

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, March 11, 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

Present: Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, Charles Riedesel, Eric Trusty, Brandon Vetrovsky.
Present: 7.

Mr. Trusty, 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 and accessible to members of the public.

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 February 12, 2024
- 3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for February 2024
- 3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- February 22, 2024
- 3.6. Approval of Option Students: To Southern: Jazlyn Garman- Gr. 8, Haylee Reed- Gr. 4, Mary Reed- Gr. 3
- 3.7. Approval of resignations of Dave Bell- Middle School Language Arts; Jason Sutter- High School Principal
- 3.8. Approval of contracts for 2024-2025: Cora DeBoer- Elementary; Jenilee Wright- Elementary; Ashley Ford- Elementary Resource; Landon Weber- High School Math; Lisa Moser- High School Math

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, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Student Recognition

4.1.1. State Wrestling: Morgan Maschmann and Merrick Johnson

Mr. Brown recognized Morgan Maschmann and Merrick Johnson for their runner-up finishes in the Class B State Wrestling Championships.

4.2. Employee of the Month

Dr. Nielsen recognized Luke Hamilton, a BHS student, for his assistance with translating and sending phone calls to our students whose primary language is Spanish.

Mr. Sutter recognized Salome Ausin-Dodge, High School Spanish Teacher, as the Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mrs. Ausin-Dodge stated that she is incredibly dedicated and wears many hats. She works with the English learner population to help them thrive with their language skills while also helping them acclimate to a new learning environment.

4.3. Business Friend of the Month

No recognition at this meeting as the Business Friend of the Month was unable to attend the meeting.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Maddie Nielsen shared that the preschool enjoyed dressing up for Read Across America week. They are also working hard on their character skills and working to be better friends and citizens. Lincoln and Stoddard recently held their music programs. The 2nd graders have just finished up their swim lessons with the YMCA and 4th grade students are working hard on their NAEP test. Paddock Lane students will be participating in the Reading Rally competition soon. At the end of the month, 5th graders will be participating in the Youth Frontiers Kindness Retreat also. Beatrice Middle School will be hosting a HOPE Week later this month. The middle school track season will begin shortly also. Spring sports started at the high school. The Show Choir finished their season on March 2nd. On March 26th, juniors will take the ACT test and sophomores will take the pre-ACT. Youth Frontiers will spend the day with the freshman to teach them about respect.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. Committee of the Whole

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on February 22, 2024 with Book, Pieper, and Vetrovsky absent. The following topics were discussed Regulation 4110.1 Advancement on Salary Schedule (Mr. Alexander), Policy 4110.3 Tuition Reimbursement (Mr. Alexander), Preschool Playground (Mr. Alexander), and Amendment of the COOP Fund (Mr. Alexander). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

5.2.2. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander provided a brief legislative update on bills 1316, 1402, and 1403.

6. Public Forum/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

7. Discussion

7.1. 2nd Reading of Regulation 4110.1 Advancement on Salary Schedule

Mr. Alexander noted that no changes were made to this since the last meeting.

7.2. 2nd Reading of Policy 4110.3 Tuition Reimbursement

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that in consultation with legal counsel on finalizing this policy and the promissory note, it was recommended that we have a reimbursement statement in the policy for the 13-24 month time frame.

7.3. K-8 Math Textbooks

Dr. Nielsen stated that elementary and middle school teachers evaluated numerous resources to support math instruction. The team evaluated 11 different resources and narrowed it down to 3. Both teams chose the same resource which will allow for more continuity with math vocabulary, mathematical practices, and online resources through grades K-8. The text is the enVision math series through Savvas. The elementary cost came to \$164,599.96 and will be covered by ESSER III funding. The cost for middle (6-8) came to \$66,855.20 and will come out of the district curriculum and instruction textbook budget. Each of the quotes includes 2 days of professional development to help provide a deeper understanding of the mathematical processes and resources. Next year, the district will need to evaluate the K-5 reading resources.

8. Action

8.1. Approve the purchase of K-8 Math Textbooks

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of K-8 Math Textbooks (Envision) passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Charles Riedesel.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.2. Approval of hiring of James Ford, Elementary Principal, for the 2024-2025 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the hiring of James Ford as Elementary Principal for the upcoming 2024-25 school year passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.3. Approval of COOP fund budget amendment

Mr. Alexander reminded Board members that this was explained to them at the February COW meeting and now the official action to amend the budget is necessary.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the COOP fund amendment to the budget passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.4. Discuss, consider, and take action on the possible purchase of preschool playground equipment and surfacing

Mr. Alexander shared cost analysis information on what it would cost the district to move all the existing preschool playground equipment verse buying new. Next, he shared a rendering from Cunningham Recreation for new preschool playground equipment. He outlined what funds will be used to pay for the majority of the approximately \$182,000 cost.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of preschool playground equipment and surfacing passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

9. Administrators' Report

9.1. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander provided his superintendent's report.

10. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be April 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be March 24, 2022 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.

11. Adjournment

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

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date