

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, May 13, 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. 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

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 April 8, 2024
- 3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for April 2024
- 3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- April 25, 2024
- 3.6. Approval of Option Students: To Freeman- Jady Griffith- Gr. 11; To Southern- Annika Glynn- Gr. 11; From Southern- Anthony Marquez-McGill- Gr. 5, Edith Corwin- Gr. 2, Jaxen Freeman- Gr. K; From Lewiston- Ivy Bullock-Pohlmann- Gr. 10
- 3.7. Approval of contracts for 2024-2025: Brennan Wrightsman- Middle School Social Studies; Haylee Weyers-Boldt- 2nd Grade; Briley Luff- 3rd Grade; Nathan Bianchi- High School Resource; Alicia Spencer- 5th Grade; Chelsea Boltz- 3rd Grade; Stacy Plessel- 1st Grade; Diana McClure- High School Special Education
- 3.8. Rescind the resignation of Darci Haraldson- Elementary Special Education

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. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Hausmann Construction as the BPS Business Friend of the Month. He stated that Hausmann has been a terrific partner over the past two years with the building of the new elementary building. The communication, decision-making, and job handling have all been made much easier due to the professionalism in which Hausmann has handled the entire project.

4.2. Student Board of Education Member

Mr. Alexander thanked Maddie Nielsen for serving as the student rep for the Board of Education and informed her that the Board has a plaque as a token of appreciation. Mr. Alexander commended Maddie for being a student of high character and thanked her for serving as the student representative.

4.3. District Retirements

Mr. Alexander recognized this year's retirees and thanked them for their years of service to the District.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Maddie Nielsen shared that the preschool had a great turnout for their recent picnic. Paddock Lane has been very busy with end of the year field trips and activities. On their Walk the Track day, the teachers had a wild inflatable race to conclude the fun day. There have been lots of celebrations and field trips at Lincoln and Stoddard also. There is a lot of staff excitement about moving to the new elementary. Beatrice Middle School track teams were crowned as conference track champions. The Middle School is also hosting a mock trial event soon. Successful transition visits happened for 5th graders and 8th graders. The senior honors night was held on May 4th. Beatrice High School is hosting their last music concert of the school year tonight. The baseball team finished their season today. Boys state golf and state track are later this week and state tennis is next week. The last day for seniors is tomorrow. Graduation is Sunday, May 19th.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. Committee of the Whole- April 25, 2024

Mrs. Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on April 25, 2024 with Eric Trusty absent. The following topics were discussed: High School Strategic Plan Site Update (Mr. Voigt), BHS Cell Phone Committee (Mr. Sutter), ESSERS Grant Funds (Mr. Alexander); Classified & Admin Salaries (Mr. Alexander), and a New Elementary Update (Mrs. Timmerman). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

5.2.2. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander reported that there was a STANCE zoom meeting last week. He noted that LB71 has some complications and there is a lot of work to be done with it yet. There is still talk of the governor calling a special session.

6. Public Forum/Citizen's Requests/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

7. Discussion

7.1. Accreditation Review Results

Dr. Nielsen provided a handout to Board members. Next, she highlighted some of the key data from NE Frameworks as well as their recommendations. Highlights from Cognia as well as their areas of improvement were also highlighted for the Board.

7.2. Van Fleet Replacement

Mr. Alexander shared that the new van we ordered does not meet legal requirements. He shared that the dealer has refunded the district the money from this purchase. He shared the following options:

- Purchase a 10 passenger rated van
- Look for smaller vehicles (Ford Expeditions, Suburbans, Vans)
- Purchase a mini bus that has a service door and stepwell for passenger entry

Mr. Alexander shared that finding these vehicles is going to become more difficult, but with the current state of the district's fleet we really need to be looking to purchase 1-3 vehicles if possible.

8. Action

8.1. Approval of bread bids for the 2024-25 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the bread bid from Rotella for the 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

8.2. Approval of milk bids for the 2024-25 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the milk bid from Hiland Dairy 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, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.3. Approval of breakfast and lunch prices for 2024-25

Dr. Nielsen informed the Board that the PLE (paid lunch equity) current average paid price is 3.85 so to get to the weighted average price with the PLE, the district needs to increase 10 cents for meals.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the breakfast and lunches prices for the 2024-25 school year as presented passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

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. Vehicle replacement authorization

Mr. Alexander noted that this action item is in direct relation to the discussion held earlier regarding the law change and the district's current vehicle fleet.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 authorize Mr. Alexander to purchase vehicles up to \$70,000 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

8.5. Approval of the interlocal cooperation act agreement for a technology coordinator with ESU 5 for the 2024-25 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the interlocal cooperation act agreement with ESU 5 for a technology coordinator for the 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

8.6. Approval of cleaning equipment for new elementary (ESSERS III funds)

Mr. Alexander shared that quotes were obtained from three different companies for cleaning equipment for the new elementary. Eakes provided the best quote for the needed equipment.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of cleaning equipment from Eakes for the new building utilizing ESSERS III funds passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Janet Byars.

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

8.7. Approval of classified staff salary schedule, wages, and benefits for 2024-25

Mr. Alexander noted that this proposed schedule would result in an estimated \$215,728 impact on the district's budget.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the classified staff salary schedule and an approximate 3.2% total package increase for classified staff wages for the 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

8.8. Approval of other contracted staff wages and benefits for 2024-25

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve an approximate 3.3% salary increase in the other contracted staff wages 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, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.9. Approval of administrators' salaries and benefits for 2024-25

Mr. Alexander informed hte Board that the overall budget impact is negative due to a couple of retirements and reducing 1 administrative position for the upcoming school year.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve an approximate 2.78% salary increase in administrators' salaries 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, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

8.10. Approval of hiring of Dylan Kendall, High School Assistant Principal, for the 2024-2025 school year

Bringing one of our own home. Will be a great balance to Mr. Voigt.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the contract with Dylan Kendall, High School Assistant Principal, for the 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

9. Administrators' Report

9.1. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander provided an update on three different grants that the district has recently received. He congratulated all the spring activity participants on their recent accomplishments. He congratulated the graduating class and wished them well also.

9.2. Staffing Update

Mr. Alexander provided a staffing update. He thanked all those leaving and noted their advance notice was greatly appreciated. He commended the administrative team for working hard to interview and fill positions early as well.

10. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be June 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be May 23, 2024 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 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date

DRAFT