

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
September 11, 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: Betsy Frerichs, Dave Zimmerman, Debra Schlake, Jared McKeever, & Jeff Argo. The following administrators were present: Kane Hookstra, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Proski.

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: 9/6/2023

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. Motion to Excuse Dana Dorn from the September School Board Meeting

Motion to excuse Dana Dorn from the September school board meeting. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Dana Dorn: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, Debra Schlake: yes, David Zimmerman: yes  
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

I.C. 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 August 14, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the August 14, 2023, regular board meeting. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

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 Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jared McKeever, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

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

#### V. Support Service

##### V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report on getting the new welding program up and running, prepping for the Jr./Sr. High School entrance remodel, setting up transportation for activities, and he noted that the Level 3 charger will be installed on September 12.

Dr. Prosocki went over the Jr./Sr. High School entrance remodel schedule, the breakout list, and the sub-contractor list.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

Dr. Prosocki noted that Kassey McMurray just resigned as a parttime food service provider.

##### V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Prosocki thanked Cody Sabey and the technology committee for all of their hard work during the first few weeks of school to ensure all technology items were up and running. Dr. Prosocki noted that Southern is very fortunate to have the ability to provide all students with a high quality iPad or laptop to use for their daily school work.

#### 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 (199 = PK-6th grade students), 83% attendance rate for the Open House, DIBELS testing and IRIP plans, NSCAS fall testing, 5th grade band recruitment, conducting required safety drills (e.g., fire drill, tornado drill, & bus evacuation drills), and the formation of a 4th-6th student advisory committee to the principal (An elementary school student council).

## VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (175 = 7th-12th grade), NSCAS fall testing, all of the alternative spots are currently full and we are paying for one of Tri County's spots, Homecoming will take place on September 29 (Atlantis theme), parent teacher conferences will take place on September 28, 8 students enrolled in 9 college classes, and a recent QPR training for all 7th-12th grade students.

## VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prososki talked about starting a Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Nebraska program at Southern during the 2024-2025 school year. JAG Nebraska is dedicated to empowering students with personal and professional development training and support to help them succeed in education, the workplace, and life. Next, Dr. Prososki noted that the United States Congress did not reauthorize the Keep Kids Fed Act for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP). The Keep Kids Fed Act provided temporarily higher per-meal reimbursement rates for school districts. Dr. Prososki did note that the 2023-2024 state reimbursement rate increased by 8.3% and that would be a wash for the district. Dr. Prososki gave the school board an update on LB 644/727 regarding the upcoming Joint Public Hearing on September 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Courthouse in Beatrice. He said that the district lost equalization aid (Around \$150,000), but we will receive new special education aid, but this amount will not be enough to offset the increased costs of staffing and inflation. Dr. Prososki provided the school board with an update on the upcoming NASB State Education Conference, he gave the school board an update on teacher negotiations, he went over the upcoming October 9 in-service. From here, Dr. Prososki went over the requirements associated with LB 399 (American Civics Education Bill), he went over the annual safety and security meeting that took place in August, and he went over the special program enrollment numbers for the current school year.

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

VII.A. Discuss, Consider, and Take all Necessary Action to Adopt a Resolution Increasing the School District's Base Growth Percentage used to Determine the School District Property Tax Request by up to 7%

Motion to approve a resolution increasing the school district's base growth percentage used to determine the school district property tax request by up to 7%. This motion, made by Jeff Argo  
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

Dr. Prososki noted that the district's proposed tax request is \$138,585 below our Property Tax Authority (Revenue cap) of \$4,710,204. He proposed to the school board to increase the Property Tax Authority by 7% to \$5,172,040 for the 2023-2024 school year and he noted that the district's tax request would be \$600,040 below this amount. The whole reasoning behind the 7% increase is that it will allow the district to receive more revenue in future years if needed.

## VII.B. Revisions to Policy 6005: Academic Credits and Graduation

Motion to approve the revision to Policy 6005: academic credits and graduation. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### VII.C. Policy 3051: Opioid Overdoes Prevention and Response

Motion to Approve Policy 3051: Opioid Overdoes Prevention and Response. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

Naloxone, also known by its brand name Narcan, has been used by emergency responders and health care professionals for many years as an opioid antagonist to reduce deaths and negative consequences of individuals experiencing opioid overdose. Although Nebraska has a naloxone statute allowing for dispensing naloxone without a prescription, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, has also issued a standing order to facilitate the availability of naloxone. This policy allows the district to take advantage of those laws and have naloxone available to administer by appropriately trained staff at both buildings.

#### VII.D. Declare the Old iPads as Surplus for Immediate Sale or Disposal

Motion to declare the old iPads as surplus for immediate sale or disposal. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

#### VII.E. Option Enrollment Applications

#### VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., October 9, 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