

Board of Education Committee of the
Whole Meeting
Thursday, June 27, 2024 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: Brandon Vetrovsky, **Present:** Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, Charles Riedesel, Eric Trusty. 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, 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 and accessible to members of the public.

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 Janet Byars and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3. Handbooks

Dr. Nielsen shared that the district is moving towards a single handbook with addendums for each building level. This should allow the district to become more consistent with practices and expectations. Any parts that were considered a district practice have mostly been removed from the addendums. She highlighted the following major changes:

- Moving to live lice policy
- Attendance practices- consistently between all building levels
- Page 48- Student Code of Conduct
- Preschool addendum- added an electronic device component
- Beatrice Elementary addendum- tier I instruction clarification; added BLAST information
- Beatrice Middle School addendum- electronic device times and supervision start time have been adjusted to new school day; clarification on the purpose of the house system
- Beatrice High School addendum- cell phone procedure; tardy consequence more manageable; senior parking stalls being reserved

Dr. Nielsen informed the Board that the student handbook will be shared with families electronically this school year.

3.1. Student

3.2. Classified Staff

Dr. Nielsen highlighted the following changes to the classified staff handbook:

- General updates on dates and policy references
- Addition of a PTO option for staff that do not accrue vacation time
- Revisions to bereavement leave- matches negotiated agreement
- Addition of school cancellation pay for employees that do not earn sick leave
- Wordsmithing in the Coffee Breaks and Lunch Breaks sections

3.3. Certificated Staff

Dr. Nielsen shared that there were just general updates to dates and policy references.

3.4. Substitute

Dr. Nielsen highlighted the following changes to the substitute handbook:

- General updates to dates and policy references
- Revised start and end times to match the new school times
- Added an attendance incentive

4. Policy Update

Mr. Alexander provided Board members with a summary of the proposed policy changes as well as clean versions of the recommended policies. He added that the revisions are a result of recent legislation. A brief summary of the required updates was provided policy by policy.

4.1. 1050 Public Access to Records

4.2. 1102 Recording of Others

4.3. 3130 Purchasing

4.4. 3140 Contracting for Services

4.5. 3571.1 Meal Charge

4.6. 4141 Teacher Training (NEW)

4.7. 5006 Option Enrollment

4.8. 5008 Student Attendance

4.9. 5101 Student Discipline

4.10. 5103.1 Random Drug Testing

Mr. Alexander shared the history of the discussion regarding this policy over the course of the last school year. He added that he believes we are at a point where the Board can discuss the policy again and consider what they would like to do. A revised policy was shared and reviewed by Board members. Mr. Alexander also shared some statistics that were compiled by high school administration. A fairly lengthy discussion ensued.

4.11. 5201 Promotion & Retention

4.12. 5205 Graduation

4.13. 6111 Classroom Environment (NEW)

4.14. 6700 Firearms

4.15. 8240 Membership in School Board Associations

4.16. 8342 Designated Method of Giving Notice of Meetings

4.17. 8346 Public Participation at Board Meeting

4.18. Rescind Policy 6310 Textbook Loans

5. Substitute Pay

Mr. Alexander shared that Board members heard about the attendance incentive earlier in the meeting. He added that he would like to increase substitute pay and plans to bring that rate to the Board for a vote in July or August.

6. Superintendent Update

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that there are required hearings before the July meeting. Next, he shared some exciting news about a potential grant opportunity/rebate for the geothermal system at the new elementary. He thanked BCDM for bringing this opportunity to our attention and noted that preliminary work shows the potential grant

could be around \$540,000- \$720,000. Lastly, he shared some important dates for events happening at the new elementary.

7. 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.

8. Adjournment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 adjourn passed with a motion by Janet Byars and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date

DRAFT