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(Neb.)-Chadron School Board Approves Policies, Evaluates Superintendent Listen

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 12/12/2012 10:50 AM

(CHADRON)-Members of the Chadron School Board were busy reviewing and approving changes to several policies at this week's board meeting on Monday night. The changes included adding sections regarding cell phone usage and emergency situations in the school bus drivers' policy, changing the comp time section in the personnel overtime pay policy to reflect flex time instead, and a couple of minor revisions in the Internet safety and student acceptable use of technologies policy. Members decided that two new policies, exemption of high school credits for initial placement and board vacancies, absences, and tardiness, still require some revisions, so those were held over for further review.

The board recently conducted their school superintendent evaluation of Dr. Caroline Winchester and shared some of their findings at the meeting. Winchester was evaluated in four main areas: Educational Leadership, District Management, Professional Relationships, and Professional Responsibilities. Board chair Sandy Roes said that the highest possible rating was a five and that Dr. Winchester consistently scored between a 4 and 5 in all areas. Roes said the board is very pleased with Winchester's accomplishments, especially with her ability to communicate with others.
Listen to the story for soundbites

Roes says Winchester has played a prominent role in getting the schools back on track and moving forward again after the bond setback.
Listen to the story for soundbites

Winchester, in conjunction with the board, has been working to develop a long-term plan for the schools with the target year of 2020 to get all facilities fully repaired and in good, usable shape. Winchester says they are also striving to grow cash reserves to a six-month level. She says it is a slow process, but that it is gradually coming together.
In addition, Winchester says an initial estimate of state aid for the upcoming year looks promising as well.
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Winchester says there are legitimate reasons the district is receiving the aid.
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The Chadron Public School Annual Report for 2012-2013 is now available. Individuals can stop by Central Office for a copy. To view the State of the Schools Report, visit it online at www.nde.ne.us.
The board is also seeking to improve the functionality of sub-committees.
In other news, new iPads continue to be rolled out at the high school. Monday marked the day for sophomores to receive theirs, the freshmen

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received theirs Tuesday, and December 13th is the scheduled make-up date.

Also, ChadronHigh School graduation will have a change of venue this coming year. The ArmstrongBuilding at Chadron State College will be undergoing renovations, so graduation will be held in the High School Auditorium instead.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail news@chadrad.com.)

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