

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 12:00 PM Central

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

Mr. Zimmerman, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM in the Hevelone Center at Beatrice High School. 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. Zimmerman welcomed Senator Myron Dorn to the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Consent Agenda

Chadwick 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 September 9, 2019

3.3. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for September 2019

3.4. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- September 26, 2019

3.5. Approval of Option Students: From Freeman- Leandra Bartak- Gr. 5; To Southern- Hope Workman- Gr. 9; To Lewiston- Aaliyah King- Gr. 8, Demario King- Gr. 4

3.6. Excuse the absence of Doris Martin

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the consent agenda as presented passed with a motion by Erin Chadwick and a second by Steve Winter.

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

4. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the payment of bills as presented passed with a motion by Erin Chadwick and a second by Janet Byars.

Janet Byars: Yea, Erin Chadwick: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5. Outstanding Recognition

5.1. Employee of the Month

Dr. Nielsen recognized Jackie Bornemeier, Accounting Associate, as the October Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mrs. Bornemeier stated that she is the backbone of the District, very detail-orientated, dedicated, and puts in many hours to make sure that the District runs smoothly and with financial integrity. She wears many hats and is so knowledgeable about payroll, benefits, insurance, and all the websites and databases that she must maintain.

6. Information

6.1. Student Update

Zack Zimmerman informed the Board that the seniors just participated in apply to to college day and caps and gowns have been ordered for them. He stated that the girls golf team is competing at state this week and state competitions for tennis and softball will kickoff later this week. Next, he shared that the middle school fall sports' seasons are wrapping up and that the Middle School will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week the week of October 22nd. Zack informed the Board about the "houses" at Paddock Lane and some of the upcoming challenges that they will be having. He also shared dates of upcoming elementary music performances.

6.2. Board Reports

6.2.1. Committee of the Whole

Dr. Nielsen reported that the Committee of the Whole met on September 26, 2019 with Eric Trusty absent. The following topics were discussed: book read (Mr. Alexander/Dr. Nielsen), technology needs (Mr. Alexander/Dr. Nielsen), policy 4550 (Mr. Alexander), Sabbatical leave process (Mr. Alexander), NASB Board evaluation tool (Mr. Alexander), October Board meeting structure (Mr. Alexander), and upcoming COW meeting dates (Mr. Alexander). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

6.2.2. STANCE Report

Winter reported that there is an interim study being conducted on student discipline (LR 63) as Senator Groene continues to try and get a bill out of the Education Committee.

6.2.3. School Community & Staff Relations Committee

Byars reported that the school, community, and staff relations committee met on September 13, 2019 at Beatrice Middle School with Trusty and Byars present. Topics of discussion included: para staffing shortages, parenting class, mental health needs, and band and orchestra sign-ups.

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

No one spoke at this time.

8. Discussion

8.1. 1st Reading of 4550 Certified Staff Supervision and Evaluation

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that revisions to this policy as discussed at the September Committee of the Whole meeting are needed in order to meet the requirements of Rule 10.

8.2. 2nd Reading of 4210 Work Day- Classified Personnel

Mr. Alexander shared that there have been no additional changes to this policy since the first reading last month.

8.3. 2nd Reading of 6315.1 Athletic Dismissal

Mr. Alexander shared that there has also been no additional changes to this policy since the first reading.

8.3.1. AR-6315.1

8.4. Technology Needs

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that administration has been working with Mr. Koch, technology coordinator, to assess the district's technology needs over the next five years. The main reason for discussing this item is due to the legislative change that resulted in the loss of the \$.01 technology bond in 2018 as it doesn't appear that there will be a legislative proposal to reinstate this tech bond in the near future. Mr. Alexander shared who has been included in these meetings as well as the prioritized list (chromebooks, teacher laptops, projectors) that was developed. Next, Mr. Koch shared information with the Board in regards to the annual fixed costs which total approximately \$55,000 per year. He shared information on the actual equipment next. The current technology budget is \$167,000 annually and that was decreased by \$50,000 a couple of years ago. Mr. Koch shared that the local ESU is looking to purchase 2 new firewalls and some of this cost will be absorbed by them, but some by the member districts. In the long run, this will result in a cost savings to the district and the burden would lie on the ESU when repairs are needed. Finally, Mr. Koch informed the board that this problem will not go away as the District continues to provide technology mechanisms as learning tools and those items all need to be updated and placed on a replacement schedule. Mr. Alexander concluded by informing the Board that this committee has been challenged with thinking outside of the box for possible ways to help fund the district's technology needs so he just wanted Board members to keep that in mind as proposals are brought to them in the future.

9. Action

9.1. Approval of NASB Board evaluation tool

Mr. Alexander shared the two cost options with the Board and asked them for direction on which option they wanted to proceed with for the evaluation tool provided by the Nebraska Association of School Boards.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve option #2 as presented passed with a motion by Erin Chadwick and a second by Steve Winter.

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

9.2. Approval of the Beatrice Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2021-22 contract year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the Beatrice Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2021-22 contract year passed with a motion by Erin Chadwick and a second by Janet Byars.

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

10. Administrators' Report

Absent: Erin Chadwick. Present: 5, Absent: 2.

Chadwick exited the meeting at 12:43 PM.

10.1. Choice Program

Mrs. Cordry-Hookstra informed the Board that the district is very fortunate to have the house for the Choice Program. She introduced the program's teacher, Ms. Lineweber. Ms. Lineweber shared some of the activities that the students partake in as part of the program. Some of those activities include: cooking, decorating for holidays, social skills, laundry, banking, and community activities (folding boxes at Godfathers and delivering meals to the senior center). She added that the program's goal is to get the students all of the tools in order to be successful once they leave. Next, some of the students shared some of their favorite activities that they get to experience. Pieper commended the students for the great job they did earlier when they participated in the Focus on Education program at the local radio station.

10.2. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that the first quarter will come to an end this week. He thanked the students for their attendance at the meeting to fulfill the new requirements of the Americanism bill. Finally, he commended all of the fall coaches, sponsors and participants for their achievements. He challenged them to keep up the good work as the district will soon transition to new winter activities.

11. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be November 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be October 29, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Administration Building. 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 Janet Byars and a second by Steve Winter.

Janet Byars: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Steve Winter: Yea, Jon Zimmerman: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date