

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, May 8, 2023 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 17, 2023
- 3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for April 2023
- 3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- April 27, 2023
- 3.6. Approval of Option Students: From Southern- Aubrie Simmons- Gr. 10, Noah Reinke- Gr. 5, Logan Reinke- Gr. 1
- 3.7. Approval of contracts for 2023-2024: Dennis Dodge- High School Resource; Brandel Riekenberg- High School Math; Lauren Moncrief- 3rd Grade at Paddock Lane

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. Employee of the Month

Mr. Haake recognized Kodee Muhr, ALC paraeducator at Beatrice Middle School, as the Employee of the Month. Those nominating Kodee stated that she goes above and beyond to help students reach their full potential by striking a balance between building great relationships with students and holding them accountable at the same time. She manages the House System school store, serves as a 7th grade lifeguard (making daily contact with students on the ICU list), provides individual and small group instruction, and lastly provides behavioral support for students who need it.

4.2. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Uhl's Sporting Goods as the BPS Business Friend of the Month. He stated that Uhl's is a great community supporter who has consistently been there to help support the district with apparel (for sports teams and House system shirts) as well as financially. They also helped support the Trailblazer Conference by sponsoring the coaches' meal at the kickoff event.

4.3. Student Recognition

4.3.1. All-State Basketball

Mrs. Danielle Fairbanks recognized Addie Hatcliff for her selection to the Class B All-State 2nd team (girls basketball). Addie also earned All-Conference 1st team honors and led the team this season in points, steals, deflections, 3-point shooting percentage, and free throw shooting percentage.

4.4. Student Board of Education Member

Mr. Alexander thanked Riley Schwisow 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 Riley for being a student of high character and wished her all the best with her future endeavors.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Riley Schwisow informed the Board that the preschool students recently attended kindergarten roundup activities and the family picnic is scheduled for Wednesday. The staff at Paddock Lane recently enjoyed lunch courtesy of the Board of Education and students are looking forward to walk the track events and end-of-the-year recognition days. Students at Lincoln and Stoddard are wrapping up the school year with field trips, a plant sale, skating parties, and recognition events also. At Beatrice Middle School, the track teams experienced success at the conference meet. The 8th grade students will be completing water testing at the Homestead soon and the House champion will be crowned on Friday. Senior honors night was held at the Hevelone Center last weekend and graduation is scheduled for Sunday, May 21st. The baseball team qualified for the state tournament and the final music concern is tonight.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. Committee of the Whole- April 27, 2023

Mrs. Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on April 27, 2023 with Lisa Pieper absent. The following topics were discussed: High School Strategic Site Update (Mr. Sutter), Staffing (Mr. Alexander), Salary Package Information (Mr. Alexander), and Preschool Strategic Site Update (Mrs. Timmerman). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

5.2.2. Americanism

Mrs. Pieper reported that the committee met prior to tonight's regular meeting and confirmed the following:

- District's social studies curriculum is aligned with NDE standards
- District's social studies curriculum stresses the required patriotic themes
- In accordance with state law, that high school students complete a written test, attend a public meeting, or present or write a paper on an appropriate topic
- Curriculum approved by the Committee is available for public inspection
- District's social studies curriculum includes all required components which include one hour per week of patriotic instruction for grade levels below sixth grade, set amount of time to teach American history for grade levels from fifth grade to eighth grade, and at least two courses in high school that teach American civics
- District will conduct appropriate patriotic exercises for holidays (George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day)

5.2.3. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander informed Board members that during the meeting on April 27th, Bryce Wilson, finance coordinator for the NDE, was able to join. He noted that the finance package is very complex and nothing will be solidified until the legislative session is over.

6. Public Forum/Citizen's Requests/Comments

Steph Belt addressed the Board on the topic of classified staff wages.

