

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
ANW Special Education Interlocal #603
Humboldt, Kansas
May 14, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of ANW Special Education Interlocal #603 was called to order by President Dawn Wilson at 6:00 p.m. at the ANW Boardroom. Present were Dawn Wilson #101, Robin Griffin-Lohman #257, Joyce Allen #258, Nicole Goodwin #387 and Jamie Henderson (via zoom) #479. Absent was Taeler Carr #256, Chuck Bishop #366, and Cassie Cleaver #413.

Administration present: Director Korenne Wolken, Julie Defebaugh, Camille Kerr, and Emily Williams. Others present: Kim Heslop, Whitney Ikehorn and Board Clerk Kristi Houston.

The agenda was amended to add New Business items #11 WebKidss Contract and #12 Retiree Health Insurance. Motion was made by Joyce Allen, seconded by Nicole Goodwin to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Motion was made by Nicole Goodwin, seconded by Joyce Allen to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Association Report: Kim Heslop reported that executive board members stayed the same; distribution of appreciation gifts to staff members in all the districts; recognized member retirees with gifts; new Uniserve Director.

Public open forum – none.

Correspondence to the Board – Each board member received a disposable coffee cup filled with goodies as a token of appreciation.

Board members report – none.

Board Training Topic - none.

CENTRAL OFFICE REPORTS – Director Korenne Wolken reported on the following:

- CASE Conference is a legislative summit in Alexandria, VA. KSDE has chosen five SpEd Directors to receive \$1500 to attend the conference. Korenne was one of the Directors chosen to advocate for Special Education.
- Form 308 for special education transportation reimbursement has been submitted. \$420,310 will be our reimbursement and we had budgeted for \$400,000.
- We have one current apprentice that participates in the Kansas Teacher Apprentice program. We are interviewing 3-4 more candidates to possibly host for this program.
- We have a School Psychologist opening that we have just completed an interview with a candidate. There are also four teaching positions available with one contract offer extended to an applicant.
- Additional SpEd funding for next year is estimated at \$100,000 for all eight school districts.
- The state is unsure of what the Categorical Aid will be for next year.
- KDHE made an error on their calculations of Medicaid Cost Settlement from FY16 – FY22 and is adjusting those amounts. The differences will be deducted from the FY23 payment scheduled to be received this summer. So far around \$17,000 will be deducted from ANW's payment.
- A formal complaint was received today on an evaluation of a student. We are working with a compliant investigator.

NEW BUSINESS

- i. First Read of Board Policy by KASB. ANW's Board Policy is in a goggle drive for board members to read. Updates from KASB will be released next month. Section G are personnel policies and should be reviewed closely.
- ii. First Read of ANW Central Office Calendar. This calendar will start with the month of July to correspond with staff contracts. A draft of the 2025-26 ANW Central Office calendar was presented for the first read.
- iii. First Read of H.O.P.E. Calendar. A draft of the 2025-26 HOPE calendar was presented for the first read.

- iv. First Read of MOU for USD# 257. A draft of the MOU with USD #257 for an integrated preschool program was presented for the first read.
- v. First Read of Budget. A draft budget for FY26 was presented for the first read. It is an overall 4% increase from this year. Due to not knowing the exact cost of health insurance increase and categorical aid, the budget is not set in stone yet.
- vi. Substitute Rates. A worksheet was shared with the board that included Substitute daily rates from our member districts compared to ANW. Korenne proposed increasing our substitute daily rate from \$110 to \$120 and included the costs of that increase on the worksheet. The Board proposed maybe going to \$125 since Special Education is a harder class to substitute teach. The consensus was to table this subject until the June meeting.
- vii. Work Agreement Releases. A sample letter was presented to the board for Notice of Nonrenewal to Long Term Substitute. KASB provided the language for the letter to be sent to a Long-Term Substitute if it was decided that they would be nonrenewed for the next school year. Long Term Substitutes have an at-will work agreement. No action needed, this sample letter is for the Board's information only.
- viii. Skyward Additional Training Costs. When we purchased Skyward, a block of training time was purchased with the program. We have 6 hours of training left available. The cost to purchase more is \$200/hour in 3-hour blocks (\$600/session). There is a probability that we will need to purchase more training time and wanted the Board to be aware and prepared for this in case we need it.
- ix. Out of State Conference Approval. As was mentioned in the Central Office reports, KSDE has offered \$1500 for Korenne to attend the CASE conference on July 13-16. Board approval is needed for Korenne to attend an out of state conference. Motion was made by Nicole Goodwin, seconded by Robin Griffin-Lohman to approve the travel cost to the CASE conference in Alexandria, VA. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- x. Support Staff Compensation for Unused Sick Leave. Our member districts offer compensation to classified staff for unused sick leave on retirement or resignation after a various number of years of employment. A worksheet was presented of the costs if ANW would do that for their classified staff. A motion was made by Nicole Goodwin, seconded by Dawn Wilson to approve paying classified staff for unused sick leave time after retirement or voluntary resignation; a two-week notice is required and must be worked for an amount of \$30/day for 10-14 years of service or \$40/day for 15 plus years of service. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- xi. WebKidss Contract. Motion was made by Nicole Goodwin, seconded by Joyce Allen to approve the WebKidss contract for 2025-26 for the Growth Plus plan for \$12,669.23. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- xii. Retiree Health Insurance. The statute was presented requiring government entities to offer retirees health insurance that allows charging 125% of the premiums. Currently, retirees pay the premium costs only. ANW is looking at a 20-25% increase in health insurance costs next year. U.S.I. consultant services has recommended we increase the premiums to retirees to the 125% allowable or they can participate in a H.R.A (Health Reimbursement Arrangement) and ANW will pay a portion of their monthly premiums to purchase health insurance on the marketplace. This would save ANW money in the long run. Motion was made by Dawn Wilson, seconded by Nicole Goodwin to table discussion until after Executive Sessions. Motion carried 5 – 0.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Dawn Wilson, seconded by Joyce Allen to enter Executive Session from 8:40 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel exception under KOMA of an individuals' employee performance in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed with the Board of Education and Director Korenne Wolken present. Motion carried 5 - 0. Executive Session ended at 8:50 p.m.

- Motion was made by Dawn Wilson, seconded by Joyce Allen to extend Executive Session from 8:50 p.m. to 8:53 p.m. with the Board of Education and Director Korenne Wolken present. Motion carried 5 – 0. Executive Session ended at 8:53 p.m.

Motion was made by Dawn Wilson, seconded by Joyce Allen to enter Executive Session from 8:56 p.m. to 9:06 p.m. for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel exception under KOMA of an individuals' employee contract in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed with the Board of Education and Director Korenne Wolken present. Motion carried 5 - 0. Executive Session ended at 9:06 p.m.

Motion was made by Joyce Allen, seconded by Dawn Wilson to approve the Licensed and Classified Personnel reports as presented. Motion carried 5 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS item xii discussion continued.

An email was read from an attorney regarding premium change timing. No action taken.

Motion was made by Dawn Wilson, seconded by Nicole Goodwin to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Dawn Wilson, ANW Board President

Date

Kristi Houston, ANW Board Clerk

Date