

**McLouth USD 342
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
April 8, 2024**

- A. Call the Meeting to Order** – President Heather Coit called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Roll Call**
Board Members Present: Mr. Tony Barnes, Mrs. Heather Coit, Mr. James Copeland, Mrs. Tara Garrow, Mr. Paul Haverkamp and Mr. Terry Reiling
Also Present: Mr. Jerome Johnson, Mrs. Sherri Brown, Mrs. Melissa Miller, Mr. J.D. Nelson, Ms. Beverly Muzzy and Mrs. Marie Umphenour
- C. Approval of the Agenda** – Mr. Barnes moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Garrow seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- D. Consent Agenda** – Mrs. Garrow moved and Mr. Reiling seconded the motion to accept the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the following items: a. Approval of Minutes from the March 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting; b. Approval of Check Registers; c. Accept Treasurer’s Report; and d. Accept Resignations of Mr. Eric Gorenc, Middle School Math Teacher; Mrs. Julie Gale, Kindergarten Teacher; Mr. Kyle Zarda, Assistant Wrestling Coach; Mrs. Nicole Hinrichsen, Sophomore Class Sponsor; and Ms. Marie Umphenour, Assistant High School Boys’ Basketball Coach. Motion carried 6-0.
- E. Comments from the President** – President Coit commented on events that occurred in March.
- F. Administrative Reports**
- a. Superintendent – Strategic Plan
 - b. Elementary Principal
 - c. Secondary Principal and AD
- G. Discussion and Approval of New Secondary Tech Course** – Discussion-Mrs. Garrow moved to approve the new secondary tech course “emerging tech” and a one-time cost not to exceed \$11,000. Mr. Copeland seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- H. Discussion and Approval of Grades 6-12 Social Studies Curriculum** – Discussion-Mr. Barnes moved to approve grades 6-12 social science curriculum as presented. Mr. Haverkamp seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- I. Discussion and Approval of Enrollment Projections and Capacity** – Mr. Johnson presented information, guidelines and requirements by the state for enrollment projections and open slots for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Garrow moved to approve the enrollment projections, capacity and forms as presented. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

- J. Approval to Post Open Board Position** – Mrs. Garrow moved to post the open board of education position. Mr. Haverkamp seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- K. Discussion and Possible Approval of Signing Bonus** – Mr. Johnson presented information and state statutes on signing bonuses. Tabled for further discussion in executive session due to potential discussion of personnel.
- L. Keystone Update** – Mr. Reiling provided an update.
- M. Executive Session** - Mr. Copeland made a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential hires pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Hibdon arrived at 7:40 p.m.

Mr. Copeland invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 7:55 p.m. Mr. Copeland made a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential hires pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Copeland invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Copeland made a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential hires pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the boardroom at 8:05 p.m. Mr. Copeland invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:05 p.m.

- N. Action Following Executive Session** – Mrs. Garrow moved to hire Ms. Blaise Ball as the secondary business long-term substitute teacher and assistant high school girls’ basketball coach. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Garrow moved to hire Ms. Kameron Faherty as the head middle school cheer coach. Mr. Reiling seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Garrow made a motion to hire Ms. Allison Barnes as the head high school cheer coach. Mr. Reiling seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-1. (Mr. Barnes abstained from the vote.) Mrs. Garrow moved to hire Ms. Victoria Johnson as the head high school girls’ basketball coach. Mr. Reiling seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Garrow moved to hire Ms. Aubree Harsh as the assistant middle school girls’ basketball coach. Mr. Reiling seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- M. Executive Session** – Mr. Reiling made a motion to go into executive session to discuss terms of acquiring real estate property with Keystone under the exception for discussion of acquisition of real property under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:22 p.m. Mr. Reiling invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mrs. Garrow seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:22 p.m. Mr. Reiling made a motion to go into executive session to discuss terms of acquiring real estate property with Keystone under the exception for discussion of acquisition of real property under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:27 p.m. Mr. Reiling invited Mr. Johnson into executive

session. Mrs. Garrow seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:27 p.m.

N. Action Following Executive Session – Mr. Barnes made the motion to give Mr. Terry Reiling, USD 342 Keystone Representative, the authority to vote yes or no on the upcoming Keystone property acquisition. Mrs. Garrow seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

M. Executive Session – Mrs. Garrow made a motion to go into executive session to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:35 p.m. Mrs. Garrow invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:35 p.m. Mrs. Garrow made a motion to go into executive session to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:40 p.m. Mrs. Garrow invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m. Mrs. Garrow made a motion to go into executive session to discuss negotiations pursuant to the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 8:45 p.m. Mrs. Garrow invited Mr. Johnson into executive session. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Johnson attended executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:45 p.m.

N. Action Following Executive Session – Mr. Reiling made a motion to offer a signing bonus for hard to fill positions for the 2024-2025 school year for certified teachers at the rate of \$2,000 per semester upon hiring within the district. The superintendent will seek permission from the board president before posting a bonus. If necessary, funds can be paid from the contingency reserve not to exceed \$4,000 per new employee. Mr. Barnes seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

O. Other

P. Adjourn – Mrs. Coit adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Mrs. Heather Coit, President

Sherri Brown, Deputy Clerk