



*Russell County USD 407 is dedicated to providing a culture of learning
that will lead the state of Kansas in student success.*

- Goal 1:** USD 407 will improve communication from the district to the internal and external publics by May of 2022.
- Goal 2:** USD 407 will provide updated and safe facilities to meet the educational needs of students by May of 2022.
- Goal 3:** USD 407 will increase the percentage of successful high school graduates from 73% to 90% by May of 2022.
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55-061 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Mrs. Kathy Wallert called the USD 407 Board of Education special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Central Administration Office boardroom. Additional board members in attendance were Mr. Brett Mai, Dr. Joyce Ellis, Mrs. Deanna Myers, Mrs. Raeleen Reinhardt, and Mr. Ron Wedel. Mr. Mai led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Crystal Waymaster arrived at 5:31 p.m.

Others in attendance included Mr. Clark Coco, Interim Superintendent; Mrs. Jane Cline, Board Clerk; and Mr. Brandon Purdy, IT Consultant. Guests in the audience signed an attendance roster.

55-062 DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fireworks Following Homecoming Game

Discussion was held on allowing Booster Club to host a fireworks display following the Homecoming football game on October 7th. Board members reported visiting with representative of the Booster Club and shared details of work completed to host the event. The City of Russell Council will act on the request on October 4th.

Mr. Coco reported the district's insurance carrier would like for the district to be named in the policy, prefer \$1 million in coverage for the event, and require the fireworks launcher to be licensed.

Mr. Wedel made a motion to give permission for the fireworks display following the Homecoming game on October 7th contingent upon securing liability insurance coverage for no less than \$1 million. Dr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

B. Insurance Premiums

The comprehensive insurance coverage for the policy year beginning on 9/27/2022 was reviewed. Mr. Coco reported the biggest increase was due to the valuation increase and noted the



district is doing an awesome job on the workers' compensation portion of the policy.

Mrs. Reinhardt made a motion to pay the comprehensive insurance coverage for the policy year beginning 9/27/2022. Mr. Wedel seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

C. Bus Barn Fencing vs Rebuild

Mr. Coco reported receiving documentation from the Governor's office regarding grant funds available due to the windstorm damage in December 2021. Mr. Coco will be meeting with a representative in Topeka on September 27, 2022, to determine if USD 407 qualifies for the funds.

D. Strategic Planning

The following dates have been set with Gary Sechrist, Kansas Association of School Boards Field Representative, to move forward with a superintendent search and develop a new strategic plan:

- **November 7th** - Superintendent Search Discussion followed by Session I: Strategic Planning
- **November 15th** - Session 2: Strategic Planning

Mr. Coco has initiated conversations with each school to begin team development for the strategic planning process. Board members were asked to submit potential team members willing to serve on the planning committee. Superintendent search questions are to be sent to the board clerk by Oct. 4th.

E. ACT Prep Course

Ms. Bunker, Career Advocate and Test Coordinator at Russell High School, asked the Board to continue their support by paying a portion of the \$55 enrollment fee for any USD 407 student enrolling in the ACT Prep Course.

Mr. Wedel made a motion to approve the enrollment cost of \$25 for each student who chooses to enroll in the ACT prep class. Mrs. Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0.

55-063 ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

At 5:46 p.m., Dr. Ellis made a motion to enter executive session to have preliminary discussions about the acquisition of real property exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), with the open meeting resuming in the boardroom at 5:56 p.m. Mrs. Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried 7 – 0. Mr. Coco was invited into executive session.

Open session resumed at 5:56 p.m. No action was taken.

55-064 ADJOURNMENT

At 6:05 p.m., Mrs. Reinhardt moved, and Mrs. Myers seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Kathy Wallert, Board President Date

Jane Cline, Board Clerk Date

