

PALMYRA DISTRICT OR-1
 Regular Meeting - Board of Education
 Monday, October 12, 2009 –7:00 P.M. at Palmyra

A. Call to order by Board of Education President Clayton Maahs at 7:00 p.m. Jaimi Calfee, Mark Clem, Clayton Maahs, Mike Powers and Kevin Schroder were present. Lori Bruss was absent. School administrators present were Superintendent Clyde Childers and Elementary Principal Steve Robb. Also in attendance were Stacy Dowding and Deb Knorr.

A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the meeting room.

B. Motion by Clem, seconded by Schroder to approve the agenda, minutes of September 8, 2009 Regular Meeting, and approve the listed claims:

October 2009 Claims

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| ABC | 146.00 | Pest Control | MakeMusic | 130.00 | Supplies |
| Alltel | 48.38 | Phone | Mayer-Johnson | 477.00 | Hardware |
| AmSan | 694.18 | Maintenance | McGraw-Hill | 405.14 | Books |
| Blick, Dick | 352.77 | Supplies | Menards | 198.52 | Supplies |
| Casey's | 3,638.66 | Fuel | Midwest Refuse | 376.50 | Refuse |
| CDW | 23,894.36 | Hardware | Midwest Technology | 46.40 | Supplies |
| Cenex | 1,821.12 | Fuel | Modern Methods | 303.50 | Lease/Maintenance |
| Channing Bete Co | 1,310.62 | Supplies | National FFA | 698.00 | Supplies |
| Company Care | 55.00 | DOT | NCSA | 530.00 | Dues |
| Cornhusker International | 75.47 | Repairs | Nebr City News | 116.73 | Ad |
| Creative Teaching | 2.99 | Supplies | Nebr City Tourism | 10.00 | Field Trip |
| Dalton, Jerome | 7.50 | Permit | Nebr City Utilities | 10,056.13 | Utilities |
| Decker's | 550.62 | Supplies | Nebr Music Educators | 470.00 | Dues |
| Ekstrum | 990.98 | Repairs | Nebr Retail Ventures | 68.42 | Fuel |
| ESU 4 | 165.00 | Staff Development | Office Depot | 26.98 | Supplies |
| ESU 4 | 2,261.78 | SPED | O'Keefe Elevator | 1,485.80 | Repairs |
| ESU 6 | 419.03 | ISP | Omaha Stage | 2,280.66 | Curtains |
| ETA | 317.24 | Supplies | Omaha Truck | 189.11 | Repairs |
| FES | 1,459.20 | Web Page | Palmer & Sons | 109.75 | Refuse |
| Finney Co | 32.45 | Supplies | Palmyra Activity Fund | 22,761.81 | Reimbursement |
| Focken, Robert | 93.65 | Repairs | PayFlex | 639.50 | Fee |
| Follett | 5,090.02 | Books | Pearson Education | 5,460.09 | Books |
| Frazee, Bill | 15.63 | Rec Refund | Phillips, Paul | 200.00 | Maintenance |
| Friendship House | 204.61 | Supplies | Pitney Bows | 237.00 | Lease |
| Galaxy | 5.58 | Distance Learning | PPG | 193.03 | Maintenance |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| General Fire | 75.00 | Alarm | Prestwick | 425.90 | Books |
| Gray Enterprise | 53.06 | Supplies | Pygraphics | 361.00 | Supplies |
| Hamilton Service | 1,187.56 | Repairs | Quill | 382.48 | Supplies |
| Hammond & Stephens | 412.33 | Supplies | Recycling Enterprises | 105.00 | Refuse |
| Harding & Shultz | 115.00 | Legal | School Speciality | 83.88 | Supplies |
| HireRight | 79.00 | Fee | Science Kit | 227.10 | Supplies |
| Holdsworth, Randy | 22.80 | Reimb-Supplies | Seminole Energy | 632.12 | Utilities |
| Holiday Inn | 139.90 | Staff Development | Social Studies School | 23.52 | Supplies |
| Home Depot | 181.70 | Maintenance | Softchoice Corp | 1,439.32 | Software |
| Houghton Mifflin | 1,880.65 | Books | Stilwell, Gera | 5.16 | Reimb-Supplies |
| Ikon | 2,218.99 | Lease/Maintenance | Stutheit | 33.93 | Repairs |
| Inspro | 11,368.75 | Insurance | Teacher Direct | 147.66 | Supplies |
| Janssen, Jenny | 141.74 | Reimb-Supplies | The Added Touch | 38.50 | Supplies |
| JNFS Engineering | 10,763.50 | Repairs | Village of Bennet | 993.16 | Utilities |
| Johnson, Ed | 250.00 | Inspection | Village of Palmyra | 732.35 | Utilities |
| Kastens | 157.89 | Repairs | Voice News | 221.35 | Ad |
| Lincoln Journal | 6.10 | Ad | Windstream | <u>513.39</u> | Phone |
| Linweld | 308.61 | Supplies | TOTAL | <u><u>126,851.31</u></u> | |

