

Board of Education Committee of the
Whole Meeting
Thursday, March 23, 2023 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: Eric Book, Lisa Pieper, **Present:** Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Charles Riedesel, Eric Trusty, Brandon Vetrovsky. 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, 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 Brandon Vetrovsky.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

3. Activity Schedule- Girls Wrestling

Mr. Brown informed the Board of the rapid growth in the sport of girls' wrestling and the impact that growth is having on schools being able to host girls' wrestling meets. With the growth of the meet hosted in Beatrice, Mr. Brown requested some flexibility and to keep the girls meet on a Friday. He noted that it would most likely require an early dismissal of the school day. Next, he also shared some of the challenges with finding holiday tournaments for the basketball teams.

4. Strategic Planning Site Update

4.1. Elementary

Mr. Janssen and Mrs. Replogle highlighted the following from the elementary site plan:

- Safety (Strategy 1)- reorganization of exit locations and shelter spots has resulted in decreased drill times
- Social/Emotional Learning (Strategy 2)- great feedback on the mental health support provided by Beatrice Community Hospital; increased participation in the backpack program; professional development opportunities for paraeducators
- Staffing (Strategy 3)- professional development opportunities this year (Chad Dumas, Dan St. Romain, Mike Lucas); staff school spirit and meals
- Student Learning (Strategy 5)- while there is still room to increase testing results, we have seen improvement in the daily performance of our students as staff work diligently to address the areas of concern

4.2. Middle School

Mr. Haake and Mr. Stengel used a presentation to provide information on the Middle School's goals, steps taken, and the outcomes of such. They highlighted the following:

- Strategy 1: updated cameras from analog to digital; installed vaping devices
- Strategy 4: redesigned Computer Applications curriculum to meet current and future needs; creating partnerships with local community to aid in career development; implemented "Career Day"
- Strategy 5: structure regular PBIS committee meetings to evaluate student behavioral issues/needs; incorporate data-driven decisions for behavioral needs

- Strategy 5: conducted a book study over area of grading, assessment, and student apathy; develop and refine a common understanding of formative assessment; develop a system for tracking missing formative assignments; ways to increase student attendance rates

5. Ag Education Plan

Mr. Sutter spoke to the Board about implementing an ag education program at the High School. He shared that there is a local retired teacher that is interested in coming back and teaching ag education courses on a part-time basis for the district. Mr. Sutter shared the courses that would initially be provided and the plan to hopefully then hire a full-time teacher that will be completing their student teaching during the fall. Mr. Alexander added that being able to bring back an ag program would be huge for the district and he believes there would be great community support for it. Having an ag education program would also allow the district to offer FFA to students in the future.

6. Option Enrollment- Appendix 5006

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that the appendix to 5006 is to be reviewed annually. He provided proposed numbers and information on the capacities for the option enrollment program for the upcoming school year. He added that there are a couple of Legislative bills (LB414 & LB528) that could impact this topic; therefore, the plan is to wait and have first reading in June in case revisions are needed.

7. Negotiations

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that the certified staff negotiations process has concluded and formal approval of the agreement will be at the April meeting. He added that there are 2 other groups of staff (classified and administrators) that he is working on preparing information on. The goal is to have all staff wages and salaries set at the May meeting and before the end of the current school year.

8. 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.

9. Adjournment

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

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date