

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, October 9, 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: Eric Book, Lisa Pieper, Eric Trusty, **Present:** Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Charles Riedesel, Brandon Vetrovsky. Present: 4, Absent: 3.

Mrs. Martin, Vice-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

Byars 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 11, 2023
- 3.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 3.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for September 2023
- 3.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- September 28, 2023
- 3.6. Approval of Budget Hearing, Property Tax Hearing, and Special Meeting Minutes- September 19, 2023
- 3.7. Approval of resignation: Stacy Sykes- Middle School Math
- 3.8. Approval of Option Students: From Tri County- Bentley Vculek- Gr. K; To Diller-Odell- Lillian Welch- Gr. 8; To Freeman- Kendra Volkmer- Gr. 11
- 3.9. Excuse the absences of Eric Book, Lisa Pieper, and Eric Trusty

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the consent agenda as presented passed with a motion by Janet Byars and a second by Brandon Vetrovsky.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0

4. Outstanding Recognition

4.1. Employee of the Month

Mr. Sutter recognized Corey Wells, High School Social Studies teacher, as the October Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mr. Wells stated that he is a dedicated teacher and coach. He has taken the lead with the girls wrestling program. Mr. Wells does a great job of creating videos for social media use to promote the football and wrestling programs. He goes above and beyond to help all students find success in the classroom as well as in athletics.

4.2. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Clabaugh Pharmacy as the October business friend of the month. He stated that Clabaugh Pharmacy has been a terrific partner in supporting our students for many years. The Clabaugh family supports the district both financially and from a human resources/volunteering standpoint. They worked with the Beatrice Educational Foundation to establish an Outstanding Educator Award, which is awarded annually. They also provide significant assistance with the golf tournament for the foundation.

5. Information

5.1. Student Update

The preschool enjoyed their adapted preschool tailgate that was modified due to the rain. Parent-teacher conferences were also held. Stoddard and Lincoln enjoyed all of the homecoming activities. Band has started for 5th grade students, as have the beloved Orangemen pride awards. Plans are underway for the Halloween house activity, "Great Race" at Paddock Lane. The elementary PTO fundraiser will be wrapping up soon. Middle school fall sports are wrapping up. The middle school band recently performed at the Homecoming football game. It was a very successful first quarter at BMS from an academic, behaviors, and attendance perspective. The high school had a very busy week with all of the Homecoming activities. The girls golf and softball teams are district champions and both headed to state. The Clash Royale Esports team defeated the \$1 seed Creighton Prep. The marching band has competed and achieved high ratings. The FFA program has been at state range judging. Fall break is coming up at the end of the week.

5.2. Board Reports

5.2.1. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander shared that the first 2 pre-session meeting dates have been set for November 8th and December 6th and will include guest speakers, Senator Danielle Conrad and Commissioner Dr. Brian Maher, respectively.

5.2.2. Committee of the Whole- September 28, 2023

Martin reported that the Committee of the Whole met on September 28, 2023 with Eric Book and Lisa Pieper absent. The following topics were discussed: Elementary Strategic Plan Site Plan (Mrs. Replogle/Mr. Janssen), Middle School Strategic Plan Site Plan (Mr. Haake/Mr. Stengel), Policy 5103 Random Drug Testing (Mr. Brown/Mr. Alexander), Superintendent Evaluation Process (Mr. Trusty), Furniture Bidding Process (Mr. Alexander), and Superintendent Report (Mr. Alexander). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

5.2.3. Staff Relations Committee

Mrs. Byars reported that the staff committee met on Friday, September 29th at Beatrice Middle School with Charles Riedesel and herself present. Board members toured the school, paying special attention to the computer/technology lab and also the mini-mart. Students were participating in the Ron Clark Academy House Program which Board members were able to enjoy. There are lots of positive things happening at the Middle School.

6. Public Forum/Comments

Tom Nesbitt and Rick Clabaugh addressed the Board on random drug testing.

7. Action

7.1. Approval of the Beatrice Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 contract years

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 2024-25 and 2025-26 contract years passed with a motion by Janet Byars and a second by Charles Riedesel.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

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

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 table this item until all board members are present passed with a motion by Janet Byars and a second by Brandon Vetrovsky.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0

8. Administrators' Report

8.1. Beatrice Middle School: Mini Mart

Middle School Counselors, Mrs. Vogel and Mrs. Rice, along with students Luke Katz and Jack Vater shared information on the Hope Squad. They shared information on what the Hope Squad is and why it is so important. Hope Squad is a school-based peer support program that empowers students to take action to prevent suicide through a partnership with their local mental health agency (Region V).

8.2. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander informed Board members that Homecoming week and all of the activities were a huge success. He shared that due to a basketball official's shortage, the scheduled game times for home games will be changed to 5:30 PM and 7 PM. Next, he reminded Board members that the state conference begins on November 15th. Brief updates on the new elementary building progress as well as technology bidding for the new building were provided.

9. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be November 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be October 24, 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 Janet Byars and a second by Charles Riedesel.

Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date