was adopted. The first day for students is Monday, August 20, and the last day for students is Thursday, May 16.
- D. Process For Filling Superintendent Position—It was approved to hire KASB to conduct the search to fill the superintendent position.
- E. Board Policy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading—The proposed policy were approved as presented.

There was one Executive Session (Personnel).

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office in Brookville. If anyone wishes to have an item added to the agenda, please contact President Cheryl Higgins, Vice-President John Fouard or the District Office two weeks prior to the meeting.

### 2018 -2019 CALENDAR ADOPTED

At its meeting on January 8, the Board of Education adopted a calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. The first day for students will be Monday, August 20, and the last day will be Thursday, May 16. You can view the entire calendar on the district web page. It is also included as an insert to this ECHO.

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Welcome to 2018! I hope that over the holidays you had time to enjoy family and friends and were safe in all of your travels. At least for the most part this year the roads were in good shape over the holidays although it was bitterly cold. The students' wishes for Snow Days have been answered since we've returned from the Christmas Vacation as we have missed some days and had a late start because of the weather.

For each of the last several years as the legislature reconvened and the Governor laid out his annual plans in the State of the State address and in his proposed budget, my January articles have been primarily of concern for the negative impact they would have on K-12 public education. Although I do have concerns again this year, I do also have a feeling of hope that this year will continue on a more positive track like last year. That feeling of hope comes from knowing that last year a group of Republican and Democrat legislators worked together in passing legislation that begins to turn around the State's financial crisis. During the last two months I've been able to visit with our area legislators, as well as those from a wider area, to hear their thoughts on what to expect this session. From their perspective, again this year we will see legislators from both parties working together for the common good of the State. They have the unenviable task of making some very difficult decisions but they do appear to be open to looking at all options and working together to find the best solution for the State as a whole.

At the state level most of my concerns continue to be with the condition of the State's finances although the monthly revenue has exceeded the estimates. How will the legislature address the Supreme Court ruling that schools continue to be underfunded, and to what degree will soon-to-be Governor Colyer be involved in solving any of the challenges that the State faces?

In Governor Brownback's State of the State Address and proposed budget, he took a 180 degree turn from the previous seven years on his view of funding K-12 public education. His budget calls for an additional \$600 million spread over 5 years. However, he didn't provide a plan for how the State would provide those additional funds. Some of the specific items he proposed funding for include:

- ✓ increase the number of school counselors and psychologists by 150 each year for the next 5 years;
- ✓ increase the average teacher pay by 2023 to the point that Kansas is the highest of any of our neighboring states which would require an average increase of roughly \$4,000;
- ✓ move more schools toward the Kansans Can redesign model;
- ✓ allow every high school student to take up to 15 hours of dual credit courses at no cost to the student;
- ✓ cover the cost of every student wanting to take the ACT or Work Keys assessment one time;
- ✓ fully cover the cost for high school students working toward certain career or technical education certificates or degrees; and
- ✓ raise the BSAPP from the current \$4,006 to \$4,761 by 2023.

His proposal was praised by some legislators and denounced by others. Whichever side of that they landed on the commonality was in wondering how the Governor expected it to be paid for. Now that he has been approved as the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, he won't be here to help find the solutions.

The atmosphere in Topeka again this year does give me continued reason for hope about the future of the State and the future of K-12 public education in rural areas. With that being said, though, it will take considerable work and some sacrifice on everybody's part for the State to get back to being on solid financial ground. If you are concerned about the future of our schools, public education in general, or any of the other quality of life programs that are funded by the State of Kansas, I encourage you to contact your legislators and express your concern to them. We, as school administrators and board members have been doing so for many years and our comments often fell on deaf ears although last year they were much better received. The biggest impact, however, will continue to be when they hear from you the parents, patrons, constituents, and voters. Again, I encourage you to contact them! For the future of our State, it is important. Contact information for our area legislators is provided below.

Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the Ell-Saline USD 307 school district. You can be assured that your children continue to receive a quality education.

Sen. Randall Hardy  
State Capitol Building  
Room 223-E

Rep. J. R. Claeys  
State Capitol Building  
Room 274-W

Rep. Diana Dierks  
State Capitol Building  
Room 519-N

Rep. Steven Johnson  
State Capitol Building  
Room 185-N

300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-296-7369  
randall.hardy@senate.ks.gov

300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-296-7670  
jrclaeys@house.ks.gov

300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-296-7642  
diana.dierks@house.ks.gov

300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-296-7696  
steven.johnson@house.ks.gov

## KASB DESIGNATES JANUARY AS SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH



Pictured left to right: Marty Kramer, Shane Schneider, John Fouard, Cheryl Higgins, Michelle Cooper, Jeff Parker. Not pictured: Mitch Drees.

January is School Board Recognition Month, and USD 307 Ell-Saline expresses appreciation to these community leaders who volunteer countless hours to provide leadership for our public schools.

Our board of education members lead by example. They do their homework and come prepared to listen to reports and make decisions in the best interest of all children in our community. They also attend specialized professional development to stay on top of education issues and trends, and represent our district on other committees and advocacy events. And they do all of this because they are committed to creating opportunities for all children in our community.

