

HUSKY NOTES

It was a busy night on March 3 for the Northern Valley School Board as it gathered in the Almena School.

Members present: Gale Hays, President; Drake Gebhard, Vice President; Doyle Baird, Glenn Brands, Blaine Marble, Harlan Ponstein, Alan Woodside, Bill Lowry, Superintendent; Lonnie Brungardt, High School Principal; Dwight Vallin, Elementary Principal; Barb Nelson, Clerk.

President Hays called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. with seven members present.

Adoption of Agenda: Mr. marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to adopt the agenda as amended to add item 8c. Technology Project, 9e. Non-Resident Student Applications and 9f. Resolution to Destroy Documents. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Training: Max Heim from Kansas Association of School Boards was presented to conduct this training session.

The board recessed at 6 p.m. to enjoy a delicious supper prepared by Glenn Brands and reconvened at 7 p.m.

Superintendent Performance Based Evaluation: At 7 p.m. Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion that the board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting in thirty minutes in the same location. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Lowry remained in the room. This executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual. Mr. Lowry was dismissed from this executive session at 7:07 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to return to open meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2006 board meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Bills: Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. marble seconded a motion to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Hearing of Visitors: Visitors chuck Fessenden, LeAnn Leidig, Jessica Holmes, Alysia Shearer, Elliott Conard, Kelsey Kinderknecht, Ben Rojas, Ethan Hays, Jessie Zillinger, Jena Jessup, Andrea Lowry, Stanton Nelson, Jessie Redeker, Richie Kersch, Justin Lee, Drew Britt, Bryce Marble, Joni Hilburn, Stephanie Tubbs, Jessica King, Jessica Wenzl, Jessica Largent,

Monica Wilson and Gina Frack were welcomed. Susan Lowry arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Chuck Fessenden reported on what is involved in running the track program.

LeAnn Leidig reported on her methods of teaching preschool students. She shared some of the materials she uses in her classroom. She also enjoys helping with fifth through eighth grade Title I reading.

Class Schedule: Mr. Brungardt presented the schedule he would like to adopt for next school year.

The schedule presented would start the day fifteen minutes earlier and dismiss five minutes later than the current schedule. This will allow class periods to be an additional seven minutes. This schedule could possibly cut five days from the school calendar. The board wanted to table this topic for decision at a later date so that they could gather more feedback from parents.

Golf Program: Mr. Brungardt reported that he originally had eight students interested in a golf program. Of these eight, three are currently out for track. One of the interested students has already paid green fees; the others have said they would pay green fees. Mr. Brungardt said we do not currently have a schedule. Our students will not be able to participate in regional action since this application would have had to have been submitted in September. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Baird seconded a motion to offer this program for a year on a trial basis and to authorize expenditures for the coach, entry fees and transportation. Motion carried 7-0.

Technology Project: Mr. Brungardt shared a color coded sheet of projects showing items recently purchased and items needed. This list was color coded by priority. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Baird seconded a motion to approve the purchase of Cisco Switches, HP PDC Server, HP Citrix Server and Server Rack/PDC Server/Citrix Server Software/Back-up. Motion carried 7-0.

Tobacco Free School Grounds Proposal: Members of the Health Committee and several student volunteers were present to present the proposal, visual aids, demonstrations and information regarding the effects of tobacco use and of second-hand smoke. Class and organization representatives presented signed documents showing their support of this proposal. The board commended participants on their presentations. Mr. Baird (Continued on Page 5)



Jim Galgocy, Norton, discusses health issues with Kansas State Extension Specialist Tranda Watts. Mrs. Watts manned an information table Thursday in the front section of the Norton Pamida Store.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Store planning on helping community

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

In an effort to become even more community-minded, Pamida of Norton will sponsor programs and events to benefit the people of Norton County.

To kick-off the campaign, the store invited Tranda Watts, an extension specialist for Kansas State University, to dispense information dealing with women's health issues. Thursday, from a display in the main aisle of the store, Mrs.

