

Board of Education Committee of the
Whole Meeting
Thursday, January 24, 2019 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

Absent: Lisa Pieper, **Present:** Janet Byars, Erin Chadwick, Doris Martin, Eric Trusty, Steve Winter, Jon Zimmerman. Present: 6, Absent: 1.

Mrs. Martin, 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, Mrs. Martin 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

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the agenda as presented passed with a motion by Jon Zimmerman and a second by Janet Byars.

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3. Student Achievement Report

Dr. Nielsen presented an update on assessment data to the Board. She used a power point to go through the data. She noted that this was the second year that all juniors took the Nebraska ACT summative assessment and the NSCAS math assessment which is based on the new college and career readiness standards was taken by 3rd-8th for the first time and scores dropped dramatically throughout the state. The state average for the ACT is between 20-21 and we are currently under that. The math assessment scores will now be benchmarks for the district; the 6th-8th grades scored above the state average. Dr. Nielsen noted that this was the second year of the new ELA assessments and the district did not see a dramatic increase or decrease in scores which was similar to the state-wide results. The science assessment scores were also shared and pointed out that this test is based on "legacy" standards. Dr. Nielsen noted that the NSCAS is a one shot state test that is taken only once a year; whereas, MAP testing is taken multiple times throughout the school year and is a better measurement tool for student growth. Dr. Nielsen informed the Board that the current data is showing that a large amount of students could be placed on reading assistance plans (literacy). Finally, she shared the following future implications: NSCAS science test will be using new college and career readiness standards beginning in 2021, focusing on appropriately challenging our students and holding all learners to high expectations, the 4 C's (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity), and that the social studies standards are currently being evaluated and revised.

4. Policy Update

4.1. 3410 Fundraising

Mr. Alexander noted that a slight revision was made to the policy to indicate that the focus will remain on local charities. Byars shared that she thinks it is a little bit of a stretch to go from local to global with the wording. She suggested that non-local charities be revised on a case by case basis. The policy will be revised prior to the next meeting.

4.2. 4625 Grievance Procedures

Mr. Alexander shared that the negotiations committee has been working with the BEA on the negotiated agreement language and what is actually in policy. As part of this, he is trying to separate the adult issues of wage, benefits and time off from student related issues regarding process and procedures. He believes that both parties are close to an agreement and being able to present something to the entire Board shortly.

4.3. 9115 Officers

Mr. Alexander stated that this is the policy that was discussed during the re-organization of the Board at the January meeting and basic changes are being made to add the proper positions (superintendent and assistant superintendent) to the policy.

5. Bus Contract & RFP

Mr. Alexander thanked Mid States for their open communication and relationship with the school district. He added that he feels like bus transportation is operating under the three established goal areas of safety, equity, and efficiency. Mr. Alexander informed the Board that he would like to continue with Mid States for busing for one more year without seeking request for proposals from other providers. Trusty asked if there has been any conversation with Mid States on the potential of this yet. Mr. Alexander responded that there has been a little conversation in regards to such and that he does think there will be a small increase. Dr. Nielsen shared that Mid States is looking at new software that helps with route optimization. Trusty stated that there seems to be a lot of value in the relationship that has been established.

6. Energy Management Position

Mr. Alexander shared that they have reviewed the duties of the energy manager and due mostly to updated technology that this is a position that could be eliminated for the 2019-20 school year which would result in savings to the district.

7. Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement

Mr. Alexander shared that the city noted that the current agreement for use of the Board Room by the city council and committee groups is about to expire; therefore, the city is working on updating it and it will then be brought to the Board for approval.

8. SENCAP/Perkins Funds Update

Mr. Alexander noted that in the past Perkins funds were used for funding SENCAP. He added that the district used to be able to streamline to SCC directly, but the state will not be allowing that anymore. Mr. Alexander proposed a Memorandum of Understanding with SCC in which Beatrice will still receive those funds, but then will have to create a new way of utilizing those funds within the district. Mr. Alexander stated that he is asking the Board to allow us to shift funds to other departments and then utilize money out of the general fund to pay for SENCAP (allowable expenses). Trusty asked on confirmation that there won't be any net change to which Mr. Alexander confirmed.

9. Board Retreat Dates

Mr. Alexander shared that he would like to schedule a Board retreat in the next month or two. He informed Board members that a survey with potential dates and times would be shared and he asked them to respond so we can get a date for such confirmed.

10. 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.

11. Adjournment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 adjourn passed with a motion by Jon Zimmerman and a second by Eric Trusty.

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary

Date