

Pending approval.

March 2, 2009 Regular Board Meeting of the
Lawrence Public Schools Board of Education.

Members Present: Julie Beam, Chuck Carpp, Jeff Johnson, Bill
Lux, Carol Sjoquist, Carrie Rokos Absent: Jim Sanborn.

Administration Present: Bob Gendron, Sue McQueen,
John Overley. All present

Student Representatives Present: None

The meeting was called to order by Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

Carpp moved and Beam supported the motion to approve the February 2, 2009 open and closed minutes. Motion carried 5-0 with Lux abstaining.

Beam moved and Rokos supported the motion to approve the bills of \$490,823.70 as presented. Discussion was held. Motion carried 6-0.

Comments from the public:

Lisa Bartlet, elementary parent, expressed a concern regarding the elementary children eating lunch in the high school cafeteria on days the food could not be transported to the elementary due to inclement weather. McQueen addressed the concern stating the elementary children had eaten in the high school three times this winter. Discussion was held.

Elementary Principal's Report: McQueen stated the MEAPs had been given to grades 3-6 and the elementary had received Adequate Yearly Progress in both math and Language Arts. March is "Reading Month" and several special programs were taking place during the month. Other upcoming events included: the KG Circus, the Mobile Dentist, Girls on the Run, a spelling bee and the Air Zoo Pilot Program.

Jr./Sr. High School Principal's Report: Gendron stated the winter homecoming was a success. The second count day is complete with a slight decline in students. The seniors have been notified regarding scholarship opportunities. The PLAN test had been administered to 30 tenth grade students. MEAP scores are in and overall the scores were great. He stated Juan Estrada was inducted into the Alpha Rho Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at KVCC.

Athletic Director's Report: Miller stated the winter sports were almost completed with tournaments coming up. Seven wrestlers had gone to regionals and Mike Ralicki will also go to the State competition. The Relay for Life will be held on the Lawrence athletic fields.

Overley reported on the Federal stimulus funding. He stated the consensus from most people is that stimulus funds would be first used to restore state level school aid funding for 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 and similarly for state public higher education institutions. Any remaining funds would be distributed to districts using the Title I formula. He stated our share was estimated to be about \$726,000 but all information at this time is tentative. Caution should be used when anticipating this money, as there may be restrictions applied to how any money may be spent. Discussion was held.

Overley reported bids for the installation of new door security locks and security cameras had been received from two companies and were being reviewed. A final report will be given at the April meeting. A complete report on the Technical Bond will also be given at the April meeting.

Sjoquist moved and Beam supported the motion to accept Roger Doorn's resignation as assistant varsity football coach. Motion carried 6-0.

Rokos moved and Carpp supported the motion that the Board accept the third and final reading of the Homeless Education Policy as follows:

Homeless Student Policy

In order to ensure that homeless students have equal access to the same free appropriate public education as provided to other students, the following shall apply: "Homeless Children and Youth" are defined, in accordance with the provisions of 20 U.S.C. 11434a(2)(A), as:

Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or have a primary nighttime residence in a supervised, publicly or privately, operated shelter for temporary accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill), an institution providing temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

The definition includes:

**Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;*

**Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;*

**Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and*

**Unaccompanied youth – a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.*

ENROLLMENT/PLACEMENT

The district will consider the best interests of the student with parental involvement in determining whether the student should be enrolled in the school of origin or the school that nonhomeless student who live in the attendance area in which the homeless student is actually living are eligible to attend. To the extent feasible, and in accordance with the student's best interest, the student should continue his/her education in the school of origin, except when contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian. If the student is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, the homeless coordinator will consider the views of the student in deciding where the student shall be educated. The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere

The school selected shall immediately enroll the homeless student, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, immunization records, proof of residency or other documentation. However, the district may require a parent or guardian of the student to submit contact information.

The district shall provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal, to the homeless student's parent/guardian, or to the homeless student if unaccompanied, if the district sends the student to a school other than the school of origin ("school of origin" is

defined as the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled) or other than a school requested by the parent or guardian. If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school, the student shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The student or parent/guardian shall be referred to the district homeless coordinator, who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible.

