

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, December 9, 2024 7:00 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 Vyhnaleki. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Also present were Superintendent Curt Cogswell, Principal Jake Wiese, and Jen Bond

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment

Matt Smith and Matt Bolton were present

4. Request for Change of Agenda

Discussion item 8.1 was moved to the end of the meeting.

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

Motion to approve the reading of the last meeting minutes 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

6. Financial Report

Motion to approve the financial report Passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Mike Hatfield.

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

7. Reports

7.1. Principal's Report

Mr. Wiese told the board that for professional development the staff has done their annual Mental Health/Suicide Training (QPR), MTSS meetings, and Hope Science. The school hosted State Poet Matt Mason and the Dorchester Fire Department came for fire prevention activities with preschool through 4th grade.

7.2. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cogswell shared the high school winter sports seasons are in full swing. Junior high wrestling and basketball are wrapping up. One Act participated at Districts with six students receiving outstanding actor awards.

8. Discussion Items

8.1. Superintendent Search

Superintendent finalists will be interviewed on Saturday, December 14th.

8.2. Dress Code and Grooming Policy

Mr. Wiese shared that a dress code and grooming policy needed to be adopted. NDE has a model that can be used.

8.3. Air Quality

Argonne National Laboratory, on behalf of the USDA, reached out to visit about testing the air quality in our school building.

8.4. Heating Unit

The school has another heating unit that is in need of being fixed or replaced.

9. Action Items

9.1. Consider Approving the 2023-2024 Audit

It was decided to move approving the 2023-2024 audit to next month's meeting.

9.2. Consider approving the 2024-2025 Negotiated Agreement

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Negotiated Agreement Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matthew Hansen.

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

9.3. Consider Approving Health Insurance for Head Cook Position

Motion to approve single health insurance for the head cook position starting in January 2025 Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Mike Hatfield.

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

10. Board Committee Report(s)

No committee reports at this time.

11. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)

Motion to move into closed session at 7:50pm 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

Motion to come out of closed session at 8:20pm Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Mike Hatfield.

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

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

The next scheduled board meeting is Monday, January 13, 2025

13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:21 pm 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

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