

**U.S.D. #354**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

The U.S.D.#354 Board of Education met on December 7, 2009 at 8:30 p.m. at the district office. Board members present were Doug Hubbard, Bert Besthorn, Cherlyn Maier, Dave Hickel, Dawnya Hickel and Jim Vance.

The agenda for the December 7, 2009, meeting was approved. The minutes from the November meeting were approved along with the invoices, and the treasurer's report.

Under old business Superintendent Jane Oeser explained the current situation of the 2009-2010 budget and the reductions that have had to be made due to the state's decrease in the Base State Aid Per Pupil. The board approved the high school boys' baseball cooperative agreement to participate with USD 431 Hoisington and also approved the high school boys' baseball contract between USD 354 Claflin and USD 431 Hoisington contingent upon approval by USD 431 Board of Education. The 1<sup>st</sup> reading of board policy "BCBJ- News Coverage" was also approved.

Under new business the board appointed Bert Besthorn and Dave Hickel to serve as negotiators for the school board with Bert Besthorn serving as chief negotiator for the 2010-2011 negotiations. The board accepted Sheri Holmes' resignation as junior high volleyball coach. The board also approved to participate with the memorandum and understanding of the "Race-To-The-Top" competitive grant program.

Board members opened discussion regarding the joint school board meeting recently held by USD 354 Claflin and USD 328 Lorraine on December 2, 2009. After a lengthy discussion, it was a consensus by the board to hold a public meeting on **Sunday, December 20, 2009 at 4:00 PM at the Claflin Jr/Sr High School Auditorium** to provide further information to the community and help to answer questions that the public may have. Other items discussed were: recent KASB convention held in Overland Park this past weekend that no board members were able to attend; upcoming legislative luncheon to be held in Salina on Friday, December 11 beginning at 11:30 AM; holiday open house for USD 354 staff will be hosted by the USD 354 Board of Education on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 starting at 3:30 PM at the district office; no December board retreat date was set, but would like to set another joint meeting with USD 328 Board of Education; and USD 354 Board of Education President Bert Besthorn distributed the superintendent's evaluation document and instructed board members to complete and return them to Bert Besthorn by December 18, 2009.

Principal Toby Holmes reported on the following: Claflin High School students participated in the FHSU Math Relays on November 12<sup>th</sup> and placed 14<sup>th</sup>; All-School Play was a very successful production this year; H1N1 flu vaccine clinic held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> by the Barton County Health Department went very well; recent water pipe repairs at the elementary school caused the elementary school students to be bussed to the Claflin Jr/Sr High School for lunch one day last week and went with no problems; Kansas Community Care Survey, an online drug, alcohol, and bullying survey, will be taken by the Claflin 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 12<sup>th</sup> grades on December 9, 2009; EMT meeting with BCCC will be held on December 14 at 8:45 to talk about possibly adding the course as an elective; spring 2010 enrollment for the BCCC ITV classes will occur on December 11, 2009 in the Claflin ITV room; December 22, 2009 is the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester; All-Stars Program, a drug and alcohol awareness program for 7<sup>th</sup> graders was very successful; and the Claflin NHS will be conducting a Food Drive starting December 9<sup>th</sup> through December 18<sup>th</sup>, with the food being donated to local families.

Superintendent Jane Oeser reported on the following: annual district lunch audit was conducted and had no violations; upcoming "Schools For Fair Funding" meeting; upcoming service projects this year by the Claflin Elementary School students; and the

D.A.R.E. Culmination will be held on Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM in the Clafin Elementary Gymnasium.

The board also discussed the upcoming AED presentation for the Clafin Jr/Sr High School students and also discussed the maintenance of the defibrillators.

**The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2010, at 7:00 PM in the district office.**