

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, December 12, 2022 7:00 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: Eric Book, **Present:** Janet Byars, Erin Chadwick, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, Eric Trusty, Jon Zimmerman.
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

Mr. Trusty, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building Board Room. At the beginning of the meeting, the chairperson 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. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Consent Agenda

Martin presented the following items on the consent agenda:

- 3.1. Approval of the agenda as submitted
- 3.2. Approval of minutes of the regular Board of Education meeting on November 14, 2022
- 3.3. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- November 29, 2022
- 3.4. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.5. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for November 2022
- 3.6. Approval of contracts beginning January 2023 for: Jalen Weeks- 4th Grade at Paddock Lane, Kirsten Baete-Resource at Paddock Lane, Amber Bouma- Kindergarten at Lincoln
- 3.7. Excuse the absence of Eric Book

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

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Employee of the Month

Mrs. Replogle recognized Ben Nies, custodian at Paddock Lane Elementary, as the December Employee of the Month. Those nominating Ben stated that he is very patient, kind, and reliable. He takes a ton of pride in his job and the building itself. One of the responsibilities that he also assists with is lunchroom duty. Due to the number of students at Paddock Lane, Ben often has to set up and take down presentations multiple times. Ben is a true team member and is always willing to jump in and take care of what ever needs to be done for the students and staff.

4.2. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Exmark as the December business friend of the month. He stated that Exmark has proven to be a terrific partner in education for many years. Recently, they donated a \$15,000 lawnmower to the

district. They were also one of the first businesses to step forward with a major donation to the House of Orange community building project. The most significant contribution Exmark makes is their participating in the valuable work experiences that they provide for our high school students. BHS students are able to experience work-based learning opportunities, job shadow experiences, and tours of the Exmark facility. Exmark has also partnered with N-Gage and the local schools to offer a learning opportunity through the Manufacturing Day.

4.3. Board Member Recognition- Erin Chadwick and Jon Zimmerman

Mr. Alexander recognized Board Members Erin Chadwick and Jon Zimmerman for their service to the Board of Education. He added that they both spent countless hours volunteering their time to be an integral part of supporting the district and putting students first. Erin served on the Board for four years and has served on multiple committees; her economic development connections within the community were very beneficial for the district. Jon served on the Board for 14 years in numerous capacities (President, Vice-President, and on multiple committees). He has been an integral part of the current building project. This year he was also recognized with a level 8 service award from the NASB. Mr. Alexander wished both of them the very best and thanked them for their service.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Riley Schwisow informed the Board that the breakfast with Santa event was a huge success with 419 people attending. Home visits for the preschool will start up again in January. Paddock Lane has been buzzing with holiday activities as staff and students are participating in theme days to count down the 12 school days until Christmas. NSCAS testing is wrapping up for 3rd-5th grade students and kindergarten- 2nd grade students are finishing MAPS testing. Lincoln and Stoddard students recently enjoyed the performances by the high school and middle school music groups. Students are also completing their testing this week as well. Beatrice Middle School conducted a service project and raised over \$700 for the Gage County Christmas Wish List. The boys basketball team placed 3rd at the TBC basketball tournament. As the semester ends, students are finishing up their winter benchmark tests. At the High School, Key Club is currently doing Santa to a Senior with the Homestead. The Student Council is hosting a door decorating contest along with Christmas Spirit Week. The winter sports are off to a great start as well. Finals testing will begin at the end of next week.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander reported that the next scheduled meeting will be after winter break.

5.2.2. Negotiations Committee

Byars reported that the group has met twice in person. She added that the BEA has presented an offer, but the Board has not acted on that offer yet. The next meeting will be after the holidays.

6. Public Forum/Citizen's Requests/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

7. Discussion

7.1. 2021-22 Audit Report

Ryan Bruns of Dana F. Cole provided an overview of the 2021-2022 audit report. He noted that the narrative report on pages 1-3 has changed a little bit.

8. Action

8.1. Approval of the 2021-22 audit

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the 2021-22 financial audit as presented passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Erin Chadwick.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.2. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action with regard to approving the guaranteed maximum price for the proposed new PK-5 elementary school facility

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that the attorneys are still working through the legalities of the GMP amendment, so the final GMP number is not ready. He informed the Board that this should be resolved within a few days and that a special meeting will be needed for action on this topic sometime next week. No action was taken.

8.3. Approval of the superintendent's evaluation

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the superintendent's evaluation passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Erin Chadwick.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.4. Approval of the superintendent contract addendum

Byars informed the Board that in September the negotiations committee requested a comparability study be done for the Superintendent as this has not been done during the past five years. Next, she shared the ranking results (total array of 10) indicated by the study. The negotiations committee recommended an 8.66% total compensation increase and the addition of a monthly cell phone allowance. These changes will result in Mr. Alexander ranking at the mid-point (5 of 10) within the array. Byars summarized additional factors that were taken into account.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the contract addendum for the superintendent for the upcoming 23-24 year passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Erin Chadwick.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.5. Approval of employee resignations

No action was taken

9. Administrators' Report

9.1. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander echoed the comments about a successful first semester of the school year. He thanked the Board for the recent discussion on academics. He reminded the Board that a special meeting will be scheduled in the near future for the GMP of the building project.

10. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be January 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. There will not be a Committee of the Whole meeting in December. An agenda for the meeting, which shall be kept continually current, is readily available for public inspection at the Superintendent's office during normal business hours.

11. 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, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date