

Board of Education Committee of the
Whole Meeting
Thursday, August 22, 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, Steve Winter, **Present:** Janet Byars, Erin Chadwick, Doris Martin, Eric Trusty, Jon Zimmerman. Present: 5, Absent: 2.

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 and excuse the absence of Lisa Pieper and Steve Winter passed with a motion by Jon Zimmerman and a second by Erin Chadwick.

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

3. Summer Project Update

Mr. Brethouwer provided an overview of the following larger summer projects that were completed:

- Repaired the cooling toward at the High School
- Replaced the cooling tower pump at the High School
- Resurfaced a portion of the parking lot at the High School
- Control board replaced on rooftop unit at Middle School
- Asbestos tile removal and new carpet in office at Paddock Lane
- New outdoor equipment at Lincoln
- Asbestos tile removed and new carpet at Preschool

Mr. Brethouwer also informed the Board that the new activity bus has been delivered and he should be purchasing a new van in the next couple of weeks.

4. Policy Update

4.1. 4210 Work Day- Classified Personnel

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that a slight revision to the policy is needed to match the updates that were made and have been approved by the Board in regards to break times for classified staff.

4.2. 5110 Student Residence, Admission and Contracting for Educational Services

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that a decision on the rate for contracted students needs to be determined before approval of this policy. He stated that in an effort to remain competitive with other neighboring districts, he is recommending \$250/semester. Martin asked if we receive state aid for those students to which Mr. Alexander responded that it depends when they begin attending as state aid is based on the October 1 snapshot figures. Martin asked if this policy is adopted if the district can decline students. Mr. Alexander responded that the district does have the authority to do so based on student needs and current program capacities. Trusty noted that if we are competitive with other districts then the recommendation seems reasonable as this is something that will probably rarely happen.

4.3. 6315.1 Athletic Dismissal

Mr. Alexander noted that there is a current policy on athletic dismissal, but as the school year starts he would like to have some discussion on this topic. He shared a draft of proposed guidelines for when a team or individual qualifies for state competition. He added that these guidelines could be utilized as an administrative regulation. Discussion ensued about the current policy and how just certain sports are listed. Martin noted that the fan participation/travel to state competitions just isn't what it used to be. Chadwick expressed that it can be problematic for parents' schedules when school is dismissed early. Mr. Alexander stated that there are a lot of

intricacies/dynamics with this topic and that it would be impossible to ever solve all the injustices of it. Martin stated that she would like to consider adding that an administrator must be present at all state qualifying events to the guidelines. Chadwick noted that her only issue is that she doesn't feel like the emphasis should only be on athletics. Byars echoed that her preference would be that it note activities not athletics and that the language regarding student-athlete be revised as well. Martin asked for some feedback on this topic. Mr. Alexander shared that the guidelines have been shared with administrative team also.

5. Transportation Update

Dr. Nielsen informed the Board that today there was a personnel shortage so working through those with MidStates as quickly as possible. She shared that route times are continuing to improve as the drivers and students become more familiar with their routes. Dr. Nielsen noted that the removal of the middle school bus hub has worked as all buses are now going to each school. The EZRouting software is becoming more familiar to everyone as we continue to learn through this process and make plans for next year. As a parent of a bus rider, Chadwick noted that the communication has been very well when buses are running late.

6. Request from City- Tennis Courts

Mr. Alexander shared that the city is looking at repairs for the tennis courts at Hannibal Park which total approximately \$30,000- \$35,000. The City has asked if the district would be willing to help in some of that cost. Byars asked what amount they are asking for to which Mr. Alexander responded that they have not specified an amount. Chadwick confirmed that we do not currently pay for our teams to use the courts. Chadwick added that she does not have a problem with helping out with the expense since our own students use them frequently. Martin added that she thinks it's a good idea. Mr. Alexander is going to check the budget and try to come up with an agreeable figure and will bring this back to the Board in September.

7. Admin Evaluation Tool

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that in taking a look at the current administrative evaluation tool, it is pretty outdated. He added that administrators are asked to use the Marzano model for teacher evaluations. Mr. Alexander informed the Board that Dr. Nielsen and himself worked to develop a tool that is more based upon the High Reliability Schools (HRS) standards. He added that they have presented the tool to administrators. He explained to the Board that before the new tool can become formal it has to be both approved by the Board and the state. Dr. Nielsen shared that the current tool does not necessarily demonstrate what it is that administrators are doing in their buildings and the administrative team agrees. She added that the proposed tool has components that come directly from the HRS book; it contains level 1 and level 2. Dr. Nielsen stated that it includes budget and management pieces also and it is more like a guide that focuses on growth and providing feedback to help continue to push them forward. Martin asked if there is a place for differences in buildings and/or positions. Dr. Nielsen responded that yes there is an evidence area and that is where those types of differences would be noted and reflected so there is some flexibility based on the individual's duties and responsibilities. She added that there are certain pieces of the tool that may not be marked depending on the time of year (not applicable).

8. 2019-2020 Budget Preview

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that there will be a special budget hearing before the regular meeting in September. Next, he informed the Board that these figures are preliminary so there is a possibility that there could be changes to this before the budget hearing. Mr. Alexander noted that valuations have been certified as of August 15th and included a 1.76% increase from the previous year. The NDE certified budget is \$29,528,680 which includes \$6,150,000 of special needs services. At this point, the general fund budget looks to increase .5% (excluding the cash reserve). When the building fund and QCPUF expenditures are included, the district will be looking at a 6% increase in the overall budget. Mr. Alexander added that state aid is set to increase. Mr. Alexander noted that as we come to the end of the 18-19 budget cycle, not all tax collections have been paid which is common. Trusty asked what that typical percent of unpaid taxes is to which Mr. Alexander responded that it has historically been around that 10% range for the district. He noted that he will include that at the September budget hearing.

9. 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.

10. Adjournment

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

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date