

MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
October 12, 2020  
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: Angela Meyer, Betsy Frerichs, Carol Pralle, Dave Zimmerman, Emily Shockley, and Jim Zvolanek. The following administrators were present: Jerry Rempe & Christopher Prosofski.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgement 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. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the Jr./Sr. High School auditorium.

II. Approval of Minutes from the September 14, 2020, Regular Board Meeting, Budget Hearing, & Tax Request Hearing

Motion to approve minutes from the September 14, 2020, Regular Board Meeting, Budget Hearing, & Tax Request Hearing. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

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: Item for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

C.D. Bids for the month were as follows:

Security First Bank, Blue Springs Special Funds: 0.60%

Wymore State Bank, Special Funds: 0.51%

Dr. Proski noted the district is one month into its fiscal year and the district has expended 6.65% of its budget and received 16.22% of its revenue.

#### 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 capital purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Carol Pralle and seconded by Emily Shockley, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

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

#### V. Support Service

##### V.A. Facility Update

John Linder provided the school board with a written report over having to move to 3 bus routes because of lack of available drivers, concrete on the north side of the Jr./Sr. High School was completed (A big thank you to the Thomas Foundation for the grant funds to help support the project), and there are still a couple items that need to be complete with the press box project.

Dr. Proski went over his vision for the facilities at the football field. During a recent insurance visit, they recommended that the district gets rid of all of the old portable bleachers and replace them with updated ADA portable bleachers. The current portable bleachers pose a huge risk to the district from a liability standpoint. Dr. Proski said he would like to concrete the area west of the new bleachers and remove the current concession stands. All of the new ADA portable bleachers would go here and the concession stand would be moved to underneath the press box (It is the same setup that Pawnee City has). There would be no visitor bleachers on the south side of the football field and this will help tremendously from a supervision standpoint. The district would also look to address the drainage issues as well. Dr. Proski said he would look for possible grants to help offset some of the costs of the project. Down the road, the last phase would be to build a new concession stand with restrooms on the old basketball courts.

##### V.B. Personnel Items

##### V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Proski talked to the school board about the possibility of students in grades 7-12 being able to take their laptops home with them during the second quarter. He noted that a fee would have to be charged and based on the district laptop handbook, it lays out the cost for items that could possibly become damaged because of negligence by a student. Lastly, Dr. Proski said it would make the possible transition to remote learning smoother and the same would be true for a student that tests positive for COVID-19 and have to isolate for 10 days or for a student that is exposed to COVID-19 and have to quarantine for 14 days.

The school board decided to allow all 7-12 students take their laptop home with them for the remainder of the school year. Before the laptops can go home with students, they will need to fill out the required paperwork and pay a \$30 non reimbursable usage fee for the 2020-2021 school year. In addition, if a laptop is damaged because of negligence by a student, they will be required to cover the full cost to replace these items such as a damaged screen or damaged keys on the keyboard. Dr. Prosocki thanked the school board for allowing students to take their devices home.

## VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

### VI.A. Student Board Member Report

There was not a student board member report.

### VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (3-year-old preschool = 7, 4-year-old preschool = 11, K = 31, 1st = 24, 2nd = 22, 3rd = 23, 4th = 22, 5th = 19, 6th = 34), parent teacher conferences over Zoom, Red Ribbon Week (Red Ribbon week is an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October in the United States), DIBELS and MAP testing results, and upcoming activities.

### VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal provided a written report on the following items: end of quarter 1 on October 16, 3 of the 4 alternative spots are filled and two students could graduate by December, college representatives meeting with students over Zoom, in-service on October 12, sophomores taking the PreACT, apply to college day, upcoming testing (ASVAB & ACCUPLACER), American Civics bill, and student enrollment figures (7th - 26, 8th - 33, 9th - 28, 10th - 34, 11th - 23, 12th - 30).

### VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prosocki gave the board an update on his contracted days for the third quarter (July-September) and he thanked all of the staff and students for adapting to the new normal when it relates to COVID-19 changes throughout the school day and during extra-curricular activities (We have only had 2 staff members and 1 student test positive for COVID-19 since the start of the school year). Dr. Prosocki said there is a possibility to provide free breakfasts and free lunches for the entire 2020-2021 school year to all Southern students. The district also refunded breakfast and lunch costs during the first month of school and around \$10,000 was returned to students and parents accounts. Dr. Prosocki noted that due to COVID-19, the traditional athletic banquet in spring had to be adjusted. Moving forward, Southern will not have an athletic banquet in May and instead they will have sports specific banquets at the conclusion of each season for players and their family members (Banquets in the fall, winter, and spring). Next, he gave the board an update on the recent DIBELS and MAP testing results, he noted that he just completed an ESSA federal grant and the district should receive around \$120,000 from the grant, and he noted that the district did not receive the \$100,000 reVISION Action Grant that was going to be used for the new agriculture program and for the computer science classes. Dr. Prosocki gave

the board an update on the district's progress towards the strategic plan 2020-2024 and he reminded the board that his yearly evaluation would need to occur at the November board meeting. He told the board that he will be leading Falls City Public Schools accreditation visit in February. Lastly, Dr. Prosocki gave the board an update on the district's strategic plan for the acquisition of textbooks to improve student learning. Based on the district's strategic plan, the district will look at adopting new K-8 social studies curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year. Currently, all K-12 English Language Arts and all K-12 Math textbooks have been updated and all of the K-8 science textbooks were update this current school year. In addition, we are also looking to update the 9-12 science textbooks next year as well.

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

### VII.A. Approve the Southern Education Association as the Exclusive Bargaining Agent for the District's Non-Supervisory Certificated Staff for the 2022-2023 Contract Year

Motion to approve the Southern Education Association as the Exclusive Bargaining Agent for the District's Non-Supervisory Certificated Staff for the 2022-2023 Contract Year. This motion, made by Emily Shockley and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

### VII.B. Authorize a Line of Credit with Security First Bank

Motion to authorize a line of credit with Security First Bank in the amount of \$500,000 and authorize the superintendent and/or the treasurer to access the line of credit on behalf of the school district. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Carol Pralle, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

Dr. Prosocki noted that this line of credit of \$500,000 would only be accessed if there was a financial crisis in the district and the line of credit would serve as a contingency plan.

### VII.C. 2020 Annual Board Policy Update (Round 3)

Motion to approve the updated forms and policies: 2008, 3001, 3004.1, 4043, 5018, & 5067. This motion, made by Betsy Frerichs and seconded by Angela Meyer, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

Based upon LB 148 and our new Policy 2008: Meetings, the school board decided to discontinue the posting of 3 paper copy agendas moving forward and the superintendent will just share the Sparq school board agenda link with the public. The creation of paper copy agendas was redundant and the agendas did not provide a great deal of details about the upcoming meetings.

### VII.D. Option Enrollment Applications

## VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. This motion, made by Emily Shockley and seconded by Jim Zvolanek, passed.

yes: 6, no: 0

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., November 9, 2020, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium 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