

USD 415 taking steps to finish school year

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha School District is taking steps to finish the current school year following Governor Kelly's order closing K-12 schools for the remainder of the academic year to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.

During a special meeting Tuesday afternoon, the USD 415 Board of Education adopted two resolutions related to Governor Kelly's order.

One resolution authorizes the continued payment of the wages of the district's employees during the emergency school closure.

The second resolution suspends the district's graduation requirements for this school year. Currently, the district requires 27 credits to graduate. The resolution allows this year's seniors to graduate with 21 credits, the minimum required by the Kansas State Department of Education.

Superintendent Lonnie Moser said the state Department of Education will be issuing waivers for the mandatory 1,116 hours needed for a full school year. In order to receive the waiver, districts must develop and implement a continuous learning plan for the remainder of the school year along with pay all staff as if they were in school.

Moser said the administrators and teachers are in the process of creating a continuous learning plan for the district. It will be presented to the board for approval during a special meeting Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 in the morning.

In the meantime, education is to set to resume in the Hiawatha School District on Monday through on-line instruction.