

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
April 10, 2023  
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, Debra Schlake, & Jeff Argo. The following administrators were present: Jerry Rempe, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Prososki.

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: 4/5/2023

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment 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 was posted on the back of the board of education meeting room.

II. Approval of Minutes from the March 13, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the March 13, 2023, Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jeff Argo, 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 Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Aaron Whitwer: Abstain (With Conflict), Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

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

#### V. Support Service

##### V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report over the following items: disassembling the old weight room equipment at the Jr./Sr. High School, reseeding the center of the football field, quarterly bus and van inspection, getting lawn equipment ready, and Dave and John attending an electric bus training in Colorado.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

Dr. Proski noted that in the fall, Southern will be adding an additional softball coach from Diller-Odell, Carson Ebeling.

##### 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 - 16, K - 26, 1st - 17, 2nd - 32, 3rd - 24, 4th - 29, 5th - 21, 6th - 27), spring testing (DIBELS, NSCAS, & Star), working on the 2023-2024 athletic and school schedules, kindergarten round up on May 1, Fun & Field Day on May 5, district track on May 11, & district golf on May 15.

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

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (7th - 22, 8th - 30, 9th - 29, 10th - 32, 11th - 25, & 12th - 30), Scholastic Recognition Ceremony (Seven seniors were four year award winners: Ethan Garrles, Adelaide Heard, Alaina Klover, Autumn Lane, Kale Maguire, Natalie Trauernicht, & Kendra Troxel), National Honor Society Ceremony, all 4 spots being filled in the alternative program at ESU 5, Nebraska State FFA Convention, FFA banquet on April 14, required ACT and NSCAS state testing, Honors & Fine Arts night on May 2, Instrumental Music on May 4, District Music Contest on April 20 & 21, and senior interview day for scholarships on April 26.

##### VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prosocki said that he will be out of the district on April 17-19, 2023, because he will be leading two special purpose accreditation visits (West Hastings YRTC & West Kearney YRTC). Next, Dr. Prosocki gave the school board an update on some of the items he learned at the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA) conference in Kearney. Dr. Prosocki went over a mid-session legislative report, and he gave the school board an update on NJUMP, the schools interlocal pool that was created to purchase natural gas and related services at a cheaper price, but our contract was canceled, so NJUMP is taking legal action to correct this problem. From here, Dr. Prosocki went over the post-graduate survey and he noted that the school improvement committee will analyze these results in the coming months. Next, Dr. Prosocki went over the school presenters for the 2023-2024 school year (DeMoine Adams & Omaha Street Percussion). Dr. Prosocki said that the U.S. House of Representatives recently passed a Parents Bill of Rights legislation. Dr. Prosocki said schools across the United States already complete 95% of the bill's requirements. One new component of the bill would be that whenever a presenter comes out to a school, the school district would have to inform the public of the presenter's political party affiliation. Dr. Prosocki said that Southern is not bringing out DeMoine Adams & Omaha Street Percussion to indoctrinate students to be either a democratic or a republican and this radicalization in our society is why no one is pursuing a career path in education as a teacher or as an administrator. Next, he said that the district just submitted a \$100,000 reVISION Action Grant (A federal grant) to start a new welding program at Southern. Dr. Prosocki then went over the staff salaries and benefits costs for the 2023-2024 school year, and he gave an update on the summer weight room program. Dr. Prosocki said the district will be teaming up with Western National Bank to provide spirit cards in the fall and Southern will receive a portion of the proceedings. Lastly, Dr. Prosocki said the new weight room flooring and the new weight room equipment will be installed in late April and he was hoping that everything will be complete by May 1. Dr. Prosocki did note that the district did receive a \$49,130 grant from the Thomas Foundation to help cover some of the costs associated with the weight room upgrade.

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

### VII.A. Special Education Service with ESU 5 for the 2023-2024 School Year

Motion to approve the special education service with ESU 5 for the 2023-2024 school year. This motion, made by Aaron Whitwer and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

Dr. Prosocki said that there are both state and federal mandates that require public schools in the United States to serve all special needs students (Birth to 21). Dr. Prosocki noted that he feels that schools have a moral obligation to serve students with special needs. Dr. Prosocki said that it is cheaper to contract out these services because the district does not have the resources to hire a full-time occupational therapist or a full-time physical therapist. These contracted services will cost the district around \$250,000 next school year.

### VII.B. Consider the Approval of an Overnight Field Trip to Southeast Community College (SCC) Milford for June Jam 2023

Motion to approve the overnight field trip to Southeast Community College (SCC) Milford for June Jam 2023. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.  
yes: 6, no: 0

#### VII.C. Option Enrollment Applications

#### VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.  
yes: 6, no: 0

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., May 8, 2023, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom 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