

THE CHARGER

Board postpones bond vote

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The USD 329 Board of Education postponed voting for a proposed bond issue at Monday's Board Meeting.

The BOE put together a Facilities Committee to choose a solution to the district's current facility issues. This committee presented Option 11 from a list of proposed solutions.

Option 11 included many renovations and changes to the existing buildings in the district. The biggest changes among these include the closing of Maple Hill Elementary, Alma Elementary and Paxico Middle School. Maple Hill Elementary would be sold. Alma Elementary and Paxico Middle School would be removed. Grades Pre-K through 6 would be moved to the existing Junior High building which would be rebuilt to accommodate the increase in students. Grades 7 and 8 would be moved to the high school building.

Additional changes include the removal of all modular buildings district-wide, replacing the gym floors at the high school and current junior high site, remodeling the high school kitchen to a full cooking kitchen and putting in a new roof and HVAC system at the existing junior high building.

While this proposed idea was found to be the best option by the facilities committee, there was some concern from community members who attended the board meeting. Some concerns included putting younger children on buses with 6th graders and the loss of students to nearby districts.

Facility committee member Jennifer Wenderott addressed some of these concerns, including why it is beneficial to put elementary students into one building as opposed to making repairs to the schools we already have.

She said, "There was a lot of discussion about what it would do to communities, what has happened to other communities that have lost their schools and, as a committee, we were put together to figure out what would be the best way to lead the district financially. When you look at the number of square footage that our district has right now, and the way that we are spread out across the district, it only makes sense to combine our elementary schools, and it's a fiscal reason, but it also comes down to the fact that we have to support our teachers, and that was one of the things that we looked at, and it's very hard for our teachers in the district to be in separate spaces and to have a well rounded education for all of our kids when they are spread apart."

After much discussion, the BOE decided that it was not prepared to vote last night, and postponed further discussion to a special meeting December 2.

For more coverage of proposed bond options, including more from Monday's meeting, visit whscharger.com.

FUTURE ICHABODS



Senior Maddy Hutley signs her letter of intent with her family: Evan, Tim and Jan Hutley. Photos by Laurel Barber.



Senior Autymn Schreiner signs her letter of intent with her family: Pete Adams, LeAnn Adams, Brett Schreiner and Hadley Schreiner.

Hutley, Schreiner sign to play at Washburn following graduation

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HUTLEY TO BRING LOVE OF BASKETBALL TO WASHBURN

Senior Madelyn Hutley had many in attendance to watch her sign her National Letter of Intent to play basketball for Washburn University.

Hutley signed Friday afternoon in the WHS commons. Speakers including summer coaches, WHS coaches and her mother, principal Jan Hutley, spoke about her time at WHS and her love of basketball.

"As her mom, I'm most grateful and proud of who she is on the inside — her sassy, spirited, no-nonsense personality. I'm not gonna lie, it's been difficult to tame over the years. But that same personality is what makes her a joy to be around," Hutley said. "We have a wonderful time together, and I also think that's what makes her a great player."

Each speaker mentioned Hutley's love of basketball, describing her as a gym rat who works tirelessly to improve her game.

Former WHS head coach Shanna Perine said "I don't think I've ever been around a kid who loves basketball more than Madelyn does. I don't know how many times I've kicked her out of the gym."

She's the kid who you'll see carrying a basketball down the street. She would get legitimately mad at me for ending practice early."

Current head girls basketball coach Trevor Keller said "I think that's what's allowed her to be successful not only in the game of basketball but in everything that she's done. That desire to be the best is what's gonna allow you to continue to be successful with the next level."

Dylan Evans, her cub coach with Wheat State Elite, also spoke about Maddy's work ethic, saying she would be an example for players in his program for years to come. "She truly understands what it takes to be the best player one can be."

Ken Darting of Darting basketball academy also spoke about her work ethic and her citizenship. "If you made a profile of a basketball player you want in your program, it would be her."

Hutley is headed to Washburn undecided in her major.

"I chose Washburn because of the people. The girls are really nice and are mostly small town people I can relate to. It just seemed to fit," Hutley said.

