

USD 415 board member resigns in protest

**(KNZA)--A Hiawatha School Board member, in the final month of his 20 years on the board, resigned Monday evening in protest to a decision by another board member to remove her children from Hiawatha schools and enroll them in a private school in another community.**

**John Wright said he had talked to Board member Andrea Groth personally about her decision prior the meeting and urged her to resign.**

**He said he had lost confidence in Groth to serve the district as a school board member and he felt her actions had given the school district a black eye.**

**Wright challenged Groth to resign and when she indicated she wouldn't, offered his resignation in protest in her place.**

**Board President Tom Simmer encouraged Wright to reconsider, and finish out the remaining month of his term.**

**Wright said he was not comfortable sitting on the board with Groth and left the meeting.**

**The action came after Superintendent Lonnie Moser recognized Wright, Groth and board member Keith Erdley for their service on the board.**

**Wright and Erdley did not seek re-election. Groth was defeated in the November general election by Jacquie Kerl.**

**Roni Tietijens was elected last month to replace Wright and Jim Robidoux was elected to replace Erdley.**

**The three newly elected members will take their seats on the board next month.**