

PALMYRA DISTRICT OR-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE: March 9, 2015

A. A meeting of the Board of Education of Palmyra District OR-1 Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Monday, March 9, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Distance Learning Room at the Palmyra District OR-1 Public Schools 425 F Street Palmyra, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent:

Present: Members present: Jaimi Calfee, Doug Church, Kipp Haight, Clayton Maahs, Kevin Schroder and Susan Steward.

Also Present: School Administrators Superintendent Robert Hanger, Elementary Principal Linde Walter, Secondary Principal David Bottrell, Janel Callahan, and Jan Svoboda.

Absent: None

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public .

B. Meeting called to order by Board of Education President Maahs at 7:30 p.m.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting.

At the beginning of this meeting, the Chair announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the South wall of the meeting room.

Motion by Schroder, seconded by Church to approve all items on the consent agenda including minutes of the last meeting, claims and financial reports. After discussion and roll call vote:

\$69,327.68 General Fund

\$355,808.71 Payroll

\$454.88 Activity Fund Reimbursement

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

C. Scheduled Audiences:

1. Janel Callahan representing OuR Community 1st thanked the Board for their efforts recognizing the importance of the school in the communities. The group requested a meeting to be held with the Board of Education in a study session format as part of the continued effort regarding facilities needs.

D. Unscheduled Audiences:

1. Jan Svoboda shared the importance of school and community working together as Bennet has planned the opening of 65 additional building lots.

E. Action Items

1. Motion by Calfee, seconded by Steward to authorize the purchase and use of eMeetings software.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

2. Motion by Calfee, seconded by Steward to approve the student survey presented by Emilsson, LLC.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

3. Motion by Calfee, seconded by Schroder to accept Pam Goodrich's voluntary resignation with appreciation for 27 years of dedicated service, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

4. Motion was made by Haight and seconded by Calfee that the Board hold a closed session for a Strategy session with respect to collective bargaining clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.

Voting No: None

Motion Passed: 6-0

The board adopted a motion to enter closed session at 8:54 with Superintendent Hanger with respect to collective bargaining and to do this in closed session in order to prevent needless injury and because it is in the public's and the school district's best interest. The board members limited their discussion to this issue.

Motion by Schroder, seconded by Calfee to leave executive session at 9:49 p.m.

5. Motion by Schroder, seconded by Calfee to approve Contract Terms for the Administrative staff.

Motion by Steward, seconded by Calfee to amend the previous motion so as to act on the building Administrator's contract terms and Superintendent's contract terms with a vote separate from the original motion.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Schroder, Steward.

Voting No: Maahs

Motion Passed: 5-1

6. Motion by Schroder, seconded by Calfee to approve Contract Terms for the building Administrators.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.

Voting No: None

Motion Passed: 6-0

7. Motion by Haight, seconded by Calfee to approve Contract Terms for the Superintendent.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder.

Voting No: Steward

Motion Passed: 5-1

8. Motion by Schroder, seconded by Calfee to approve employment terms for the support staff.

Voting Yes: Calfee, Church, Haight, Maahs, Schroder, Steward.

Voting No: None

Motion Passed: 6-0

F. Discussion Items

1. Mr. Hanger presented information regarding NASB North Star Software.
2. Mr. Hanger presented information about KSB school law firm policy review and Affordable Health Care information.
3. An eMeetings agenda draft was reviewed by the Board.
4. Meeting requests from ABC and OuR Community first were scheduled for March 24th beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Bennet Elementary.

G. Communication

None

H. Elementary Principal's Report

March 9, 2015

1. Parent Teacher Conferences:

We had 93% attendance for parent teacher conferences in February.

2. NeSA Spring Testing:

The dates for NeSA Spring Testing will be April 13-17th.

3. Read Across America Week Activities:

Bennet Elementary students celebrated Read Across America during the week of March 2nd-5th. Activities included: Green Eggs and Ham for lunch on Monday, daily Dr. Seuss trivia questions, crazy sock day, hat day, a school wide silent reading time and Dr. Seuss birthday cake.

4. Family Reading Night:

Bennet Boosters hosted a Family Reading Night for students and families on Thursday, March 5th. Families enjoyed soup and cinnamon rolls along with the Scholastic Book Fair.

5. End of Third Quarter:

The end of third quarter will be Thursday, March 12th. We will be sending home report cards on Tuesday, March 17th.

6. Kindergarten Round Up:

Bennet Elementary will have KDG Round Up on Friday, March 27th. We currently have 40 students registered for Round Up. We will be having a parent orientation meeting on Monday, March 23rd for parents.

7. Preschool Enrollment:

We are currently full at the preschool for the 2015-16 school year. Below is the Little Panthers enrollment procedure used to determine the preschool class list based on the following criteria in order of priority:

1. Students on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), living in our district will have first priority for acceptance. The State of Nebraska set up the preschool program to help those children with the highest needs.
2. Those students living in our school district who will turn four by July 31st, oldest to youngest by birth month/day/year.
3. Those students living in our school district who will turn three by July 31st, oldest to youngest by birth month/day/year.
4. If there are still open spots, non-district students will be chosen based on the criteria listed above. Mr. Hanger informed the Board that he is working with the State to review the occupancy rating.

I. Secondary Principal's Report

March 9, 2015

1. NeSA Spring Testing

We have tentatively set the last 3 weeks in April for testing.

2. Parent teachers attendance

7th 18 of 29- 62%
8th 25 of 33 – 75%
9th 18 of 28 – 64%
10th 14 of 39 – 36%
11th 16 of 24 – 67%
12th 16 of 27 – 59%
Total 107 of 180 – 49%

Attendance by hour:

2:00-3:00 – 21 families
3:00-4:00 – 18 families
4:00-5:00 – 18 families
5:00-6:00 – 16 families
6:00-7:00 – 9 families
7:00-8:00 – 5 families

3. Pre-registration 2014-2015

This process is in full swing. More on the master schedule at the April meeting.

J. Assistant Principal/Activities Director Report

March 9, 2015

1. The Board reviewed activities for the month of March.

K. Superintendents Report and Recommendations

March 9, 2015

1. Board Goal: Continue to implement and expand character education programs. The secondary staff is reviewing the curriculum in order to move 8 to Great to a 9-12 experience and allow for full implementation of Second Step in grades 7-8 with an emphasis on problem solving. Mr. Chaffee will report their findings and changes to the group this spring.
2. Board Goal: Increase emphasis on technology programs. Maintain hardware/software infrastructure: the district has applied for funds from e-rate to assist with the upgrade network switches. Funding for the project would be at 60% if approved by the Universal Service Fund.
3. The state has certified State Aid to District OR-1 at \$489,644 which is an increase of \$61,633.
4. According to the Department of Education District OR-1 expends \$9,585.93 in adjusted General Fund operating expenditures per formula student. That ranks 17th out of the 20 schools in the cost group comparison.

L. Board of Education Development

1. NRCSA Spring Conference in Kearney March 19, 20.
2. Back to the Basics of School Law in Lincoln April 8.
3. Board Retreat April 20th at NASB.
4. NETA conference April 23, 24 Omaha Century Link Center.

M. Topics for Next Months Agenda

Staffing update, NRCSA conference facilities.

Adjournment

- I. The meeting was duly adjourned at 9:55 o'clock p.m. on March 9, 2015.

Next Board Meeting- April 13, 2015 at Palmyra High School Distance Learning Room at 7:00 P.M. This is a draft copy of the Board of Education minutes that does not become official until approved by the Board.