

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Monday, November 11, 2019 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:** Lisa Pieper, **Present:** Janet Byars, Erin Chadwick, Doris Martin, Eric Trusty, Steve Winter, Jon Zimmerman.  
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

Mr. Zimmerman, 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 October 15, 2019

3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment

3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for October 2019

3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- October 29, 2019

3.6. Approval of Option Students: From Freeman- Janessa Bartak- Gr. 7; From Southern- Emma Shepardson- Gr. 3; To Tri County: Brenden Krumme- Gr. 5

3.7. Approval of Policy: 2nd Reading of 4550 Certified Staff Supervision and Evaluation; 3rd Reading of 4210 Work Day- Classified Staff, 6315.1 Athletic Dismissal, AR-6315.1

3.8. Approval of resignation/retirement of Dave Koch- Technology Director

3.9. Excuse the absence of Lisa Pieper

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 Steve Winter.

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

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Employee of the Month

Mr. Sutter recognized Laurie Spilker, High School Secretary, as the November Employee of the Month. Those nominating Laurie stated that she is very passionate about her job and that she truly loves all of the kids. She takes the time daily to interact with students and make them feel important. She brings a wealth of tools and knowledge of student behaviors and building protocol to her current position from years working with the kids in the classrooms as a para. Laurie takes a great amount of pride in her work and is the first one to volunteer to help whenever needed.

4.2. State Runner-up Softball Team

Mr. Sutter congratulated and recognized the following members of the Class B state softball runner-up team: Hannah Lytle, Addison Barnard, Olivia Aden, Whitney Schwisow, Reagan Delabar, Avery Barnard, Riley Schwisow, Caryss Jurgens, Madison Laffin, Rylee Krzycki-Pangborn, Jaidyn Vanschoiack, Carley Leners, Morgan Mahoney, Reganne Henning, Alexis Schwartz, Emma Erikson, Tavia Hausman, Stormie Gonzales-Dorn, and Laney Workman

4.3. All-State Softball: Addison Barnard, Olivia Aden, Hannah Lytle, and Whitney Schwisow

Next, Mr. Sutter commended four of the softball seniors for additional awards. Addison Barnard was selected to 1st Team Super State and Class B 1st Team; Olivia Aden 2nd Team Super State and Class B 1st Team; Hannah Lytle to Class B 2nd Team and Whitney Schwisow to Class B 2nd Team.

## 5. Information

### 5.1. Student Update

Zack Zimmerman informed the Board that the High School Hope Squad recently completed their training. He stated that the National Honor Society and Student Council are partnering together for a coat drive for A Warmer Day in Nebraska. He added that there is a concert choir performance on December 19th and Limited Edition will perform at the upcoming state school board convention. Zack stated that at the Middle School, they recently celebrated Red Ribbon week, the 8th graders have been working through water testing at the Homestead, fall sports seasons were successful, and the winter sports are off to a good start. The 4th & 5th grade Paddock Lane music concert is scheduled for November 12th and the houses at Paddock Lane are all collecting food for the food bank. The preschool hosted event, Breakfast with Santa, will be held on December 7th.

### 5.2. Board Reports

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on October 29, 2019 with Lisa Pieper absent. The following topics were discussed: AQuESTT/Data (Dr. Nielsen), 2020-21 school calendar (Dr. Nielsen/Mr. Alexander), District PLC (Dr. Nielsen/Mr. Alexander), technology update (Mr. Alexander/Dave Koch), Special Education van purchase (Mr. Alexander/Terry Brethouwer), property at south edge of Lincoln Elementary (Mr. Alexander), policy 5109 guidelines for elementary classes (Mr. Alexander), and superintendent evaluation (Zimmerman). No one spoke at this time. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

#### 5.2.1. Committee of the Whole

#### 5.2.2. STANCE Report

Winter reported that the STANCE group is preparing for the upcoming legislative session. He provided a brief report on LB 537 and LB 685.

#### 5.2.3. School Community & Staff Relations Committee

Byars reported that the school, community, and staff relations committee met on November 1, 2019 at Paddock Lane Elementary with Chadwick and Byars present. Topics of discussion included class sizes, the new "house system", other fun initiatives currently going on at Paddock Lane and also the district's need for a social worker.

#### 5.2.4. Negotiations Committee

Byars reported that the negotiations committee has met once and talked about the array and insurance increases. Negotiations are in the very early stages and the next meeting is scheduled for December 4th.

