

Board of Education Meeting
Monday, October 14, 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: Brandon Vetrovsky, **Present:** Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, Charles Riedesel, Eric Trusty. Present: 6, Absent: 1.

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.

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 September 9, 2024
- 3.3. Approval of Budget Hearing and Property Tax Hearing Minutes- September 9, 2024
- 3.4. Approval of minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting on September 26, 2024
- 3.5. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.6. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for September 2024
- 3.7. Approval of Option Students: From Tri County- Raelyn Smith- Gr. 6, Laikyn Smith- Gr. 2; From Southern-Emonee Acosta- Gr. 8; From Freeman- Jeremiah Armagost- Gr. 5; To Lewiston- Charles Wilson- Gr. 6, Hadley Wilson- Gr. 5; To Freeman- Emmerson Nesbitt- Gr. 9; To Fairbury- Cecilia Principato- Gr. 12; To Johnson County Central- Dawn Sejkora- Gr. 12
- 3.8. Excuse the absence of Brandon Vetrovsky

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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Employee of the Month

Mr. Haake recognized Karen Dittbrenner, the Middle School Media Specialist, as the October Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mrs. Dittbrenner stated that she has been fantastic with the 3D printer, and in one particular instance, she worked to provide eating utensils for a student. Mrs. Dittbrenner is a huge asset to 8th graders as she checks on them when they are missing assignments or may need intervention to complete them. She works hard to troubleshoot technology issues for both staff and students.

4.2. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Mead Lumber as the October business friend of the month. He stated that Mead Lumber has consistently been there to sponsor a variety of items for the district. Throughout the construction of the new elementary school, they stepped up multiple times to provide equipment needed and even some manpower help for one particular task.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Annie Gleason shared that preschool held their annual tailgate at the House of Orange last Friday. Several grades have been on field trips to the fire station, water days, pumpkin patch and the Filley barn. Students are focusing on making positive behavior choices through a classroom challenge and also the Golden Spatula in the lunchroom. High Five Fridays have been a real hit at the elementary and many different high school teams/groups have been involved. At the Middle School, Officer Brauch has started her tenure as SRO. The cross country team finished in 2nd place at the Trailblazer Conference meet. The High School hosted a BMX group that came in with the marines to promote anti-bullying. The student body also heard a message on facing advertising and having perseverance from Bryan Freeman. State golf is going on in Scottsbluff. The softball team qualified for the state tournament will play on Wednesday morning. District cross country is this week. The marching band competed at Kansas State and received a superior rating. The musical, "Once Upon a Mattress" was a great success. Homecoming activities were enjoyed by all. And lastly, the first freedom Friday occurred last week.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. STANCE Report

5.2.2. Committee of the Whole

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole meeting was held on September 26, 2024, with Byars, Pieper, and Trusty absent. The following topics were discussed: Policy 5205 Graduation & Regulation 5205 Graduation Requirements (Dr. Nielsen), Drug Testing Policy (5103.1) Update (Mr. Brown), House of Orange- Astro Turf (Mr. Brown), 2024-2025 Activities Calendar, Policy 3241 Emergency Response Mapping (Mr. Alexander), and Building Auctions & Skid Loader (Mr. Alexander). Colleen Test addressed the Board on autism during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.

6. Public Forum/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

7. Discussion

7.1. Software Mapping Program

Mr. Alexander introduced Zack Querry who shared a presentation on the use of critical response/emergency mapping. A lengthy discussion ensued with a number of questions by Board members.

7.2. First Reading of Regulation 5205 Graduation Requirements

Dr. Nielsen shared a proposed change to the science graduation requirements which would include taking both physical and life science. She explained that the goal of this change is to ensure students continue to be exposed to many different aspects of science and not just one pathway. Both of these components are presented in the ACT science standards as well as the Nebraska science standards.

8. Action

8.1. Approval of the Beatrice Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2026-27 contract year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the Beatrice Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2026-27 contract 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.2. Approval of Resolution and Appendix 1 to the Option Enrollment Policy

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that state statute requires the Board to review and adopt a resolution regarding option students for the following school year by October 15th.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the Resolution & Appendix 1 to the Option Enrollment Policy (5006) 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.3. Approval of a ballot selection for NASB legislation committee member #12

Mr. Alexander informed Board members that candidate credentials were sent out in previous communication.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 nominate Gary Kubicek as legislation committee member #12 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.4. Approval of purchase of turf for the House of Orange

Bids were secured from five different companies. Mr. Alexander shared that the district was approved by Pinnacle Bank for a loan to complete this project. He added that this would help protect budget authority this year and that there is not penalty for early pay off.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of turf for the House of Orange for the price of \$505,000 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.5. Approval of Policy 3241 Emergency Response Mapping

Mr. Alexander reminded the Board that this is the first step in this process and allows the district to apply for the grant funding. Board discussion followed and members would like more information from local representatives before proceeding.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve Policy 3241 Emergency Response Mapping 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 rescind the previous motion and table this topic until November passed with a motion by Janet Byars and a second by Lisa Pieper.

Eric Book: Nay, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Lisa Pieper: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 1

8.6. Approve purchase of equipment from cfm Distributors Inc.

Mr. Alexander shared that the equipment will be purchased by the district with Prairie Mechanical responsible for the installation of it.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of equipment from cfm Distributors Inc. for repairs at Beatrice Middle School 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.7. Approve install quote from Prairie Mechanical Corporation

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the install quote from Prairie Mechanical Corporation in the amount of \$4,933.33 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.8. Discuss, consider, and take action on the possible purchase and install of K-5 playground equipment and surfacing

Mr. Alexander informed Board members that he received quotes to install the existing equipment from Stoddard as well as add in some proposed new equipment. The proposed total for all of it is approximately \$314,000.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase and install of K-5 playground equipment and surface from Creative Sites LLC 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.9. Request for Student Enrollment (possible Executive Session to protect the confidentiality of student records)

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 enter into Executive Session to discuss the request of a student to enroll to protect the confidentiality of student records 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:21 PM.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:42 PM.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve Resolution A/E 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9. Administrators' Report

9.1. Middle School Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Haake highlighted the following components of the site plan that they have been focused on for the start of the 24-25 school year:

- Maintain or reduce major/minor behavioral referrals from the 23-24 school year
- Create and refine a tiered intervention system for all students that need additional academic support (every student receives a reading class daily)
- Infrastructure (strategy 1): updated entrance doors with fob system; installing digital cameras to doors
- Social-emotional learning (strategy 2): BMS mini mart is thriving; conducting DESSA screened to better support mental health and behavioral needs

9.2. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander shared that he will be visiting the career technical education facility in Fremont later this month to learn about how it was established with businesses in the Fremont area. He reminded Board members of the date change for the October Committee of the Whole meeting. Finally, he wished all the activities that are entering the post season well.

10. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be November 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be October 29, 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
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date