

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
March 9, 2020  
7:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. and the following members were present: Angela Meyer, Betsy Frerichs, Carol Pralle, Dave Zimmerman, and Jim Zvolanek. The following administrators were presents: Jerry Rempe, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Prosocki. The following student board member was present: Aryel Lane.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Excuse Emily Shockley

Motion to excuse Emily Shockley due to sickness. This motion, made by Carol Pralle and seconded by Angela Meyer, passed.

Emily Shockley: Absent, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Angela Meyer: yes, Carol Pralle: yes, David Zimmerman: yes, Jim Zvolanek: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

I.C. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the back of the board of education meeting room.

II. Approval of Minutes from the February 10, 2020, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the February 10, 2020, Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Financial Statement: Item for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

C.D. Bids for the month were as follows:

Security First Bank, Blue Springs Special Funds 1.80%

Wymore State Bank, Special Funds: 1.89%

IV.A. Approval of Bills

#### IV.A.1. General Fund, Special Building Fund, Depreciation Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Claims

Motion to approve the general fund, special building fund, depreciation fund, and qualified capitol purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Jim Zvolanek and seconded by Carol Pralle, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

#### V. Support Service

##### V.A. Facility Update

John Linder provided the school board with a written report over working on summer maintenance plans, carpet replacement over the summer months, replacing exterior Jr./Sr. High School doors that are rusted and not up to code, researching controlled entry equipment as requested by local law enforcement, and a spring parking lot project that Con Pro will be completing at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Dr. Prosocki noted that John Linder is working on setting up some energy audits with Norris Public Power and Johnson Controls in an effort to save on future utilities costs. Lastly, Dr. Prosocki went over the finalized press box plans and he said the bid opening will take place on March 12 at 2:00 p.m.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

Dr. Prosocki noted that Amanda Moniz recently resigned and TJ Saathoff was hired as a part-time maintenance staff to replace her. Also, next year Annie Manley will be the 3-Year-Old preschool teacher and Amanda Antholz will be the 4-Year-Old preschool teacher and the preschool paras will keep their current assignments (Patty Novotny will still be the 3-Year-Old preschool para and Angela Spencer will still be the 4-Year-Old preschool para).

##### V.B.1. Resignation

##### V.B.1.1. Jeff Schiebur - 1.0 FTE - 7-12 Math Teacher at the Conclusion of the 2019-2020 School Year

Motion to approve the resignation of Jeff Schiebur at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year. This motion, made by Carol Pralle and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The school board accepted the resignation of Jeff Schiebur at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year with regrets. The school board wanted to thank Jeff for his years of service to Southern Public Schools.

##### V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Prosocki went over the preliminary technology budget for the 2020-2021 school year, which is around \$95,000 for hardware, software, and infrastructure costs. The overall technology budget will be up around 5% from the previous year and all of the hardware purchases will be based on the district's strategic plan for the acquisition of technology to improve student learning

(The technology committee crafted this strategic plan). Dr. Prososki also noted this budgeted amount does not include the cost of minimal repairs to laptops, projectors, and other technology items throughout a given school year. Next, Dr. Prososki gave an update on the current technology devices in the district. Southern has 200 technology devices at the Jr./Sr. High School (Currently, we have 183 Jr./Sr. High School students) and we have 182 devices at the Elementary School (Currently, we have 177 Elementary School students). Southern has more than one device for every student at both schools.

## VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

### VI.A. Student Board Member Report

The student board member reported on the following items: the completion of winter sports and the start of spring sports, cheerleading placing second in state cheer, Braden Klover placing at state wrestling, Doug Rainey making it to state wrestling, and quiz bowl radio competition.

### VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (3-Year-Old Preschool = 9, 4-Year-Old Preschool = 20, K = 26, 1 = 23, 2 = 23, 3 = 25, 4 = 19, 5 = 34, 6 = 28), an 81% attendance rate at parent teacher conferences, getting ready for spring testing (NSCAS, MAP, & DIBELS), spring sports starting on March 2 (Golf & Track), and 6th grade field trip to Worlds of Fun on May 21.

### VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (7 = 32, 8 = 28, 9 = 32, 10 = 24, 11 = 27, 12 = 39), quiz bowl, Pioneer Conference Academic Team, state testing, 40% attendance rate at parent teacher conferences, plant sale by the agriculture classes, taking agriculture students to a local farm, honor roll, and working on the 2020-2021 Jr./Sr. High School master schedule.

### VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prososki went over the 2019-2020 teacher vacancy survey that was conducted in the fall of 2019 by the Nebraska Department of Education and he said Southern will be switching from Eakes printers & copiers to Capital printers & copiers over the summer months. The new printers and copiers will be of better quality than our current setup and it will save the district around \$13,000 a year or \$65,000 in five years. Next, Dr. Prososki went over a letter that was sent home with parents and put on the district website regarding the Coronavirus. Next he noted on March 8, 2020, all Nebraska superintendents met with the commissioner of education, Dr. Matt Blomstedt and the state's chief medical officer, Dr. Gary Anthonie, regarding an update on the Coronavirus in Nebraska. Dr. Anthonie told superintendents across the state to not worry about students getting the Coronavirus and it has not affected anyone under the age of 20 years old. Dr. Anthonie noted that schools in Fremont were closed because they were worried about staff members, parents, and grandparents getting the virus and not students. Dr. Prososki noted that all Nebraska superintendents will be meeting with Dr. Anthonie every Sunday. Dr. Prososki gave the board an update on LB 974 and said if it passes, the district will lose around \$250,000 to \$300,000 and if projected revenue does not come in as planned because of an economic downturn caused by the spread of the Coronavirus, the district would lose a substantial amount more than \$300,000. Also, under LB 974, the district would not be allowed to build any new structure like a green house or a storage shed without the vote of the people, even if the entire project is funded by grant proceeds. Dr. Prososki noted that superintendents across the state of Nebraska have lost faith in our rural senators as it relates to LB 974. Dr. Prososki went over the 2019-2020 Multicultural Education Report and he went over the Opening Days Schedule for 2020-2021 school year. Next, Dr. Prososki went over the presenters for next school year and in

an effort to be proactive, Dr. Prosocki said Bobby Truhe of KSB School Law will be out again to complete a presentation over Digital Citizenship/Hot Topics in Education. Dr. Prosocki went over the district's property tax request and state aid comparison for the 2012-2020 school years and he went over how the district's financial situation has changed over the past 4 years (State aid is not making up the difference when it comes to the loss of property tax revenue). Dr. Prosocki gave the board an update on Rule 91 (Pupil transportation), he noted that he completed the Small, Rural School Achievement grant and the district will receive \$26,439, and he gave the board an update on staff salaries and benefits for the 2020-2021 school year. He noted that staffing costs will increase by \$137,686 for next year and 85% of the school's budget is made up of personnel costs (Staff salaries and benefits will cost the district around \$5.2 million dollars next year and pending 974 does not pass, the district overall budget will around \$6.1 million dollars). Lastly, Dr. Prosocki said that state aid will not be certified on March 1 because LB 880 was signed into law by the governor, which will move the certification to on or before May 1, 2020 and Dr. Prosocki said he updated the district's initial teacher contract and letter of intent to teachers to meet the requirements under both state and federal laws.

## VII. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

### VII.A. Police Officer for Prom on April 18, 2020

Motion to approve a police officer for prom on April 18, 2020. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Carol Pralle, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

This has been a yearly request that has been approved by the school board at the March board meeting.

### VII.B. Authorize a Line of Credit with Security First Bank

Motion to approve a line of credit with Security First Bank in the amount of \$500,000 and authorize the superintendent and/or treasurer to access the line of credit on behalf of the school district. This motion, made by Jim Zvolanek and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

Dr. Prosocki noted that this line of credit of \$500,000 would only be accessed if there was a financial crisis in the district and it would serve as a contingency plan. He noted his concerns regarding LB 974 and the need to take precautionary steps now if the bill does indeed pass.

### VII.C. Option Enrollment Applications

## VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53p.m. This motion, made by Carol Pralle and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., April 13, 2020, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Board Room in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the

sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY  
President of the Board of Education  
Of this School District

ATTEST  
Secretary of the Board of Education  
of this School District