

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, September 11, 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: Lisa Pieper, **Present:** Eric Book, Janet Byars, Doris Martin, Charles Riedesel, 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. Oath of Office to New Student Member- Maddie Nielsen

Mr. Alexander administered the oath of office to the new student rep, Maddie Nielsen.

4. Consent Agenda

Martin presented the following items on the consent agenda:

- 4.1. Approval of the agenda as submitted
- 4.2. Approval of minutes of the regular Board of Education meeting on August 14, 2023
- 4.3. Approval of the proposed accounts for payment
- 4.4. Approval of budgetary receipts and expenditures for August 2023
- 4.5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes- August 24, 2023
- 4.6. Approval of minutes from Special Meeting- August 24, 2023
- 4.7. Approval of resignation of Melisa Ventre- Special Education at Paddock Lane
- 4.8. Approval of Option Students: To Diller-Odell- Riley Stohs, Gr. 1; To Lewiston- Brooklyn Connell, Gr. 7; To Southern- Jillian Laflin, Gr. 1, Deklyn Griffin, Gr. 6, Katalina Griffin, Gr. 4, Gwendolyn Mendenhall, Gr. 10
- 4.9. Excuse the absence of Lisa Pieper

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

5. Outstanding Recognition

5.1. Employee of the Month

Mrs. Replogle recognized Vickie Detter, para educator at Paddock Lane, as the September Employee of the Month. Those nominating Mrs. Detter stated that she goes above and beyond to help students in the classroom.

She is a dedicated and dependable team player that helps with bus riding and lunch duty whenever necessary. Mrs. Detter also stepped up this past summer to work with other staff and provide a summer experience and courses for the ACP students that were geared towards their needs. The summer sessions included hands-on experiences and even included a couple of field trips to the Homestead National Monument and the Lincoln Children's Zoo.

5.2. Business Friend of the Month

Mr. Alexander recognized Zoellner Ford of Beatrice as the September business friend of the month. He shared that recently Zoellner led the drive to help supply our students with back-to-school supplies. Zoellner also helps support the Lady Mary Fund which is available to principals to help students with food, clothing, or other personal needs. They also support the BEF golf tournament and are financially responsible for the Para Educator of the Year Award, which surprises a deserving para educator with \$1,000. Last school year, Zoellner Ford also stepped up to assist at the Middle School career fair to educate students on business marketing.

6. Information

6.1. Student Update

Maddie Nielsen started by stating that the preschool is off to a great start and will have its first family event (football tailgate) on Friday, September 15th. Lincoln and Stoddard have seen a rise in EL students, going from 33-64. Both schools are also scheduling field trips. At Paddock Lane, MAPS testing wrapped up last week. They have also been scheduling their fall field trips and school pictures are complete. The PTOs have combined efforts and fundraising is underway. At the Middle School, the houses have been sorted and competitions have begun. Fall sports kicked off with approximately 100 student-athletes competing in cross country, football, and volleyball. The Middle School has also started a mini-mart to assist students and families with filling the gaps of food insecurities. At the High School, the student council provided a fundraiser where seniors had the opportunity to paint their own permanent parking spot for the year. Standard response protocol training was held last week for all students. Fall sports are off to a good start. Fine Arts is preparing for the musical, Mary Poppins, which is scheduled for September 23rd- 25th. The color guards and marching band theme is Somnus. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for next week and Homecoming is slated for October 6th.

6.2. Board Reports

6.2.1. Committee of the Whole

Martin reported that the committee of the Whole met on August 24, 2023 with all members present. The following topics were discussed: Policy 5103.1 Random Drug Testing (Mr. Brown), ALICAP Insurance (Sheri and Daniel Shonka), Policy 3090 Sale and Disposal of School Property (Mr. Alexander/Ronda Pieper), 2023-2024 Budget Preview (Mr. Alexander). No one spoke during public forum. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

6.2.2. STANCE Report

Mr. Alexander informed the Board that the first organizational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th. He noted that he is serving as the President this year.

7. Public Forum/Comments

No one spoke at this time.

8. Discussion

8.1. 2023-2024 Budget

Mr. Alexander highlighted some of the key components of the budget presentation from the August Committee of the Whole meeting. He shared the projected increases in expenditures as well as the official notices that need to be published in the newspaper. He reminded Board members that the district would be participating in the joint public hearing which is scheduled for Monday, September 18th. On the following night, September 19th, the Board will meet to approve the 23-24 budget. Mr. Alexander will provide another full presentation of the budget during the hearings held prior to the special meeting on Tuesday, September 19th.

9. Action

9.1. 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 until the October meeting Policy 5103.1 Random Drug Testing for Students Involved in Extracurricular Activities passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Brandon Vetrovsky.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9.2. Approval of contract with Sara Ruess, orientation and mobility independent contractor, for the 2023-24 school year

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the contract with Sara Ruess, orientation and mobility independent contractor, 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, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9.3. Approve list of property to sell per policy 3090

Mr. Alexander noted that requesting approval by the Board to sell items that are no longer in use by the district aligns with policy 3090 and also with Nebraska State Statute.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the list of property to sell as presented passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

9.4. Approval of the interlocal cooperation act agreement and memorandum of understanding with the City of Beatrice

These documents are needed to update the contract with the City of Beatrice regarding School Resource Officers. Mr. Alexander noted that this agreement will once again be for 4 years.

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 approve the interlocal cooperation act agreement and memorandum of understanding with the City of Beatrice for school resource officers passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Eric Book.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

10. Administrators' Report

10.1. Assessment

Dr. Nielsen used a handout to provide an assessment update to Board members. She noted that assessment is meant to improve student learning. A chart depicting the purpose of comprehensive assessment systems was included in the handout. Next, Dr. Nielsen highlighted the assessments used at different building levels:

- Preschool: GOLD
- Elementary and Middle School: MAP, MAP fluency, NSCAS, NSCAS alternative assessment
- English Learners: ELPA and ELPA 21
- High School: Advanced Placement (AP) exams, PreACT, ACT, NSCAS alternative assessment
- All Levels: course assessments which include both formative and summative

Dr. Nielsen explained some of the assessment pieces which are new this year and how the district intends to implement them.

10.2. Superintendent Report

Mr. Alexander provided a construction update to the Board on the new elementary building. He noted that the majority of the interior metal framing is complete and they will begin with some of the exterior paving this week as well. As part of the strategic goal of hiring and recruiting high quality staff, Mrs. Cordry-Hookstra and Mrs. Timmerman recently attended a recruiting fair at UNK where they were able to make some good contact with potential teachers and student teachers. Mr. Alexander informed the Board of the openings that the district is still trying to fill. Finally, he reminded the Board of upcoming professional development opportunities including the area membership meeting, labor relations, and state conference.

11. Notification of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be October 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building. The Budget and Property Tax Hearings will be on September 19, 2023 at 5:30 PM. The Committee of the Whole meeting will be September 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.

12. Adjournment

I move that the Board of Education of District #15 adjourn passed with a motion by Doris Martin and a second by Brandon Vetrovsky.

Eric Book: Yea, Janet Byars: Yea, Doris Martin: Yea, Charles Riedesel: Yea, Eric Trusty: Yea, Brandon Vetrovsky:

Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Fairbanks, Recording Secretary

Board Secretary/Assistant Superintendent

Date