7. Action

7.1. Approval of bus transportation fees for 2023-24 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the bus transportation fee of \$160 for the 2023-24 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

7.2. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action with regard to possible approval and authorization to execute an agreement with the City of Beatrice for proposed public infrastructure improvements adjacent to the new PK-5 elementary site

Mr. Alexander expressed appreciation to the City of Beatrice for the proposal and the opportunity to create a working relationship for community improvement. He noted that the proposal addresses city improvements that will eventually need to be done, it promotes public safety in a school zone, and creates the certainty of improved traffic flow for parents and students at the new site. President Trusty summarized the proposal highlighting the improvements that will be made as well as how the funding will be split. The city will provide the upfront funding for the project with BPS reimbursing for their share (40%).

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 hereby approves the agreement with the City of Beatrice, Nebraska, relating to the design, construction, and reimbursement of a portion of the costs for certain public infrastructure improvements adjacent to the new PK-5 elementary school facility being constructed near 33rd and Lincoln streets, such agreement in the form on file with official school district records and as presented at this meeting or with such changes as are deemed necessary and in the best interest of the school district and approved by the Board President or Superintendent of Schools, and further hereby authorizes the Board President to sign, execute and deliver such agreement, and further hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to pay all costs and expenses required or provided for under such agreement 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

7.3. Approval of the interlocal cooperation act agreement for a technology coordinator with ESU 5 for the 2023-24 school year

Mr. Alexander noted that this will be the third year of entering into an agreement with ESU #5 that would involve them providing the hardware and some software management for the district.

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 2023-24 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

7.4. Approval of the interlocal cooperation act agreement for alternative education program with ESU 5 for the 2023-24 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the interlocal cooperation act agreement with ESU 5 for 2023-24 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

7.5. Approval of the contract with Logan Spilker, Renae Mitchell, and Chelsea Joekel, speech language pathologists, for the 2023-24 school year

Mrs. Cordry-Hookstra informed the Board that Logan Spilker is returning but will be moving to 4 days per week. The agreements with Renae Mitchell and Chelsea Joekel are new for the upcoming school year.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the contracts with Logan Spilker, Renae Mitchell, and Chelsea Joekel, speech language pathologists, for the 2023-24 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

7.6. Approval of the contract with Emily Zarybnicky, occupational therapist, for the 2023-24 school year

Mrs. Cordry-Hookstra noted that this will be Emily's second year with the district.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the contract with Emily Zarybnicky, occupational therapist for the 2023-24 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

7.7. Approval of classified staff salary schedule, wages, and benefits for 2023-24

Mr. Alexander noted that the proposal includes revisions to the hourly pay schedule as well as the addition of service year steps. There is also a new incentive pay for those that meet an attendance rate requirement. The total package increase for classified staff is 5.41%.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the classified staff salary schedule and a 5.41% total package increase for classified staff wages for the 2023-24 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

7.8. Approval of other contracted staff wages and benefits for 2023-24

Mr. Alexander shared that the salary package increase is 3.73% and will equate to a \$10,005 budget impact.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve a 3.73% salary increase in the other contracted staff wages for the 2023-24 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

7.9. Approval of administrators' salaries and benefits for 2023-24

Mr. Alexander shared that the total package increase is 4.13% and will equate to a \$57,776 budget impact.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve a 4.13% total package increase in administrators' salaries and benefits for the 2023-24 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. Administrators' Report

8.1. Special Education

Mrs. Cordry-Hookstra shared a handout with Board members. The handout presented the district's special education data and included breakouts by building level. She included six-year trend data as well.

8.2. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander commended the BEF and BHS for their recent honors and awards events. Next, he informed the Board that an Alicap representative was on site last week for a workmans comp safety visit. He reminded Board members that graduation is set for 3 PM on Sunday, May 21st. The underclassmen awards ceremony will be on Thursday, May 18th. Finally, Mr. Alexander provided a brief building project update which included a video to show the progress on site.

9. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be June 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be May 25, 2023 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.

10. Adjournment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 adjourn 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

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date