

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, November 13, 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

Absent: Charles Riedesel, **Present:** Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Lisa Pieper, 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 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 October 9, 2023
- 3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for October 2023
- 3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- October 24, 2023
- 3.6. Approval of Option Students: To Tri County- Isabella Hager- Gr. 5; To Lewiston- Jace Cookus- Gr. K, Avery Keedy- Gr. K Owen Robertson- Gr. K; To Freeman- Everett Meints- Gr. K
- 3.7. Approval of retirement of Betty Replogle- Elementary Principal, Pam Hill- Elementary Counselor, Debra Thimm- Middle School Resource
- 3.8. Approval of contract for Colton Husa- Ag Teacher
- 3.9. Excuse the absence of Charles Riedesel

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, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Employee of the Month

Dr. Nielsen recognized Natalie Frahm, 2nd grade teacher, as the November Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mrs. Frahm stated that she maintains a positive and hopeful attitude towards all students, and she energizes the learning environment for all students. She has a passion for attending to kids mental health, and she works hard to provide students with increased opportunities for mental health supports. Mrs. Frahm is great at developing relationships and has been a leader in the implementation of PBIS.

4.2. Business Friend of the Month

Dr. Nielsen recognized A5 Car Wash as the November business friend of the month. She commended Matt and Wendi Strein for their initiative to work with the High School on a mural project for the side of their car wash. The Streins worked with Mrs. Neverage, High School Art Teacher, to create the basic concept and purchase the correct paint products so work could begin by the Art Club students. The finished product depicts a car going through the car wash and bubbles coming from the vehicles that include activities or athletic teams in those bubbles. This has been a great partnership and the Streins have graciously offered to donate \$1 for every car wash back to the BHS Art Club.

4.3. Super-State Golf: Kiera Paquette

Mr. Brown recognized Kiera Paquette for being selected to NSAA academic all-state. He added that she is a 3-time state medalist. She finished her senior season as both a conference and state champion.

4.4. Nebraska Jr. High State Cross Country Champion: Tyler Scott

Mr. Haake recognized eighth grader, Tyler Scott, as the Nebraska Junior High State Cross Country Champion. Tyler finished the 3000-meter course in 10 minutes and 10.64 seconds, which was a course record.

4.5. New Elementary Mascot Reveal

Mrs. Timmerman introduced the new mascot for the elementary building, Ollie. She informed the Board that Ollie is spending time getting to know different classrooms and the teachers are documenting his experiences through photos.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

Maddie Nielsen reported that preschoolers are continuing to work on making friends and being kind. Their next family event is Breakfast with Santa and is scheduled for December 2nd. At Stoddard and Lincoln, the Orangemen Pride awards have started. During October, the buildings celebrated Red Ribbon week. Paddock Lane students in 4th and 5th grade are presenting their musical program tonight. During November, students will also participate in a food drive House competition. The Middle School participated in Red Ribbon Week with the theme, "Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug Free." The boys basketball season has started. The 21 Ag Enrichment students were able to tour the Classic Dairy with Mr. Barnard in October. High School fall sports are now over and winter sports practices officially started today. The winter tip-off event is scheduled for Friday, November 17th. Unified bowling is underway. Student council recently hosted the annual intramural volleyball competition to raise money for the food pantry. The One Act play called "Dirt" recently competed in Fairbury and placed third.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. Committee of the Whole

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on October 24, 2023 with Lisa Pieper and Brandon Vetrovsky absent. The following topics were discussed: Preschool Strategic Plan Site Plan (Mrs. Timmerman), High School Strategic Plan Site Plan (Mr. Sutter), Policy 5103.1 Random Drug Testing (Mr. Alexander), Regulation 5205.1 Graduation Dress Code (Mr. Alexander), Stronger Community Connections Grant (Dr. Nielsen), and the Chemistry Lab (Dr. Nielsen). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.

5.2.2. STANCE Report

Dr. Nielsen reported that the first meeting was held on November 8th and featured Senator Contract (District 46) reflecting on last year's sessions and the key issues for the upcoming legislative session.

5.2.3. Staff Relations Committee

Mrs. Byars reported that the committee met with staff at the preschool on November 8th with herself and Charles Riedesel present. Information was shared on parent-teacher conferences, character skills building, the ELL population, Sixpence, and sub staffing.

5.2.4. Negotiations Committee

Mrs. Byars reported that the committee has met with representatives from the BEA three times. At the first meeting (10/25), the BEA presented the items they would like to discuss and an array of schools was selected and agreed upon. The BEA presented an offer to the Board at the second meeting (11/1), but the Board was waiting for their comp study to be completed. An informal work session was held on November 8th to review numbers and ensure that both groups are working with the same staff index. The next meeting is scheduled for December 1st.

6. Public Forum/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

7. Discussion

7.1. Superintendent Evaluation

Mr. Trusty shared that the results from the superintendent's evaluation were provided to Board members in advance of the meeting. He added that the NASB tool was used once again which included a ranking scale of 1-6 with 6 being excellent. Mr. Alexander was ranked on the following standards:

- Standard I: Mission, Vision & Goals
- Standard II: Policy
- Standard III: Budget Planning & Management (highest ranking)
- Standard IV: Educational Leadership (lowest ranking)
- Standard V: Organizational & Cultural Leadership
- Standard VI: Community Relations
- Standard VII: Professional Leadership
- Standard VIII: Board-Superintendent Relations

President Trusty informed the Board that he asked Mr. Alexander to develop goals for the upcoming year and those will be shared with the rest of the Board members via email.

7.2. Regulation 5205.1 Graduation Dress Code

Dr. Nielsen provided Board members with an opportunity to ask questions or offer thoughts on the proposed changes to this regulation that were shared in October.

8. Action

8.1. Discuss, consider, and take action on Policy 5103.1 Random Drug Testing for Students Involved in Extracurricular Activities

A brief discussion ensued with Board members Martin and Byars sharing their concerns on this topic and the current district practices.

I move that the Board of Education District #15 rescind policy 5103.1 Failed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Nay, Janet Byars: Nay, Doris Martin: Nay, Lisa Pieper: Nay, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 2, Nay: 4

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

Dr. Nielsen shared that the district has a great opportunity for playground equipment for the new PK-5 building, but we must move quickly to take advantage of the grant we have been offered. She provided a summary of the quotes provided to Board members and what was included with each. The potential funds that will be used for this purchase were also shared with Board members.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the purchase of 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, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8.3. Approval of the superintendent's evaluation

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the superintendent's evaluation 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, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9. Administrators' Report

9.1. Superintendent Report

9.1.1. Curriculum, Assessment/Test Score, and Instruction Update

Dr. Nielsen provided a brief update on curriculum, instruction, and assessment. She reminded Board members that the goal of assessment is to help us evaluate where we are and where we need to go. Additional data that is collected includes demographics, student academics, perceptions, and school processes. Dr. Nielsen shared a timeline that highlighted what the district will continue to do to evaluate assessment and data systems.

9.1.2. COW Meeting Date

Dr. Nielsen informed Board members that the November COW meeting is being moved to Tuesday, November 28th to allow administrators to be present.

10. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be December 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be November 28, 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.

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, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date