\$126,851.31 General Fund

\$321,509.16 Payroll

\$ 22,761.81 Activity Fund Reimbursement

\$ 26,400.00 Special Building Fund

\$ 61,500.00 Depreciation Account

Voting Yes: Calfee, Clem, Maahs, Powers, Schroder

Voting No: None

Absent: Bruss

Motion Passed: 5-0-1

C. Scheduled Audiences: None

D. Unscheduled Audiences: None

E. Action Items: None

F. Non Action Items: None

G. Communication

1. Letter from NDE congratulating the district on having a staff that is 100% NCLB qualified during the 2008-09 school year.
2. We have received a letter from USDA indicating that the review of our farm operation has been completed and that we will be receiving the 2009 CRP payment this month.

H. Elementary Principal's Report

1. Fire Safety Week

As always, members of the Bennet Fire Dept. were on hand this week for a Fire Safety Assembly. The theme this year is "Learn Not to Burn." Following a fire drill, our students returned to the cafeteria for the fire safety program. They were treated to numerous demonstrations and examples of fire hazards in the home and what to do to avoid them. Officer Tim Norris did an outstanding job with the kids, holding their attention for over 40 minutes with his demonstrations and examples of common household fire hazards. The other officers also did a great job. We had a fireman all dressed up in his firefighting gear come crawling through the students, we had a fireman, showing students how to exit a smoke filled room, and we had fireman showing students about electrical hazards in the home. Our front counter was chalk full of household items that could be the source of fire hazards. We really are fortunate to have a group of fire fighters that are so willing to come up and spend time with our students. They also do a great job of supporting our DARE program. They are just a great group to work with.

2. "Kids on the Block" Assembly

"Kids on the Block," a puppet program sponsored by the Nebraska Elks Association, made a stop at Bennet Elementary a couple of weeks ago to present an assembly on Bullying.

Students in grades K-3 were treated to several skits depicting various forms of bullying that can take place in school and the community. Following each skit, the puppet masters conducted question and answer segments with the students to further explore how bullying affects students.

Students in grades 4 – 6 also got to watch several skits on bullying. One of the key discussion topics for this group was cyber-bullying and its effect on students. Examples of several instances of bullying were discussed with this group. Students were made aware that bullying is always physical or verbal. Bullying can be the simple act of making others feel unwelcome or excluding them from activities and group discussions.

Students in both groups learned how to react to bullying. They were given cues to use when they saw bullying such as using peer pressure to discourage acts of bullying. Finally, and most importantly students learned of the need to report bullying to adults in authority.

Our thanks go to the Nebraska Elks Association for bringing “Kids on the Block” to our school. It was a very timely and worthwhile assembly.

3. P-T Conferences

We had a great turnout for P-T Conferences in September. They went very smoothly.

4. End of the First Qtr

The end of the first qtr. is Thursday, October 15th. Our report cards will be sent home on Friday, October 23rd.

