

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 12, 2022
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, Angela Meyer, Betsy Frerichs, Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, and Jim Zvolanek. The following administrators were present: Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Prososki. The following student board member was present: Iasiah Hoover.

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:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 8/31/2022

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.

II. Approval of Minutes from the August 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the August 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Aaron Whitwer and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

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: 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 Angela Meyer and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Aaron Whitwer: Abstain (With Conflict), Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Angela Meyer: yes, David Zimmerman: yes, Jim Zvolanek: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Dr. Proski noted that the district had to subsidize the activity fund by over \$13,000 the past fiscal year. He noted that he will start to oversee this account again until it is out of the red. Over the past few years, it was in the black, but some changes need to be made moving forward to rectify some issues.

IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

V. Support Service

V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report on trying to finalize the HVAC and classroom thermostats, outside maintenance, starting to use vans and not buses because of bus driver shortages, and being short on daily route drivers.

Dr. Proski noted that the football scoreboard is over twenty years old and we cannot find replacement bulbs for it because they are so obsolete. The cost of a new scoreboard is around \$20,000 and he noted that the lead time to receive a newly purchased scoreboard was nine months. Dr. Proski wanted to know if the board wanted to move forward with this purchase or not, and the board felt there were not any other options. Next, Dr. Proski mentioned that a borrowed refrigerator went out and the district had to purchase a new one for the elementary school. Lastly, Dr. Proski noted that it has become harder and harder to find bus drivers and our athletic teams are getting smaller and smaller. He proposed that the district purchase 2 new vans for both activity trips and athletic events. There are a lot fewer requirements for driving vans as compared to driving mini-school bus or a regular school bus and he did not want student athletes or their parents to have to drive them to events moving forward. The board agreed and decided to move forward with the purchase of 2 twelve passenger vans.

V.B. Personnel Items

V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Proski thanked Cody Sabey and the technology committee for all of their hard work during the first few weeks of school. Dr. Proski noted that ALICAP, the district's insurance company, recently changed Cyber Insurance Carriers and the majority of schools were dropped by the new provider. Dr. Proski said that he was going to work on the new application this coming week with Cody Sabey.

VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

VI.A. Student Board Member Report

The student board member, Iasiah Hoover, reported on the following items: fall athletic team records, homecoming, spirit days, and the upcoming homecoming dance.

VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal provided a written report over the following items: current enrollment figures (3-Year-Old Preschool - 10, 4-Year-Old Preschool - 19, K - 26, 1st - 17, 2nd - 33, 3rd - 24, 4th - 28, 5th - 21, 6th - 26), completing required safety drills (e.g., Fire drills, activity shooter drills, & bus evacuation drills), DIBELS and NSCAS testing, fall sports participation numbers (Football - 27, Softball, 13, & Volleyball - 14), and upcoming events (e.g., Constitution Day, MUDECAS Volleyball, and homecoming).

VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (7th - 21, 8th - 29, 9th - 29, 10th - 33, 11th - 26, 12th - 31), NSCAS testing in grades 7th & 8th, only using 2 of or 4 alternative education spots (Diller-Odell recently purchased 1 of our 4 spots from us), Homecoming on September 16, parent teacher conference on September 29, 19 students enrolled in 26 college classes (This is an all-time high for Southern), and QPR suicide prevention training for all 7-12 students.

VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prosocki went over the Continuum Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Annual Report, he noted that he will be leading 2 Special Purpose Schools external visitation teams in April (YRTC in Hastings and in Kearney), and he went over the fall DIBELS testing results (53% of students were at benchmark in the fall). Next, Dr. Prosocki presented the school board with an updated Legal Representation Agreement from KSB School Law and he gave an extensive overview of LB 644 (Post Card Bill). Southern will have to attend the Joint Public Hearing on September 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gage County Court House. Since Southern is faced with an all-time high inflation rate, since the unemployment rate in Nebraska is at an all-time low, and with the consent need to budget for the unexpected, there is no way for Southern to be below the 2% plus real growth threshold. Dr. Prosocki noted that the district will be on the hook for around \$5,000 or more to pay for the cost of the post cards. He said that this is a primary example of another unfunded mandate that are imposed on school districts in Nebraska. Dr. Prosocki provided the school board with a negotiation update for all certificated staff members. Currently, the certificated staff are at 99.40% of the required 98%-102% of mid-point of total compensation range set by LB 397. Lastly, Dr. Prosocki presented the October 10 in-service agenda, he reminded the Committee on American Civics of the upcoming meeting prior to the October school board meeting, he went over the annual safety and security minutes, and he went over the Special Program enrollment numbers for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

VII.A. Approve the Southern Education Association (SEA) as the Exclusive Bargaining Agent for the District's Non-Supervisory Certificated Staff for the 2024-2025 Contract Year

Motion to approve the Southern Education Association (SEA) as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2024-2025 contract year. This motion, made by Jim Zvolanek and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

VII.B. Extended Leave Time for Steve Whitwer for the 2022-2023 School Year

Motion to approve extended leave time for Steve Whitwer for the 2022-2023 school year. This motion, made by Angela Meyer and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

Aaron Whitwer: Abstain (With Conflict), Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Angela Meyer: yes, David Zimmerman: yes, Jim Zvolanek: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Based on the negotiated agreement, the superintendent only has the authority to grant unpaid leave for as many as five contract days. Unpaid leave in excess of five days will require the approval of the board of education.

VII.C. Option Enrollment Applications

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Angela Meyer, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., October 10, 2022, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Board Room in Wymore. There will be a Special Board meeting for 6:30 p.m., September 28, 2022, 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