

The Nemaha Central Board of Education received a preliminary report on the effect of the proposed "block grant" in the Kansas legislature at the regular board meeting on Monday, March 9. The proposal would replace the current financing formula for the General fund. Under the proposal the amount of General fund budget authority a district has in the current fiscal year will remain the same for the next two fiscal years. State aid for the Supplemental General and Capital Outlay funds will be decreased and several of the weightings will be eliminated. Restrictions on the use of Capital Outlay funds will be removed so that the funds can be used however a school board decides. First estimates reveal that the plan will have a negative effect on high state aid districts, which are the least wealthy districts in the state. Districts will be forced to use cash reserves and/or assess higher local taxes. As for USD 115, the frozen budget not considered, the district would see \$17,282 less in 2015-16 and \$30,577 in 2016-17.

Members reviewed the forecasted General fund budget change due to coming out of the four-year frozen budget due to consolidation. The district will see a \$981,242 loss in spending authority in the General fund. Cuts during the past four years will help offset approximately \$700,000 of this loss. Supt. Kohlman presented a list of cuts to consider in the future to make up for the shortfall. These cuts included: a reduction in staff; eliminate the after-school activity routes; reduce spring requisitions; reduce transfers and carry over amounts; discontinue Build Your Own Curriculum; use Greenbush group purchasing for athletic supplies; and, reduce the number of buses that travel to extracurricular activities. Also included in the solution were some ideas to increase revenue including increasing the LOB, using funds from Contingency Reserve, and requesting reimbursement from the building activity funds for extra duty pay and concessionaire salary.

Mr. Kohlman then reviewed a list of non-technology capital expenses to be considered in closing the fiscal year. The board discussed the purchase of a used bus versus a new bus. Supt. Kohlman had received a bid for a 2013 used bus for \$72,500. He was directed to obtain the price of a new bus for comparison. Also listed were security upgrades, stage curtains in the high school and new lockers for both buildings. A bid from CBS Manhattan, LLC for security measures in both buildings was reviewed. The bid did not include cameras and the members were in agreement that cameras should be included in the project if it is to be done. Supt. Kohlman was directed to contact the company and ask that cameras be added to the bid.

The board approved a Resolution Designating a Revitalization Area and Adopting a Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for USD 115 located in Nemaha County Kansas and the Interlocal Agreement with Nemaha County.

Summer school fees were approved for Title I Elementary Math & Reading, NCHS Credit Recovery, NCEMS Summer Band, and Drivers Education. Approval was granted to advertise for summer maintenance workers.

Members moved to accept a donation from Shopko in the amount of \$1,500.

A special meeting was approved to be held on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 at the district office for: (1) approval of the final sale of bonds for refunding the current bond; (2) consider a bid for a bus purchase; and (3) consider bids for security upgrades including cameras.