

7 new teachers, A.D. selected

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Seven new teachers, as well as the athletic/activities director (A.D.) were approved for 2010-11 for Holyoke School District Re-1J at the June 15 school board meeting.

Employment contracts were approved for two JR/SR high social studies teachers, as well as positions in elementary art, first grade, grade 5-12 band, elementary special education and sixth grade.

Kimberlee Bennett was selected as activities/athletic director for the upcoming year. Supt. Miles noted she has the benefit of a flexible schedule with her other duties as curriculum director, district assessment coordinator, professional development coordinator and federal programs coordinator.

She will be compensated by adding 10 extra days to her existing contract at an amount of \$2,236. Additionally, a portion of the athletic budget will be used to create a stipend position in the amount of \$3,102, which is equivalent to a head coach salary.

With the AD stipend and additional stipend for support, the district is still saving a considerable amount over what was spent in 2009-10, Miles pointed out.

Jennifer Koops was hired as a JR/SR high social studies teacher. She has a B.A. degree in history, with an emphasis in secondary education and special emphasis in honors program from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. She is originally from Ulysses, Kan.

Koops' Colorado initial teacher licensure in secondary education is expected this August. She was involved in the UNC secondary teacher education program through the spring of 2010.

Luke Thomas will fill another JR/SR high social studies position. Originally from Woodland Park, he earned his B.A. degree from Regis University in Denver in May of 2009. He has a secondary education endorsement with emphasis in social science.

In the past year, Thomas has served in two long-term substitute positions in Colorado Springs, and has been a frequently-requested substitute in two school districts.

7 new teachers, A.D. selected

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Christina Martinez will teach elementary art, a position reinstated after being dropped for the 2009-10 school year.

Martinez earned her B.S. of Education degree with a major in art from Minot State University in Minot, N.D. in the summer of 2009.

Since last November she has served as a substitute teacher in Box Elder, S.D. and since March has worked in customer service and framing at the Arts and Crafts Center at Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota.

During last week's school board meeting, Phillips County Arts Council representative and arts advocate Dorothy Ortner expressed appreciation to the board for reinstating the elementary art position.

Julie Beaven was hired as a first grade teacher in Holyoke. Currently living in Julesburg with her husband and two small children, Beaven earned her B.A. degree from Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa in May of 1997. Her major was elementary education, with early childhood and reading endorsements.

Beaven has three years of kindergarten and three years of first grade teacher experience, as well as two years experience as an induction coach, all in the St. Vrain Valley School District. She has served as a substitute teacher in Loveland and Julesburg in the past two years.

Stuart Potter will direct grade 5-8 bands in Holyoke. He has just finished his master's degree in instrumental music education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

He also holds master's degrees in performance and literature. Potter earned his Bachelor of Music degree in bassoon performance from the University of Arizona in 2006.

7 new teachers, A.D. selected

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

He taught instrumental classes to undergraduate students for two years and student taught grade 5-12 students at four schools from January to June this year.

Elizabeth Bloss will fill the elementary special education position, which opened with Mandy Krause's resignation. Krause's resignation was also accepted by the board of education at Tuesday's meeting.

Bloss graduated in December of 2009 from UNC, with a B.A. degree in special education. She has been a paraprofessional for the Pikes Peak BOCES and for Battle Mountain High School in Vail and has worked with both elementary and high school age students.

Crystal Rigel will teach sixth grade in Holyoke School District. She earned a bachelor's of liberal arts degree, with emphasis in elementary education from Colorado Christian University in Sterling in 2005 and her M.A. degree in curriculum and instruction from CCU in 2008.

She has taught fifth grade in Brush for the last five years. Prior to that, she was employed at Sterling Regional MedCenter for 10 years.

Alternative School coordinator approved

In other personnel business last week, the school board approved the contract agreement with Excelsior Educational Consultants (Clark Ginapp) to serve as the Alternative School coordinator for the 2010-11 school year.

Approval was also given for Laura Beth Schroetlin to serve as long-term sub for the maternity leave of first grade teacher Jenny McKenny.

Other business

7 new teachers, A.D. selected

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

In other business at the June 15 meeting, the Re-1J board:

—adopted the social studies curriculum and textbooks for implementation in the 2010-11 school year. The updated curriculum and text information was presented by Kimberlee Bennett.

—noted the July 6 board meeting will be canceled and a board/administrator retreat will be held Saturday, July 17.