

**Unified School District 417**  
**District Site Council Meeting**  
**March 9, 2022**

**Present:** Kelly Gentry, Valerie Gehrler, Heather Honas, Jill Day, Rachel Tompkins, Aron Dody, Anita Mahanay, Shantel Sheets, Robin Frye, Amanda Vroman, Dene Kaster, Tracie Schroeder, Marla Goeckel, Christa Kraus, Jean Johnson, Chris Stevens, Marie Blythe, Kelly McDiffett, Amanda McDiffett and Cynthia Engle

**Members**

**not present:** Brooke Simonis; Jean Johnson left at 9:50am

**Welcome:** Kelly G. opened the meeting at 8:02am  
Welcome to Marie Blythe, the new Board of Education representative  
Prior minutes are online to review – they were approved as written  
Long Range Plan approved by Board of Education in January – located on the website,  
please pencil in BOE approval January 2022 on your hard copy from last meeting handout.  
Remaining dates for 2021-2022: May 11

**Subject Area Committee Report**

**English Language Art:** Cost proposals have been received for Superkids and Into Reading and also for the PD needed for implementation. ELA is the most expensive adoption; Kelly G. will take to BOE hopefully for their approval in April. Some old ELA materials will be recycled, some will be sent home with students. Community members sometimes get a little concerned with what is in the dumpster; however, teachers need to let go of old material. New materials for grades 6-12 to review are being gathered. 6-12 will choose new ELA resources (no pilot) next school year. Lisa Jarvis went to Greenbush meeting to hear from some of the companies. K-6 Fastbridge training will start in May – Angela Harris is laying out a plan for grades K-6 to implement Fastbridge in 2022-23.

**Social Studies:** The new Classroom-Based State Assessment begins now at grades 4, 7, and 11. This is basically a classroom project that the teachers score themselves. Kelly G. and secretaries will upload the scores to KIDS. Thanks to the classroom teachers for learning this new process.

**Computer Science:** Grades 7-8 preparation is underway to begin an Exploratory course at grade 7 and for core teachers to know CS topics for 2022-23.

**Art:** Elementary art we do not have a final solution concerning hiring an elementary art teacher. The district, not PTOs, will continue to pay Bob and Lindsey. We are planning time for Bob and Lindsey to visit with Amanda at the HS about standards and transition from elementary to JH and HS art. We will continue to look into an art teacher whether it is Full/Three-quarter/Half or Quarter. Still continuing to figure out a schedule on how this could work.

**Building Communication:**

**CGES** – In 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Mrs. Richardson’s class is reading about polar bears. Kindergarten is learning about live birds and writing a book. Mrs. Hodges is using new coding cards. Kindergarten round-up coming up – 46 children are currently on the roster. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students published a book and 4<sup>th</sup> grade is building a robot. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is creating a business in community, will have a storefront that kids can use to spend Braves Bucks. Dr Seuss night was just held and 160 kids and parents attended. Parent-teacher conferences went well for both days. March 24-24 will be Early Childhood Screening.

**PHES** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade was invited to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to see parachute eggs and cars that they built in science. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is working on SS projects, AR Parties are happening. State Assessments - getting prepared. In Computer Science they are robot building. Surprised students with inflatables in February. April is kindergarten round-up also for PHES. Spring is coming and so are several field trips; students haven’t had one since 2019.

## **CGJH/HS –**

**JH** - 8<sup>th</sup> grade is on their way to KC for their 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip today. 7<sup>th</sup> grade is reading the Outsiders and doing a report and writing a paper about themselves. SS students are making posters and working in groups and they have not done that since the pandemic. PE starting archery unit. Scholars Bowl just finished and ended up in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Finished wrestling and ready for track. Kids are pretty engaged.

**HS** - Baseball and softball practices started last week, track and golf will start this week. The spring play will be in April. Wrapping up parent-teacher conferences. The spring trimester just started. A few kids went to bat to get Astronomy added to the HS schedule, they found enough interest and it was added for this trimester. Amy Redden took a group of students to watch the Broadway show Wicked in KC. Miss Miller's FBLA will compete for state. Braves Business will sell more stuff in April and May. Mr. Green took welding students to the NCK Tech Welding Competition at Beloit. Caleb Muncy placed 15<sup>th</sup> and received a helmet, Hunter Lowmaster placed 21<sup>st</sup>, Wyatt Johnson 38<sup>th</sup> and Will Grimmett 77<sup>th</sup> out of 150 contestants. These boys did a great job representing CGHS. Art history's theme right now is the American Revolution. Students and staff are building the set for Peter and the Starcatcher play for April. In February the Sophomore Parent Meeting was held with a good turnout. Mr. Dody sent out an advance video. 8<sup>th</sup> grade pre-enrollment sessions are coming up. 7<sup>th</sup> grade Career Fair took place yesterday. Juniors will take the ACT in March. This ACT is paid for by the state of KS. Prom is April 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Riverwalk will be used for the Promenade, weather permitting.

**Special Education** – Recently a paraeducator from CGES was transferred to the JH and that has helped. Stephanye Rufenacht has accepted a different job and will be leaving the district. Sped staff members are preparing for State Assessments. Working on ESY program for the summer.

**Title /MTSS, ESL** – KELPA ends on Friday for our ESL students. All have to be tested in the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening. New interventions have been put in place after winter MTSS benchmark. Gains are being made at the elementary level with the learning loss that has occurred during the pandemic.

## **10-minute Break**

**Ready for KESA OVT Visit on April 13** – DSC reviewed the handout and the highlighted pages from Kelly (see list and page numbers below). This report took everyone's help: DSC, DLT, Building Administrators and BOE. The group also went over a handout of "Timeline of Key Continuous Improvement USD 417." Important things about our Accreditation:

- a. The OVT Report and Artifacts are what the ARC goes by to issue Accreditation
- b. Three parts to Accreditation. You must prove Process or Growth but don't have to have both:
  - Compliance – deal breaker
  - Process – are these in place
  - Growth – data shows growth
- c. Our Year 5 report to the OVT – due one month prior to visit; the Authenticated site doesn't accept charts and graphs. We will send a .pdf of our report to the OVT team so they can see all charts and graphs within the report.

Tell Your Story - what is unique about our district (*Performance Accountability Report* here) – page 1

KESA Compliance – page 3 √ **PASSED**

Foundational Structures (8 of them) – page 4

Needs Assessment and Goals (3 Goals, "guts" of report here) – page 11

Sustainability of the Improvement Process – page 20

State Board Outcomes (5 of them) – page 21

Definition of a High School Graduate – page 27

Stakeholder Involvement – page 29

Fidelity of KESA Implementation – page 30

**Information to/From Non-School Members** – Thanks for approaching the Board of Education about district funding the Art program. Question about lockdowns in schools, we have three crisis drills per school year. Went to a Scholar’s Bowl and that is pretty cool to see. Thank you for the clear communications about the closure of Hwy 177 and routes, buses etc. PHES library is so welcoming since the remodeling. Integrated curriculum is important, like the cross-overs, that can be found happening in other classes.

**Board of Education Report** – Impressed with all the work that is going on in the schools. Thank you, DSC, for all the conversations that bring up things for us to rethink or things we haven’t thought of. Mr. Dody shared with us a PowerPoint about the brain and understanding poverty.

Meeting adjourned - 10:55am

**Next Meeting Date May 11th at 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Agenda item moved to next meeting:

**Changes to Required Credits at HS**

Discuss eliminating the .5 requirement for Computer Applications and replacing it with a .5 credit of Computer Science