5. Network Problems

We have spent a lot of time working with our wireless network this past month. It has taken up a lot of our time and efforts. Although it is up and functioning now, it still is not running as efficiently as we need. These problems really affect our Spanish lessons. The video quality has been poor. Hopefully we can get things ironed out and back on track.

6. Achievement Testing

We completed Terra Nova Achievement Testing this week. The tests were sent in for scoring on Friday. We should have results and reports back by the 23rd.

7. New Water Faucets Installed in Hallway Sinks

Our new touchless water faucets have finally been installed in the wash basins in the two main hallways. These new faucets are working well, and it is hoped that they will help cut down on disease transmission in the washing areas. The new faucets also waste less water than the old push button faucets. They are certainly a big hit with the students!

I. Secondary Principal’s Report

1. First confirmed H1N1

We got confirmation of our first H1N1 on Friday.

2. School Safety

A copy of our updated school safety manual for each BOE member was presented to the board.

3. Below is a summarization of our daily/routine safety practices:

- All outside doors except the main ones remain locked at all times.
- All classroom doors remain locked during class time.
- All visitors report to the office upon entering the building.
- Teachers are assigned supervision duties before, during, and after school.
- Along with administration, teachers are assigned lunch room supervision.

- Administrators, Mr. Brown, Mr. Gabriel monitor bus loading, parking lots after school everyday.
- Periodic safety, fire, and tornado drills.

4. Parent teacher conferences

7th – 15 of 26
 8th – 32 of 36
 9th – 19 of 30
 10th – 19 of 34
 11th – 22 of 37
 12th – 19 of 31
 Total – 126 of 194 for 65%

We were at 69% for fall conferences last year.

J. Assistant Principal/Activities Director Report

The upgrades to the weight room were noted in the Hickman Voice. The used flooring, mirrors, and donated weight equipment have had a positive impact on our students in the classes that utilize them.

An itemized list of upcoming activities for October was presented to the board.

K. Superintendent’s Report

1. 2009 NASB/NASA State Education Conference at the La Vista Conference Center/Embassy Suites November 18-20, 2009. Registrations due by October 23rd.
2. NASB’s Learning the Ropes: A New Board Member Workshop at the La Vista Conference Center/Embassy Suites November 18th. This workshop is being offered for the first time in an off election year for members that may have missed the opportunity when they were either elected or appointed. It is also an opportunity for veteran board members to refresh their knowledge and gain an overall understanding of the school board’s roles and responsibilities, will learn the basic elements of school law, public relations, board policy and the board/superintendent relationship.
3. The enrollment on the last Friday in September is as follows:

Last Friday in September

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--------|------|------|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | PreK-6 | 7-12 | K-12 | PreK | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 09-10 | 238 | 194 | 432 | 24 | 30 | 28 | 27 | 35 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 26 | 36 | 30 | 34 | 37 | 31 |

4. We did some comparison shopping with insurance this year. As a result, we made the switch to Indiana Insurance Company.

5. The Nebraska Department of Property Assessment and Taxation annually determines the value of property within given political sub-divisions. The Nebraska Department of Property Assessment and Taxation whose calculations are used by NDE school finance in calculating local resources, adversely affects a school district in the school finance formula when a county assessment of property is less than the figure that is determined by the Nebraska Department of Property Assessment and Taxation. In addition to the resulting loss in state aid, the district is able to generate property tax dollars only at the value of property values as determined by the county assessors. The figures indicate the difference between the county assessor's total valuation and the value as determined by the NE Dept. of Property Assessment & Taxation. The difference this year between unadjusted and adjusted property assessments has grown to more than five million dollars.
6. The annual safety inspection was conducted on October 8, 2009. While we have made significant progress toward improving conditions at both schools, there continues to be necessary improvements that surface from time to time. The text of the report is contained with the board packet.

L. Items for Future Board Meeting

M. Adjourn at 8:30 p.m.—Next Regular Meeting—November 9, 2009 at Palmyra High School Library at 7:00 PM.