

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, July 10, 2023 8:00 PM

Public School Library

506 W. 9th Street

Dorchester, NE 68343-0007

Notice of the time and place of the Dorchester Board of Education meeting was published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district. Newspapers of general circulation in the district include, but are not necessarily limited to, the Crete News, the Lincoln Journal Star, or the Omaha World-Herald. Notice is also posted in at least three prominent places within the school district which may include the following: Dorchester Public Schools, Farmers Coop, First State Bank, and the Village Office. Individual board members received in advance the meeting agenda and meeting materials. Pursuant to Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Statutes, the public is hereby informed that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the Board meeting boardroom.

Matthew Hansen: Present

Mike Hatfield: Present

Shelly Lehr: Present

Carol Schnell: Present

Kelli Schweitzer: Present

Steve Vyhnalek: Present

1. Call to Order and Announce Open Meetings Act Verification

The regular board meeting was called to order by President Steve Vyhnalek at 8:00 pm with all board members present. He confirmed the advance notice to the public of the meeting date and agenda. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Also present are Superintendent Curt Cogswell, Principal Jake Wiese and Linda Woolsey.

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment

No visitors present.

4. Request for Change of Agenda

One change request was to add 9.4 to approve the hiring of a new Paraprofessional.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting(s)

Motion to approve the reading of the last meetings minutes Passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Minutes from the Student Fees Hearing Meeting and the Regular June Board Meeting were reviewed.

6. Financial Report

Motion to approve the financial report Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Dr. Cogswell reviewed the June Financial reports.

7. Reports

7.1. Principal's Report

Mr. Wiese discussed the schedules have been completed for students. They will be mailed this week. Plans for next year are being made for the assessment calendar, duty schedules and other clerical items. Summer camps and weights are being well attended. The Student Handbook will be updated. NDE/NCSA Administrator Days will be held July 26-28 in Kearney. A meeting with the Saline County Attorney has been scheduled for August 9th to discuss student truancy. New teacher in-service will be held on August 11th.

7.2. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cogswell thanked several groups: Adam, Clint and Michelle for their work deep cleaning and painting the building; the kitchen staff (Amanda, Betty and Crystal) served 40-50 meals each day for children ages 1-18; the summer school staff for their work with students; the office staff (Linda, Jen, Jessica and Jake) for helping him transition to Dorchester. The Crows Nest construction is on schedule. The siding should match the snack shack. Dr. Cogswell will be focusing on the budget and access to NDE accounts. On July 20th, Jen and Curt will be attending a New Superintendent/Bookkeeper meeting. On July 31st, a meeting is scheduled with Concordia University.

8. Discussion Items

8.1. NSAA Part Time Student

Dr. Cogswell discussed the NSAA Standing Determination for Participation of Part-time Students.

8.2. Property Tax Request

Dr. Cogswell lead a discussion on the Tax Asking Comparison for 2022/2023 against 2023/2024.

8.3. Certified Staff Days

Dr. Cogswell discussed with the board to consider paying the paras and staff for snow day(s) for next year.

9. Action Items

9.1. Final Reading of Board of Education Policies #3001-Budget and Property Tax Request, #3003.1-Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds, #3004.1-Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, #3033-Lending Textbooks to Children Enrolled in Private Schools, #3036-Purchasing (Credit) Card Program, #3059-Audio and Video Recording, #4003-Drug Policy Regarding Drivers, #4045-Milk Expression, #4059-Behavioral and Mental Health Training, #5003-Admission of Part Time Students, #5004-Option Enrollment, #5035-Student Discipline, #5045-Student Fees, #5049-Firearms and Weapons, #5052-School Wellness, #5062-Lice and Nits, #5064-Supplement, Not Supplant, #6003-Instructional Program, #6004-Curriculum Development, #6025-Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices, and #6038-Artificial Intelligence.

Motion to approve the final readings of policies #3001-Budget and Property Tax Request, #3003.1-Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds, #3004.1-Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, #3033-Lending Textbooks to Children Enrolled in Private Schools, #3036-Purchasing (Credit) Card Program, #3059-

Audio and Video Recording, #4003-Drug Policy Regarding Drivers, #4045-Milk Expression, #4059-Behavioral and Mental Health Training, #5003-Admission of Part Time Students, #5004-Option Enrollment, #5035-Student Discipline, #5045-Student Fees, #5049-Firearms and Weapons, #5052-School Wellness, #5062-Lice and Nits, #5064-Supplement, Not Supplant, #6003-Instructional Program, #6004-Curriculum Development, #6025-Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices, and #6038-Artificial Intelligence Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Mike Hatfield.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

9.2. Additional Property Tax Authority

This item was tabled for more information.

9.3. NRCSA Membership

Motion to approve the membership to NRCSA Passed with a motion by Mike Hatfield and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Dr. Cogswell reviewed the services offered with membership to the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association.

9.4. Para-Educator

Motion to approve the hiring of Zaira Vazquez-Hernandez as a Paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year Passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Carol Schnell.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Dr. Cogswell reviewed the interview with Zaira Vazquez-Hernandez for the open Para position.

10. Board Committee Report(s)

No committee reports at this time.

11. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)

Not necessary at this time.

12. Establish Future Board of Education Meeting Date(s) and Time(s)

The next scheduled board meeting is August 14th at 8:00 pm.

13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:53 pm Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Carol Schnell?(s) Carol Schnell, Secretary of the Board of Education