

Board of Education Committee of the  
Whole Meeting  
Thursday, August 24, 2017 6:00 PM Central

Administration Building- Board Room  
320 N 5th St  
Beatrice, NE 68310

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to attendance of the public.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

**Present:** Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, Nancy Sedlacek, Steve Winter, Jon Zimmerman. Present: 6.  
Mr. Zimmerman, Vice-President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Administration Building Board Room. At the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Zimmerman announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the west wall of the meeting room.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Board of Education of District #15 approve the agenda as presented passed with a motion by Steve Winter and a second by Nancy Sedlacek.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Nancy Sedlacek: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3. Superintendent Update

Mr. Nauroth commented that the first days of school went very well with some major events (all elementary event and monumental Eclipse event) occurring, and he appreciated the staffs hardwork.

3.1. Facility Master Plan

Mr. Nauroth stated that he would like the Board to consider having the district put together a comprehensive facility plan. He added that he thinks it would be wise to reexamine all the facilities and have a plan to be used as a long term plan and also a vision for both the district and the community. Pat Phelan addressed the Board next. He stated that for a project like this, most of the leg work is already done at the elementary level (due to the recent elementary bond issue), but they would need to look at the other buildings completely. He added that DLR would love to assist the district in putting this together as they have a good understanding of what the district is facing. Mr. Phelan noted that once the comprehensive plan is developed then it's just a matter of brief updates as needed as time progresses. Mr. Nauroth stated that if this is something that the Board wants to do they would need to have another more detailed discussion on the extent of what is wanted taking into consideration current enrollment and projected enrollment. Pieper asked about a timeline for this type of project. Mr. Phelan responded that it is usually a fairly quick turn around and if the Board gives the green light in the next month or so that the initial report could be ready around the first of the year. He also suggested thinking about how the Board may want their patrons to be involved in this process. Pieper stated that her preference would be to address this at the September COW meeting.

3.2. Committee of the Whole Meeting Time and Location

Mr. Nauroth informed the Board that originally he thought the start time for the Committee of the Whole meetings may need to be delayed to accommodate the BLAST program, but after speaking with Martin she believes that she will be able make it by 6 PM. Mr. Nauroth informed the Board that he would like to have the September Committee of the Whole meeting out at the new preschool building so Board members tour it.

3.3. Board Realignment Process

Mr. Nauroth informed the Board that due to a state statute change, it would be possible to go to a seven member board now. He added that if the Board is interested that he can have the attorney draw up the resolution for the September Board meeting with actual expansion happening during the 2018 election process. All board members agreed to move forward on this.

4. TeamMates

Kathy Woodward addressed the Board on behalf of the TeamMates Board of Directors. First, she thanked Christina Lyons for her support as the program's director and Mr. Nauroth for serving on the TeamMates Board of Directors. She encouraged Board members to become a mentor. There are three options to meet regularly with mentees- over lunch, during the school day or at the elementary after school program (grades 3-5 only). Ms. Woodward stated that there are lots of young people in our district that are waiting for a caring adult in their

life. Pieper asked how many kids are currently involved in the program. Mrs. Lyons responded that the district currently has 30 matches and that all mentors are provided with training and resources.

#### 5. Summer Project Update

Mr. Brazell and Mr. Brethouwer provided a brief update on summer projects. The summarized list included:

- Storm damage at the High School- included fence replacement, pole vault mats being replaced, track repair (is not complete yet), soccer goals still need to be replaced
- Storm damage on Higgins ground- downed trees
- New carpet at the High School and some patch work in the parking lot
- High School gym floor is complete- it has a couple of blemishes and the company will come back to correct those (need 3 days when the gym is not being used)
- New Cross Country course at the High School
- Air conditioner installation in the new storage building out at the High School
- The ramp to lower level at the Middle School is still leaking a little bit- has been an ongoing issue
- Renovation of Cedar into the Preschool- all rooms were moved, playground equipment moved and installed, fence installed, new bathroom, and new paint
- New roof at Paddock Lane is complete as well as some new carpet
- All 3 elementary buildings now have emergency lights installed in them (required by after school program)
- Some new carpet at Lincoln elementary
- Movement of some rooms at Stoddard elementary
- New carpet and paint at the administration building (district office side)
- Sewer line leak- student programs side had some damage and the manhole lines still need to be replaced

Pieper said that the preschool renovation far exceeds her own expectations. Martin commended Mr. Brethouwer for his help in getting everything squared away for the BLAST program.

#### 6. 2017-2018 Budget Review

Mr. Brazell stated that he has continually been working to improve the presentation of the budget for the Board and patrons. He shared a large handout with Board members noting that the handout includes an executive summary, budget narrative, resolutions and staffing information as well as the actual accounting sheets in summary format. Mr. Brazell noted that the budget process started last January and will come to an end when the Board is asked to approve the budget in September. He reminded Board members that the levy must be below the state mandated maximum of \$1.05 and the cash reserve balance below the state mandated maximum percentage of 35%. Next, Mr. Brazell highlighted items in the handout. He noted that the revenue projections are more aggressive and less conservative than in the past. Property taxes and other local receipts represent 60% of the revenue budget. He added that property tax revenue has continued to increase. State aid is projected to drop again for the 17-18 school year (by approximately \$447,547). For fiscal year 2017 it is doubtful that funds will be available to transfer from the General Fund to the Depreciation Fund and for fiscal year 2018, no funds are being budgeted to be transferred. Information from the Gage County Assessor shows that district taxable property values will increase in FY18 to \$1,221,609,626. The overall tax levy for 2018 is 1.087157. The budget narrative section of the presentation provided information on the budget by responsibility area. Mr. Brazell added that each department administrator added their own comments this year as well. He noted that all building funds were reduced as a cost saving measure. Overall, the budget reflects an increase in expenses of 3.43% (\$788,757); however, the grants for the after school program account for \$409,500 of the increase. Without the grants the increase would have been approximately \$378,257 or a 1.65% increase. District land and property valuations increased by 3.92% which will provide an additional \$478,081 from local taxes. There is an overall 1.24% (\$284,070) projected increase in revenue. Mr. Brazell stated that the district has the cash reserve to handle the shortfall this year; however, some changes will need to be made to balance the budget moving forward.

7. Public Comments - This is the proper time for public questions and comments on any topic. Please make sure a request form is given to the Board Vice-President before the meeting begins. No one spoke at this time.

#### 8. Adjournment

Board of Education of District #15 adjourn passed with a motion by Steve Winter and a second by Nancy Sedlacek.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Nancy Sedlacek: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon  
Zimmerman: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle  
Fairbanks

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Board Secretary/Superintendent

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Date