

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COFFEYVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 445**

August 29, 2018

Special Meeting 5:00 p.m.

Board of Education Office

"Building on a culturally diverse community, USD 445 will prepare all students for life-long learning by providing resources for a comprehensive quality education in a safe environment that promotes high academic achievement and responsible citizenship in a global society." – Mission Statement

"Valuing individuals, Celebrating Learning, Improving Life! USD 445 will provide a happy, caring, hopeful environment that will empower children to achieve their greatest potential." – Vision Statement

The Board of Education of Coffeyville USD 445 acted to call a Special Meeting on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Office, 615 Ellis, Coffeyville, KS 67337. President, Darrel Harbaugh, called the Special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Denise Gates
Dr. Jerry Hamm
Darrel Harbaugh
Trudie Kritz
Magan Martin
Robert Robson
Robert Roesky

Board Members Absent

Others Present

Dr. Craig Correll	Superintendent
Michael Speer	Asst. Superintendent/Business Manager
Andy Taylor	Reporter, Montgomery County Chronicle

Adoption of Agenda

Motion made by Denise Gates to adopt the agenda, second by Robert Robson. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Discussion

Board discussion regarding the City Commission Meeting on August 28, 2018 and the current school bond campaign

Official response to the City Commission Meeting on August 28, 2018 from the USD 445 Board of Education will be sent to the city commission.

Adjournment

At 6:14 p.m., USD 445 Board President, Darrel Harbaugh, adjourned this August 29, 2018 special meeting of the governing Board of Education for Coffeyville Unified Schools District 445.

Clerk of the Board

Response to City Commission Meeting of 8.28.2018

The USD 445 Board of Education is compelled to respond to comments made by members of the Coffeyville City Commission at their meeting on August 28th. The City Commission allowed an open forum presentation by Mr. Brian Nagle to digress into a debate concerning the upcoming school bond. Mr. Nagle approached the commission to present facts of the school bond. By City Commission policy any person who speaks during the open forum portion of their meeting is allotted 3 minutes. While allowing Mr. Nagle his three minutes, they interrupted him with questions and comments in opposition to the school bond. Mr. Nagle remained calm, answered their questions, and repeatedly stated that his intent was to clarify facts and encourage people to vote.

The USD 445 Board of Education appreciates Mr. Nagle's attempt to address the City Commission as a taxpayer, voter, and resident of our town. However, we do find fault with the commissioners who interjected their own personal opinions into USD 445 Board decisions. USD 445 Board members have never discussed or publicly commented on City Commission decisions and we expect them to not interfere in USD 445 Board decisions. Commissioner Doane stated, "We are elected by the citizens to look at the whole picture. And there is a whole lot more that goes into this than just your perspective. And that's our job to look at that." The members of the USD 445 Board of Education were duly elected by the community to direct the school district in all issues concerning our public schools, not the city commissioners. For the commission to insert itself directly into school board decisions is not within their purview.

The city and school district have worked well together for the benefit of our community many times over the years. We have been partners in building Community Elementary, supporting Veterans' Memorial Stadium, providing workspace for the city employees while city hall was under reconstruction to name a few examples. Previously, the city opted not to allow the voters to decide to extend the education sales tax to reduce the property tax in funding the school bond. We have worked well together and supported one another in the past. This action by the commission has strained a once extremely positive relationship between the city and school district. We hope this relationship may be restored in the future.