

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
December 13, 2021  
7:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the following members were present: Aaron Whitwer, Betsy Frerichs, Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, and Jim Zvolanek. The following administrators were presents: Jerry Rempe, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Proski. The following visitor was present: Greg Lauby.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Wymore Arbor State Newspaper

Posted Date: 12/3/2021

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. 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.

I.C. Motion to Excuse Angela Meyer from the December Board Meeting

Motion to excuse Angela Meyer from the December board meeting. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Angela Meyer: Absent, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Aaron Whitwer: yes, David Zimmerman: yes, Jim Zvolanek: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

II. Approval of Minutes from the November 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the November 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Aaron Whitwer, 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.

Public comment was given to the school board by Greg Lauby.

KSB School Law now advises school districts in Nebraska to just say they took public comment and not provided a short-written account because it is not legally required and detailing the content of public comments in minutes unnecessarily invites complaints and claims. This will be the district's practice moving forward.

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

##### 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 Betsy Frerichs, 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 the current vehicles in the district, the annual insurance visit (ALICAP), getting buses ready for winter, and an upcoming Big Iron Auction on December 29 that the district will be selling some items the district is currently not using or is out of date.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

##### V.C. Technology Update

#### VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

##### VI.A. Student Board Member Report

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

The elementary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (3-Year-Old Preschool - 10, 4-Year-Old Preschool - 19, K - 19, 1st - 31, 2nd - 23, 3rd - 26, 4th - 22, 5th - 24, & 6th - 23), DIBELS & NSCAS (State test) Pilot, the last day of the semester (December 17), 4-6 vocal music concert on December 16, start of winter sports, the fall sports participants (Boys Basketball - 24, Girls basketball - 10, & Wrestling - 3), and working with Diller-Odell's athletic director on co-oping junior high football next school year because of very low participation rates.

## VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (7th - 32, 8th - 29, 9th - 34, 10th - 29, 11th - 33, & 12th - 24), last day of school for the semester on December 17, alternative school update at ESU 5, student recognition for the first semester, farm to school program, and Red-Carpet Premiere.

## VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prosocki went over the 2020-2021 Annual Report, and he noted that all ESU 5 superintendents will meet with both Senator Tom Brandt and Senator Myron Dorn this coming week in an effort to advocate for public schools in Nebraska. During the past few years, the state legislature has tried to pass legislation that would have been devastating to public schools across Nebraska. Next, Dr. Prosocki gave the school board an update on the 2022-2023 budget, and he noted that staff salaries and benefits account for roughly 85% of Southern's budgeted expenditures. The school board discussed the possibility of switching to the ECNC conference and decided it would be best to stay put for the time being, but will keep the door open in the future. Dr. Prosocki went over a 5-year property tax comparison for Gage County and Southern was the only district to drop their tax request 4-years in a row. Dr. Prosocki said that Southern has become a model for local taxing entities to follow and Southern continues to provide a high-quality education at an economical cost to district patrons. Dr. Prosocki reminded the school board of an upcoming appreciation dinner, and he gave the school board an update on the district's strategic plan. Dr. Prosocki went over a school funding proposal from the education community that will reduce property taxes in Nebraska by \$715 million dollars, and it will not harm schools in the process. This proposed bill incorporates a half-cent sales tax and increases the Allocated Income Tax Fund from 2.23% to the original intended 20% in the state aid formula (TEEOSA). Under this school funding proposal, Southern's mill levy would go from around \$1.08 to \$0.78 (A decrease of around 0.30 cents). Dr. Prosocki noted that the governor has not supported a tax shift in the past, and Dr. Prosocki was hopeful that the state legislature would finally fulfill their duty and properly fund education in Nebraska. On average, the Nebraska K-12 Public Education funding comes from the following areas: 33% State Funding, 59% Local Property Tax Funding, and 8% Federal Funding. On average, the National K-12 Public Education funding comes from the following areas: 45% State Funding, 47% Local Property Tax Funding, and 8% Federal Funding. Lastly, Dr. Prosocki provided the school board a memorandum from KSB School Law regarding detailing public comments in the meeting minutes. KSB School Law now advises schools to just say they took public comment and not provide a written account.

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

### VII.A. Approve the 2022-2023 Negotiated Agreement with Southern Education Association

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 negotiated agreement with Southern Education Association. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.  
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

For the 2022-2023 school year, teachers will receive a \$1,000 raise to the base salary and this will represent a 4.76% increase, and it will put them at 101% on the array. Based on LB 397, teachers' total compensation has to fall between 98%-102% threshold. In addition, there were a number of items that were updated on the Extra Duty Schedule to make things more consistent among all activity coaches and sponsors.

#### VII.B. 2022-2023 District Calendar

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 district calendar. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Aaron Whitwer, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### VII.C. 2022-2023 Preschool Calendar

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 preschool calendar. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### VII.D. 2021 Annual Board Policy Updates (Second Round)

Motion to approve policy 2009, 4063, 6004, 6013, & 6020. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### VII.E. Declare the List of Items as Surplus for Immediate Sale or Disposal

Motion to declare the list of items as surplus for immediate sale or disposal. This motion, made by Aaron Whitwer and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The items for sale were compiled by John Linder and he is going to try and sell the items on Big Iron.

#### VII.F. Superintendent's Contract

Dr. Proski's current base salary ranks 10th out of 11 schools in the array and his total compensation ranks 9th out of 11 schools in the array. Dr. Proski base salary is \$7,630 below the midpoint and \$4,884 below the 98% threshold. Dr. Proski total compensation is \$6,786.04 below the midpoint and \$3,059.22 below the 98% threshold.

##### VII.F.1. Superintendent's Contract Extension

Motion to approve the superintendent's contract extension. This motion, made by Jim Zvolanek and seconded by Aaron Whitwer, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

Dr. Proski's contract was extended through the 2023-2024 school year

#### VII.F.2. Superintendent's Salary and Benefits

Motion to approve a 3.5% raise for the 2022-2023 school year. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The school board gave Dr. Prosocki a 3.5% raise for the 2022-2023 school year and his base salary will be set at \$134,206.90.

#### VII.G. Option Enrollment Applications

#### VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. This motion, made by Jim Zvolanek and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., January 10, 2022, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School auditorium 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