

# **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025 6:00 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.

Matt Bolton: Present

Matthew Hansen: Present

Shelly Lehr: Present

Carol Schnell: Present

Matt Smith: 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. 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

Chelsea Smith, Nick Mumm, and Elizabeth Mumm were present.

## 4. Request for Change of Agenda

No request for change of agenda.

## 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.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

## 6. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was given to and signed by the two new members, Matt Bolton and Matt Smith.

## 7. Reorganization of the Board of Education by Nomination and Roll Call or Ballot Vote

Steve Vyhnalek was nominated for School Board President. Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Matt Hansen was nominated for School Board Vice President Passed with a motion by Matt Smith and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Shelly Lehr was nominated for School Board Secretary Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Matt Bolton was nominated for School Board Treasurer Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

## 8. Financial Report

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

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

## 9. Reports

### 9.1. Principal's Report

In December we had Longhorn Line-up, the elementary Christmas concert, and the elementary excellence rally. This month we had health screenings and the secondary excellence rally.

### 9.2. Superintendent's Report

Precision Signs came back over the break and made sure all the wall mats were properly secured. Bus 17 was taken to Geneva Tire and Auto to get aligned. The Blue River Cohort was held on January 6th. Argonne National Laboratory did the air quality testing over the break. We have not received the results back yet.

## 10. Discussion Items

### 10.1. Tax Statement Explanation

Dr. Cogswell explained that The School Tax Credit now reduces your property tax on your statement - you no longer have to claim it when you complete your taxes.

### 10.2. 2025-2026 School Calendar

The calendar was given to school board members to look over.

### 10.3. School District Classification

Dorchester is classified as a Class One District as per the State Statute 79-104

### 10.4. Teach Nebraska Scholarship

Dr. Cogswell discussed with the board that a para would like the school to sponsor her for Teach Nebraska

## 11. Action Items

### 11.1. Appointment of Board Committees for 2025: Public Relations, Committee of American Civics/Curriculum, Buildings/Ground, Negotiations, Wellness, and Transportation

Motion to approve committees for Public Relations, American Civics/Curriculum, Building/Grounds, Negotiations, Transportation, and Wellness Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by

Shelly Lehr.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

11.2. Consider retaining the following as the official designees for 2025: 1) Representative for State and Federal Programs - Superintendent, 2) School Attorneys - KSB Law, 3) Newspaper - Crete News, and 4) Depository of District Funds - First State Bank, Dorchester Branch.

Motion to retaining the following as the official designees for 2025: Representative for State and Federal Programs-Superintendent, School Attorneys-KSB Law, Newspaper-Crete News, and Depository of District Funds-First State Bank, Dorchester Branch. Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

11.3. New Superintendent Contract

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 superintendent contract for Nick Mumm Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matt Bolton.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

12. Board Committee Report(s)

No committee reports

13. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)

Close Session not needed

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

The next scheduled board meeting is Monday, Feb. 10th, at 7:00 pm.

15. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 6:57 pm Passed with a motion by Shelly Lehr and a second by Matt Bolton.

Matt Bolton: Yea, Matthew Hansen: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Matt Smith: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

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