

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, July 8, 2024 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:** Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Charles Riedesel, Eric Trusty, Brandon Vetrovsky. Present: 6, Absent: 1.

Mr. Trusty, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 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 and accessible to members of the public.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Consent Agenda

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 Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3.1. Approval of the agenda as submitted

3.2. Approval of minutes of the regular Board of Education meeting on June 10, 2024

3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment

3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for June 2024

3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- June 27, 2024

4. Information

4.1. Board Reports

4.1.1. Committee of the Whole- June 27, 2024

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on June 27, 2024 with Vetrovsky absent. The following topics were discussed: Student and Staff Handbooks (Administrators), Policy Updates (Mr. Alexander), Substitute Pay (Mr. Alexander), and a Superintendent Update (Mr. Alexander). No one spoke during public comment. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

5. Public Forum/Citizen's Requests/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

6. Discussion

6.1. Dyslexia Update

Dr. Nielsen provided a summary of the data that was reported to the state during the 2023-2024 school year. The number of students that were evaluated for a specific learning disability as well as the number of students who

qualified or a reading improvement plan. The district will continue to monitor the progress students make and evaluate their progress during the upcoming school year.

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6.2. Review Policy 5415 Anti-Bullying

Mr. Alexander shared that state statute requires that school districts review their anti-bullying policy annually

6.3. First Reading of Policy 1050 Public Access to Records

6.4. First Reading of Policy 1102 Recording of Others

6.5. First Reading of Policy 3130 Purchasing

6.6. First Reading of Policy 3140 Contracting for Services

6.7. First Reading of Policy 3571.1 Meal Charge

6.8. First Reading of Policy 4141 Teacher Training (NEW)

6.9. First Reading of Policy 5006 Option Enrollment

6.10. First Reading of Policy 5008 Student Attendance

6.11. First Reading of Policy 5101 Student Discipline

6.12. First Reading of Policy 5103.1 Random Drug Testing

Mr. Alexander reminded Board members that they have the option to keep the policy as is, adopt the revised policy, or to eliminate the policy altogether. Board members shared their thoughts on the options and a fairly lengthy discussion ensued, showing that the board is split on this topic at the current time.

6.13. First Reading of Policy 5201 Promotion & Retention

6.14. First Reading of Policy 5205 Graduation

6.15. First Reading of Policy 6111 Classroom Environment (NEW)

6.16. First Reading of Policy 6700 Firearms

6.17. First Reading of Policy 8240 Membership in School Board Associations

6.18. First Reading of Policy 8342 Designated Method of Giving Notice of Meetings

6.19. First Reading of Policy 8346 Public Participation at Board Meeting

7. Action

7.1. Reaffirm Safe Return Plan

Dr. Nielsen noted that this is necessary as not all ESSERS funds have been expended.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 reaffirm the Safe Return Plan passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.2. Reaffirm Policy 5415 Anti-Bullying

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 reaffirm Policy 5415 Anti-Bullying passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.3. Reaffirm Policy 5416 Student Fees and Appendix 5416

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 reaffirm Policy 5416 Student Fees and Appendix 5416 passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.4. Reaffirm Policy 6400 Parental/Community Involvement in Schools

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 reaffirm 6400 Parental/Community Involvement in Schools passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.5. Reaffirm Policy 6410 Title I Parental and Family Engagement Policy

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 reaffirm Policy 6410 Title I Parental and Family Engagement Policy passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.6. Approval of Agreement with NCECBVI for Special Education Services

Mr. Alexander informed Board members that this is the agreement that the district has with the Nebraska Center for Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired. With a blind student in the district, it is important for us to have the agreement in place to support and deliver services to meet the needs of the IEP.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the agreement with NCECBVI for special education services for the 2024-25 school year passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.7. Purchase of Oven for Beatrice High School

Dr. Nielsen informed the Board that an oven at the high school needs replaced. She shared that 2 bids were received with Sysco being the lowest bid. The Sysco bid is for a mobile unit, which is what they are wanting to move forward with.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of an oven from Sysco for the price of \$45,958.40 passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.8. Approval of Student and Staff Handbooks

Dr. Nielsen highlighted the following changes to the student and staff handbooks:

- Student
 - Becoming consistent with practices and expectations
 - Lice practices
 - Attendance practices
- Staff
 - Classified: PTO for employees who have paid sick leave, bereavement leave; school cancelation days
 - Certified: dates and policy references
 - Substitute: dates and policy references; revised start and end times; add an attendance incentive

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the 2024-2025 Student Handbook, 2024-2025 Classified Staff Handbook, 2024-2025 Certificated Staff Handbook, and the 2024-2025 Substitute Handbook passed with a

motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.9. Approval of Substitute Teacher Pay

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that he is recommending sub pay be set at \$165/day and the incentive pay be increased to \$150 for teacher subs and \$100 for para subs.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve an increase in sub teacher pay to \$165 per day, with a \$150 stipend paid to a substitute that teaches 30 or more days per semester, and \$100 for a para educator substitute with 30 or more days of substitute para educator support passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.10. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action with regard to approving the HVAC preventative maintenance and related services agreement for the 2024-25 year

Mr. Alexander provided an explanation on what HVAC systems are responsible for making the entire system operational, HVAC equipment and the control system. He informed Board members that 3 companies responded to the request for proposals, and the recommendation moving forward is to utilize a more local contractor in Prairie Mechanical.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 should and does hereby approve the selection of Prairie Mechanical to be the service provider for school facility HVAC preventative maintenance and related services for the 2024-25 year beginning August 1, 2024 and further approves and adopts the included Resolution passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Brandon Vetrovsky.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.11. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action with regard to appropriation of funds for a real estate purchase from the District, and authorizing a lease agreement with the Southeast Nebraska Education Agency for a new elementary school building and equipment and related matters

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 hereby ratifies, confirms, and reaffirms the lease dated June 1, 2022, with the Southeast Nebraska Education Agency as more specifically provided in the attached Resolution, incorporated into this motion by reference passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

7.12. Approval of Addendum to First Student Contract

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the addendum to the contract with First Student passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8. Administrators' Report

8.1. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander shared the following with the Board:

- The district was granted Accreditation from the NDE
- Important upcoming dates: dates for the grand opening ceremony, First Look event; Cornerstone ceremony, and elementary sneak peeks

- Tomorrow the district has a transportation inspection/visit

9. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be August 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. There will not be a Committee of the Whole meeting in July. 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.

10. Adjournment

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

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary

Date

DRAFT