Watts handed out material dealing with osteoporosis, breast cancer, nutrition and weight, heart health and blood pressure.

Tabetha Smith, a 13-year Pamida employee, and the store's social director, said the next event on the agenda is in honor of National Reading Month. She said during April a container will be made available to anyone wishing to donate cash or prizes to be used as incentives to students enrolled

in the accelerated reading program at Eisenhower Elementary School.

On April 3, Mary Luehrs, Children's Librarian from Norton Public Library, will be in the store from 3 to 4 p.m. for a presentation highlighting National Library Week.

Mrs. Smith said the store's community campaign for spring wants to focus on youth. She said the Norton County Sheriff's depart-

ment will conduct a children's fingerprinting program later in the spring.

Other events scheduled will be a display for Norton County "Relay For Life" on April 7 and a free tree give-away by Girl Scouts on April 28.

Any organization interested in promoting an event or program through the Pamida store, should contact Mrs. Smith at 877-3363.

Legislation will benefit children

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Kansas Congressman Jerry Moran (R) and Dennis Moore (D) introduced bipartisan legislation that would allow the federal government to revoke the existing passport of any parent who falls \$5,000 behind in his or her child support payments. "Clearly the consequences we have in place are not getting through to some parents," Congressman Moran said. "We owe it to children to strengthen child support enforcement. This legislation adds one more disincentive to fall behind in child support payments."

Under current law, non-custodial parents who owe \$5,000 or more in child support payments are restricted from receiving new

passports, but may keep their current passport. This situation could potentially allow a parent to flee the country on an existing passport and avoid fulfilling child support responsibilities to his or her children.

"As a parent and grandparent, I can't imagine that anyone would choose to neglect or abandon their child, but I know that it happens all over the country," Congressman Moore said. "This legislation will help ensure that parents fulfill their obligations and children have every opportunity to reach their full potential."

The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services said this legislation holds great promise for increasing child sup-

port payments to parents and children who depend on them.

"This legislation would impact persons who actually possess the resources to provide for their children but choose not to do so," said Jim Robertson, Director of Child Support Enforcement. "We estimate that this legislation would result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in collections for the children of the State of Kansas alone."



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Four from Norton to perform in McCook

The McCook chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society will present its annual Spring Show at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday in the McCook City Auditorium.

The Prairie Statesmen, now in their 34th year, have featured many fine quartets in past per-

formances and this year is no exception.

Headlining the show will be "Storm Front", who has competed in the International Contest and is a "Top Ten" quartet.

Also featured will be the current Rocky Mountain District champions "Ignition".

The Prairie Statesmen Chorus will also perform. Norton members of the Prairie Statesmen are Roy Harshbarger, Phil Lesh, Clair Rumford and Ron Scheimo.

Advance tickets may be purchased from these Norton chapter members.

Job Opening

The Norton Telegram is looking for someone to join Hypatia Day in the Advertising Sales Department. Previous sales experience helpful, but not required. Training provided. Good working conditions. Commission-based, but great potential for the right person. Super staff.

To set up an appointment, or learn more about the opportunity, please contact the newspaper's publisher, Tom Dreiling, at (785) 877-6908 (daytime) or 877-3823 (evenings).

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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Northern Valley Schools Coordinated School Health will be hosting a community awareness night on Friday, March 31, 2006. There will be a FREE hamburger, hot dogs, chips, baked beans and a drink from 5:30-6:30 p.m., health related booths set up from 6:00-7:00 followed by senior faculty games at 7:00 starting with volleyball then basketball. As of now the following businesses will have booths set up for the health fair: Kansas Highway Patrol Seatbelt Safety; Toby Kuhn with Bicycle Safety; Colby Community College Nursing with Free Blood Pressure and Pulse Rate Checks; Camille Cox with Massage Therapy; Norton County Health doing Tobacco Cessation; Norton County Family Nutrition Extension; Advanced Food Class; American Cancer Society. If your business is interested in hosting a booth or you have any questions, please contact—Monica Wilson at 669-2445.