

Mediator appointed in school district land transfer dispute

(KMZA)--The Kansas State Board of Education has appointed a mediator in the ongoing dispute between three area school districts and Prairie Hills USD 113 over school district boundaries.

Nemaha Central Superintendent Tavis Desormiers updated the USD 115 Board of Education Monday evening on the matter.

Desormiers said a phone conversation is scheduled this week with the mediator and the attorney representing USD 115, Jackson Heights USD 335 and Vermillion USD 380.

The three school districts jointly petitioned the state board August 30 to initiate a formal mediation process and appoint a mediator after months of stalled negotiations with USD 113.

That came in the wake of decision by USD 113 to close the Wetmore Attendance Center earlier this year.

In other business, High School Vo-Ag teacher Matthew Stallbaumer, along with FFA officers Dane Haverkamp and Camden Schmitz, appeared before the board to request assistance with the cost of attending the National FFA convention November 1-4 in Indianapolis.

The board voted to contribute \$1,500 to help with expenses.

It marks the second year in a row the High School FFA chapter has attended the event.

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