## 6. Exciting New Student Centered Activities at Paddock Lane

Mrs. Replogle shared information about the new houses concept that has been implemented this school year at Paddock Lane. She informed the Board that there are a total of 8 houses and each is represented by a color and animal. Students and all staff spun a wheel to determine their house. On Wednesdays everyone wears their house shirt and the last 30 minutes of every Wednesday are spent as houses doing activities. Students from Paddock Lane took time to introduce themselves and share what they like best about the houses. Some of the students' favorites include: getting to see the younger kids, meeting new people, helping the community, fun activities, and helping others. The first Wednesday of the month they focus on reading while math is the focus of the third Wednesday. Mrs. Replogle added that the houses will be going caroling in December as well. Awesome office visits are a new thing that they have implemented this year as well. Finally, Mr. Stevens told the Board about their goal to raise enough money to purchase a bookworm vending machine. He thanked the Foundation for partnering with them on this initiative.

## 7. Public Forum/Citizen's Requests/Comments Related to Agenda Items

No one spoke at this time.

## 8. Discussion

### 8.1. 1st Reading of Policy 5109 Guidelines for Elementary Classes

Mr. Alexander summarized the proposed revisions to policy 5109. He stated that after collaboration with administrators, it was determined that some of the zoning language needs to be eliminated as it no longer applies, a clearer understanding of how student enrollments are made is provided and finally, the addition of some key

timelines regarding roundup dates and transition meetings to provide a seamless transition from preschool to kindergarten.

## 9. Action

### 9.1. Approval of sabbatical leave request

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board of the parameters for granting sabbatical leave as outlined in the negotiated agreement.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the sabbatical leave request for Cale Kaiser for the 2020-21 school year passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Erin Chadwick.

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

Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

### 9.2. Approval of the 2020-21 School Calendar

Mr. Alexander stated that he thought moving the approval of the calendar to the December Board agenda was appropriate. He outlined the process that was followed for development of the school calendar. It was noted that this version has been modified since what was shared at the October Committee of the Whole meeting. The biggest change was adjusting the start of school to help even out the semesters. Mr. Alexander added that the administrative team reviewed all of the feedback from staff before recommending revisions. Discussion ensued regarding the number of contract days, NDE hour requirement, effect of PLC time on student time and the nine professional development days for staff.

### 9.3. Purchase of Convection Oven

Mr. Alexander shared that the oven at the high school has become inoperational and cannot be repaired due to obsolete parts.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of a gas convection oven from Cash-Wa Distributing Co. for the price of \$12,865 passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Steve Winter.

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

Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

### 9.4. Selection and approval of superintendent evaluation instrument

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

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

Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

### 9.5. Special Education Van Purchase

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that the Special Education department has submitted a plan to purchase a van that will replace the aging Taurus and allow more passengers to be transported. He added that this will also free a van up to be put back on the regular transportation route system. A 2017 8-passenger Dodge Grand Caravan with 24,000 miles is available from Twin rivers for \$16,000.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of a special education van for up to \$16,000 passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Steve Winter.

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

Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

### 9.6. Property- South Edge (Lincoln Elementary)

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that Terry Brethouwer consulted with the city about an appraisal price for the property on the south side of Lincoln Elementary that a patron is wanting to purchase, but the city stated that there wasn't much of a direction to head on this type of water way land. Board members suggested looking at the figures from the land being purchased for the trail to get an idea. Mr. Alexander stated that he will work towards getting a purchase agreement drafted and to the interested party before bringing it back to the Board for official approval.

## 10. Administrators' Report

### 10.1. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander informed that the 18-19 annual report has been put together and will be shared in the near future. He shared that the technology committee believes that the best methods of raising funds for updating Chromebooks is to continue to fundraise, repurpose budget allocations and a lease purchase payment. The district's strategic plan is now five years old so it makes sense to start the process of redoing the plan soon. Mr. Alexander shared that he would like to bring in Larry Dugloch and Mylan Wall in to discuss their process. He added that Dr. Nielsen mentioned another group that recently assisted a Gage County community group with theirs and that they did a terrific job as well. Mr. Alexander congratulated the Middle School and High School for outstanding Veteran's Day celebrations. Finally, he told the Board that the BHS Limited Edition group is set to perform at the opening ceremonies of the NASB State School Board Convention on November 21st.

### 11. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be December 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. There will not be a Committee of the Whole meeting in November. 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.

### 12. Adjournment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 adjourn passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Steve Winter.

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 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

---

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

---

Date