

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Dundy County Stratton Public School  
Benkelman NE 69021

The Dundy County Stratton Board of Education met on Monday, November 10, 2025 at Dundy County Stratton High School.

President Noffsinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Attendance Taken at 6:01 PM. Jennifer Fries: Present, Steve Guernsey: Present, Ted Henderson: Present, Nick Ladenburger: Present, Kent Lorens: Present, Cole Lutz: Absent, Sandy Noffsinger: Present, Lindsay Stamm: Absent, Shad Stamm: Absent. Present: 6, Absent: 3. Attendance Update Taken at 6:46 PM. Shad Stamm: Present. Present: 7, Absent: 2. Attendance Update Taken at 7:46 PM. Steve Guernsey: Absent. Present: 6, Absent: 3.

Others present:

Alan D Garey, Superintendent  
Sandy O'Neil, Secondary Principal  
Kris Freeland, Elementary Principal  
Ronda Sargent, Recording Secretary/Business Manager  
Emma Baldeh, Student Board Representative  
Jay Spearman, Emily Cameron and Melissa Jacobitz

**Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Noffsinger stated that the board follows the Open Meetings Act Guidelines which are located in the meeting room. The Board of Education may enter closed.

**Board Member Roll Call**

Motion to approve the absence of Cole Lutz, Lindsay Stamm and Shad Stamm passed with a motion by Kent Lorens and a second by Jennifer Fries. Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3.

District Mission Statement:

- Partnering with families and the community, Dundy County Stratton Schools will provide a dynamic and inclusive environment because every Day, every Child, is empowered to achieve Success!

Nebraska Open meetings law-posted on the East wall.

**Awards and Recognitions**

Fries recognized the Volleyball team for their 4th place finish at the state tournament and the sportsmanship award that was presented to the District. Ladenburger recognized the show choir their Silver rating at the Best of the West competition and Alyssa Stamm received an award for best soloist. Fries recognized Alyssa Stamm who sang the National Anthem at the state Volleyball game during the opening round. Noffsinger recognized the Football team for their quarterfinal playoff game and the success of their season. Henderson recognized all the people that help with the hosting of these events. That it takes many people to host these events. Noffsinger recognized HOSA for their participation with the hospital for an event. Noffsinger praised the HOSA group for their professionalism. Freeland recognized his staff with the challenge of reviewing the reading curriculum. Henderson recognized Robert Castillo for the time he spent on the McCool Junction bus that broke down on their way to Benkelman. Mr. Garey received messages from McCool Junction and Plainview schools for the hospitality they received. Noffsinger gave kuddos to the community members that put together opening the

theater and streaming the state Volleyball games for those who were unable to attend the State Volleyball in Lincoln.

### **Public comment**

Melissa Jacobitz asked for an update on the Music teacher opening.

### **Reports**

Technology report, not available

### **Elementary principal report**

Presented in written form.

### **Secondary principal report**

Presented in written form.

### **Transportation report**

Presented in written form.

Addition: Plans have been discussed for planning in the future if another bus is out of commission the need for route coverage.

### **Superintendent report**

Presented in written form.

### **Board and committee reports**

Board information

Finance/Budget/Legislation committee

Transportation/Facilities/Grounds committee

Curriculum/Activities/Staff Development committee

Americanism committee

Negotiations committee

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve the consent agenda passed with a motion by Ladenburger and a second by Guernsey. Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2. The consent agenda includes the verification of notice of the meeting by publication in the Benkelman Post & News Chronicle, a legal newspaper for Dundy County and to each member of the board, approval of the minutes from the Regular meeting on October 13, 2025, the approval of the bills as presented in the amount of \$553,961.84 for the general fund \$26,333.84 for the nutrition fund; \$26,133.97 for the activity fund; \$7,640.00 for the special building fund; Student Board representative; the 2024-2025 audit.

## **Business Meeting**

### **Senior Student Board Member**

Emma Baldeh has been elected as the Senior Student Board Member. Baldeh signed the oath of office.

### **Financial Report**

Motion to approve the financial report as presented passed with a motion by Guernsey and a second by Lorens. Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

### **Resolution Lease Purchase**

Member Shad Stamm introduced and recommended for the Certificate of Participation for the Resolution of the Lease Purchase adoption, the full text of which is attached to hereto as Attachment 3: A RESOLUTION OF DUNDY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 0117 (DUNDY CO-STRATTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS) IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE LEASE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE DISTRICT; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO SUCH LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING; APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION IN THE LEASE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY THE DISTRICT RELATING TO SUCH LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING OR SUCH OTHER FINANCING STRUCTURE AS AUTHORIZED BY CERTAIN DISTRICT OFFICERS; AUTHORIZING DISTRICT OFFICERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, MATURITIES, RATES, TERMS AND OTHER DETAILS OF SUCH LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING AND THE RELATED CERTIFICATES, SUBJECT TO THE PARAMETERS SET FORTH HEREIN; APPROVING THE DELIVERY AND USE OF AN OFFERING DOCUMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER AND SALE OF ANY CERTIFICATES; DESIGNATING ANY LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND ANY RELATED CERTIFICATES AS QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS; ADOPTING CERTAIN POST-ISSUANCE TAX COMPLIANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO ANY LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND ANY RELATED CERTIFICATES; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO. The foregoing Resolution has been read, motion by Stamm and a second by Ladenburger. Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Ted Henderson: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

Jay Spearman with Northland Public Finance, presented to the board the options of Certificate of Participation or Lease Purchase for funding the replacement of the Elementary HVAC system.

### **Notice of Surplus Property**

No bids were submitted.

### **DCSEA as the official bargaining unit for educators**

Motion to approve DCSEA as the official bargaining unit for educators for the 2026-2027 school year passed with a motion by Fries and a second by Ladenburger. Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

## **Resignations**

Motion to accept the resignation from Kristian Freeland with regret and to thank him for his 18 years of service to Dundy County Stratton Schools passed with a motion by Stamm and a second by Fries. Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

Motion to accept the resignation from Ashlynn Picquet with regret and to thank her for 2 years of service with Dundy County Stratton Schools passed with a motion by Fries and a second by Stamm. Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

## **Superintendent's Evaluation**

Motion to approve the Superintendent's evaluation passed with a motion by Lorens and a second by Henderson. Fries: Yea, Guernsey: Yea, Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea. Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2.

Board members were asked to bring back their goals to the December board meeting to set goals for the 2026-2027 school year.

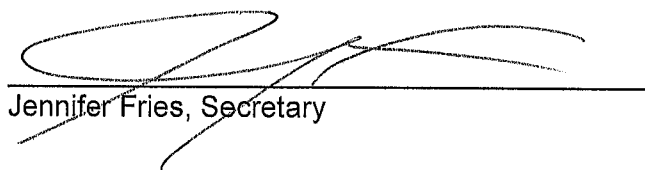
## **NASB information**

The state school board conference will be November 19–21. Fries will be the voting delegate for the board.

## **Legislation**

## **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 7:55 passed with a motion by Lorens and a second by Fries. Henderson: Yea, Ladenburger: Yea, Lorens: Yea, Noffsinger: Yea, Stamm: Yea, Fries: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3.



Jennifer Fries, Secretary