SERVICES

Each homeless student shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students, in the district including, but not limited to, transportation services; educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria, such as education programs for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities and gifted and talented students; vocational programs and technical education; school meals programs; preschool programs; before-and-after school care programs and programs for students with limited English proficiency. Homeless students will not be segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school based on the student's status as homeless.

TRANSPORTATION

In the event that it is in the best interest of the homeless student to attend the school of origin, transportation to and from school shall be provided at the request of the parent/guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied student, the homeless coordinator. If the student's temporary housing is outside the district of origin, the Lawrence Public School System will work with the school of origin to agree on a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for transporting the student. If an agreement cannot be reached, the costs will be shared equally.

RECORDS

Any records ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records and evaluations for special services or programs of each homeless child or youth shall be maintained so that appropriate services may be given the student, so that necessary referrals can be made and so that records may be transferred in a timely fashion when a homeless student enters a new school district. Copies of records shall be made available upon request to students or parents in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

COORDINATOR

The Board shall designate an appropriate individual to act as the district's homeless coordinator:

The homeless coordinator shall ensure that:

- 1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies.*
- 2. Homeless students enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to success in, schools in the district.*
- 3. Homeless families and students receive educational services for which such families and students are eligible, including Head Start, Even Start and preschool programs administered by the district and referrals to health care service, dental service, mental health services and other appropriate services.*
- 4. The parents or guardians of homeless students are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.*
- 5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless students is disseminated where such students receive services, such as schools, family shelters and soup kitchens.*
- 6. Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance to the law.*
- 7. The parent or guardian of a homeless student and any unaccompanied youth, is full informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school selected.*

8. *Unaccompanied youth will be assisted in placement or enrollment decisions, their view will be considered and they will be provided notice of the right to appeal. Students, who need to obtain immunizations, or immunization or medical records, will receive assistance.*

Motion carried 6-0.

The amended 2008-09 budgets were presented. Johnson commended Overley on his work on the budgets bringing them closer to a balanced budget. Lux moved and Sjoquist supported the motion to approve the short form of the General Fund Amended Budget, the short form of the Athletic Budget and the short form of the Food Services Budget as presented. Discussion was held. Motion carried 6-0.

Carpp presented the list of spring coaches for approval. Rokos moved and Beam supported the motion to approve the following coaches:

Dale Gribler, Head Varsity Baseball Coach
Charlie Cammire, Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach
Brad Manning, JV Head Baseball Coach
Albert Stefani, Volunteer JV Baseball Coach (Pending background check)
Bill Lux, Volunteer Head Varsity Softball Coach
Jeff Johnson, Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
Patti Feuerstein, Head JV Softball Coach
Jenny Tunstall, Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
Pete Alburtus, Varsity Track Coach
Troy Zimmerlee, Assistant Varsity Track Coach
(Pending number of students)
Val Marsh, Head Jr. High Track Coach
Aaron Amthor, Assistant Jr. High Track Coach

Motion carried 4-0 with Lux and Johnson abstaining.

Overley stated the School Election would be held on May 4, 2009. There are five candidates running for the two open board seats. There will be a "Meet the Candidates" night on April 29 in the AV room. Candidates are: Julie Beam, Dave Garvison, Bill Gendron, Sally Norg and Troy Zimmerlee. The Non-Homestead renewal will also be on the May 4 ballot.

Discussion was held regarding the LEA Level 3 Grievance. In the spirit of cooperation, the Board withdrew the posting for a wrestling coach at this time and will readdress the job description with the LEA over the summer.

Sally Norg, elementary parent, expressed a concern regarding the cost of athletic tickets for elementary students. Miller stated he would look into the concern.

Carpp moved and Lux supported the motion to move into closed session. Roll call vote: Beam Y, Carpp Y, Johnson Y, Lux Y, Sjoquist Y, Rokos Y. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting moved into closed session at 9:00

Pat Garrod, Recording Secretary

The Board returned to open session at 9:11 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.