SCHREINER TO BRING LEADERSHIP AND WORK ETHIC TO WASHBURN SOFTBALL

Senior Autymn Schreiner

signed her National Letter of Intent Wednesday to play softball at Washburn University.

Being a multi-sport athlete, Schreiner had plenty of college options. She also excelled at tennis, basketball and volleyball during her time at WHS. She said softball was the obvious choice for her.

"Ever since I was 10 and went to the Softball College World Series to watch, I told myself that I would be one of them one day. Softball has always been my favorite sport so I couldn't imagine doing anything else at the next level," Schreiner said.

Introducing Schreiner, principal Jan Hutley said, "She was good enough that she could have picked about anything, but she chose softball. That shows her deep-seeded love for the game, that makes her successful at this level, and definitely at the next level."

Hutley also read a statement from Washburn head softball coach Brenda Holaday, who could not attend because of NCAA rules. "We are elated to add Auty and her family to our Washburn softball program. Auty exemplifies everything that we are looking for in a student-athlete. It starts with her work ethic she is a dedicated student who has willingly taken on leadership roles in and out of the classroom."

A former Wabaunsee coach, Holaday said the work Schreiner has done with the Chargers shows great promise for the future.

WHS softball coach Joe Dee Tarbutton shares some statistics and accomplishments. "She's a coach on the field for us. She'll help out and give me ideas form practice. She's probably a little intense for some people, but it's fun."

Travel softball coach Jason Oliver spoke about Schreiner's athleticism. "Auty, when she first came to us, you could see the athleticism. You could tell she was going to be special softball player—softball has been her love from an early age, and still is." "She also has a desire and a will to win that most kids don't have at a young age. It makes a coach look so much better to have players like that."

Heading into Washburn Schreiner is undecided on her major but planning something in the health-care field.

"I chose Washburn because I loved the coaches and the players and the family atmosphere that both the team and the school has. I was also very impressed with their facilities. The close location also drew toward it because it allows my parents and community that have supported me throughout high school to come support me at the next level," Schreiner said.

Former English teacher speaks at NHS induction

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"Be bold, be tolerant, listen, travel, stay focused, do something nice for someone else and be kind," Former WHS English teacher Laura Delfeder said.

Delfeder returned to WHS Tuesday night to address the National Honor Society inductees. "I found it important, simply because if the NHS members thought of me when considering their keynote speaker, it was my job to not let them down," Delfeder said. "Everyone is busy, but as an adult if you have the opportunity to communicate with young people, you absolutely ought to take it."

Delfeder is currently attending K-State to become a vet. "This year's junior and senior classes were my family over the last couple years, so I have no guilt missing a night of studying to help celebrate the new member class for NHS and send my well-wishes to the graduating seniors," Delfeder said.

Delfeder started her speech with a short story from her childhood. She described how her father would teach her and her siblings small lessons that he engraved into her head on their way to school. She now wanted to share a few lessons that aren't taught in school to the members of NHS to help guide them in their future.

She broke down each lesson

To listen to Delfeder's speech, visit whscharger.com.



and explained how they would help in finishing high school and afterwards in the real world. Her first point was to be bold and tolerant, don't let your voice go unheard. She then challenged the group to travel and meet different people with different cultures. "You don't have to go far or be gone long, sometimes simply going to a new part of the state is just as powerful as going across the world to a new country. The world is big and it's a shame to not experience it," Delfeder said. She continued with the im-

portance of staying focused and drowning out the drama. This can be difficult for high schoolers, but Delfeder said that life will drag you in all kinds of directions, but whatever goal you set for yourself is attainable.

Delfeder finished with the value of doing something nice for someone else. She wanted the inductees and members to realize the effort that their parents and supporters have done to get them to this point in their life.

The 2019 NHS inductees were senior Jacob Donaldson and juniors Kendyl Bolinder, Karlee Feyh, Ryan Grutsch, Justice Houston, Raegan Kelley, Bernice Poulter and Peter Stuhlsatz.