Our school board members develop policies and make tough decisions that help shape the future of our education system. They bear responsibility and oversight for an annual budget of approximately \$6.9 million, 450 students, 75 employees and 3 buildings.

We are grateful to have this opportunity to formally say ‘thank you’ to each of them.

The men and women serving your district and their years of service are: Cheryl Higgins-11, President; John Fouard-7, Vice-President; Michelle Cooper-4, Mitch Drees-4, Marty Kramer-13, Jeff Parker-11 and Shane Schneider-1.

We encourage the entire community to thank a school board member, not only this month but throughout the entire year.

### JAMIE BRADLEY APPRECIATION



Thank you Jamie Bradley for your 12 years of service to the USD 307 school district as a BOE member. Your dedication and leadership have been appreciated.



# Ell-Saline USD 307

District Office  
412 E. Anderson P.O. Box 157  
Brookville, KS 67425-0157  
(785) 225-6813

Middle/High School  
414 E. Anderson P.O. Box 97  
Brookville, KS 67425-0097  
(785) 225-6633

Elementary School  
1757 N. Halstead Rd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 827-8891

Return Service Requested



### An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency

The Ell-Saline U.S.D. 307 Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicap or age in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs or activities. Any questions regarding in the board's compliance with Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 may be directed to the Title IX coordinator, who can be reached at (785) 225-6813, 412 E. Anderson, P.O. Box 157, Brookville, KS 67425, or to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check for changes at [www.ellsaline.org](http://www.ellsaline.org)

- |         |  |            |   |
|---------|--|------------|---|
| Feb. 1  | 1:00 School Dismissal                                | Feb. 15    | NO SCHOOL 7:00am-7:30pm Parent/Teacher Conference       |
| Feb. 1  | 3:00 Regional Scholars' Bowl @ ESH                   | Feb. 15    | 4:00 MS WR @ Herington                                  |
| Feb. 1  | TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament                      | Feb. 15-17 | BPA State Leadership Conference                         |
| Feb. 2  | NO ESE After School                                  | Feb. 16    | NO SCHOOL   |
| Feb. 2  | 4:30 HS BB Sedgwick @ ES Sweetheart Night and Dance  | Feb. 16-17 | TBA HS WR Regionals @ Hoisington                        |
| Feb. 3  | CAPS Auction   | Feb. 17    | State Piano @ TBD                                       |
| Feb. 3  | Regional Piano @ Lindsborg                           | Feb. 19    | MS Quiz Bowl @ Bennington                               |
| Feb. 3  | 8:00 HS WR @ Phillipsburg                            | Feb. 19    | 4:00 MS WR @ Herington                                  |
| Feb. 3  | TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Remington          | Feb. 19    | 4:30 HS BB @ Southeast of Saline                        |
| Feb. 5  | TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Remington          | Feb. 19-23 | FFA Week  |
| Feb. 6  | 4:30 HS BB @ Sterling                                | Feb. 20    | 6:30 NHS Banquet  |
| Feb. 7  | FCCLA District Elections TBD                         | Feb. 22-24 | State KMEA  |
| Feb. 8  | 4:00 HS WR @ Lincoln                                 | Feb. 22    | 10:15 BWL Regional Tournament @ Great Bend              |
| Feb. 8  | 6:30-8:00 CPTA Skate Night                           | Feb. 23    | NO ESE After School                                     |
| Feb. 8  | TBA MS BB HOA League Tournament @ Remington          | Feb. 23-24 | TBA HS WR State @ FHSU                                  |
| Feb. 9  | NO ESE After School                                  | Feb. 26    | HS Spring Sports Practice Begins                        |
| Feb. 9  | 4:30 HS BB @ Remington                               | Feb. 26    | MS Quiz Bowl @ Moundridge                               |
| Feb. 10 | 12:00 HS Scholars' Bowl State @ Moundridge           | Feb. 26    | TBA HS Girls' BB Sub State Tournament                   |
| Feb. 10 | 10:00 HS JV BB @ Southeast of Saline                 | Feb. 27    | TBA HS Boys' BB Sub State Tournament                    |
| Feb. 12 | MS Quiz Bowl @ Sterling                              | Mar. 1     | TBA HS Girls' BB Sub State Tournament @ Republic County |
| Feb. 12 | TBD MS WR @ Minneapolis                              | Mar. 2     | NO ESE After School                                     |
| Feb. 12 | 7:00 BOE Meeting @ DO                                | Mar. 2     | TBA HS Boys' BB Sub State Tournament @ Republic County  |
| Feb. 13 | Preschool Day Camp                                   | Mar. 2-3   | BWL State Tournament @ Wichita                          |
| Feb. 13 | HS BB Trinity Catholic @ ES Senior Recognition Night | Mar. 3     | TBA HS BB Sub State Finals Tournament @ Republic County |
| Feb. 14 | NO ESE After School                                  |            |   |
| Feb. 14 | 3:10 ESE Valentines Parties                          |            |   |



### Ell-Saline Lions Club

#### Pancake Day

Brookville Community Bldg.

Saturday, February 17, 2018

8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Proceeds will go to the Ell-Saline Lions Club Community Fund

**Free Will donations**



Feb. 14 4:15-8:15 Parent/Teacher Conference