

PALMYRA DISTRICT OR-1
 Regular Meeting - Board of Education
 Monday, March 8, 2010 –7:00 P.M. at Palmyra

- A.** Call to order by Board of Education President Clayton Maahs. Lori Bruss, Mark Clem, Clayton Maahs, Mike Powers and Kevin Schroder were present. Jaimi Calfee joined the meeting in progress at 7:20 p.m. School administrators Superintendent Clyde Childers, Secondary Principal Dave Bottrell, Elementary Principal Steve Robb and Assistant Secondary Principal/Activities Director Mark Oltman were present. Also in attendance were Dennis Dowding, Stacy Dowding, Deb Knorr, Denise Knutson, Kim Svoboda, Cathy Fick, Sharon Dowding, Kipp Haight, Vicki Hillman, and Pam Bulin.
- B.** Motion by Schroder, seconded by Bruss to approve the agenda, minutes of February 8, 2010 Regular Meeting and approve the listed claims:

March 2010 Claims

ABC Termite	146.00	Pest Control	Lovell	150.00	Repair
AmSan	193.76	Maintenance	Malcolm PS	472.50	Music Contest Fees
Attainment Co	208.95	Supplies	Malone, Ken	21.50	Supplies
Beatrice Concrete	8.25	Maintenance	McGraw-Hill	1,421.55	Books
Bell, Doralee	450.00	Reimb-Ins Deduct	Menards	431.45	Maintenance
Brown, Burke	500.00	Reimb-Ins Deduct	MidAmerica Books	332.87	Books
Casey's	5,271.55	Fuel	Modern Methods	626.75	Lease/Maintenance
CDW-G	18,083.89	Hardware	NASB	3,545.00	Dues/Fees
Cenex	467.56	Fuel	Nebr City Utilities	10,738.02	Utilities
Cornhusker	333.39	Repair	Neligh Oakdale PS	180.00	Music Fee
Decker's	282.53	Supplies	NSBA	120.00	Music Fee
Diamond T	276.92	Repair	Omaha World-Herald	287.72	Ad
Egan	483.13	Maintenance	Palmer & Sons	109.75	Refuse
Ekstrum Auto	254.90	Repair	Palmyra Activity Fund	1,094.40	Reimbursement
ESU 4	2,079.03	SPED/Staff Development	PayFlex	115.70	Fee
ESU 6	6,424.83	ISP/Hardware	Proquest	1,070.00	Books
Fremont Industries	273.00	Maintenance	Recycling Enterprises	60.00	Refuse
General Security	518.60	Maintenance	School Specialty	109.00	Supplies
Hamilton Service	5,165.66	Repair	Seminole Energy	8,240.37	Utilities
Holdsworth, Randy	45.20	Supplies	SirkDot	5,900.00	Hardware
Ikon	886.24	Lease/Maintenance	Sullivan, Stacy	500.00	Reimb-Ins Deduct
Inspro	10,527.75	Insurance	Teaching Strategies	33.96	Supplies
KALL	133.20	Consultant	The Added Touch	61.00	Supplies

Kastens	14.80	Repair	The Special Needs	29.94	Supplies
Kids on the Go	325.75	Physical Therapy	Village of Bennet	414.56	Utilities
Knowbuddy Resources	894.02	Books	Village of Palmyra	345.57	Utilities
Linweld	142.55	Supplies	Windstream	<u>325.21</u>	Phone
			TOTAL	<u>91,128.28</u>	

\$ 91,128.28 General Fund

\$313,237.62 Payroll

\$ 1,094.40 Activity Fund Reimbursement

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

Voting No: None

Absent: Calfee

Motion Passed: 5-0-1

C. Scheduled Audiences:

- Denise Knutson spoke to the board on behalf of the Palmyra Fine Arts Boosters. In her remarks Mrs. Knutson indicated that she wanted to reduce to writing a previous oral agreement between the fine arts boosters and the board of education regarding the accumulation of funds for the purchase of new band uniforms. That agreement calls for the booster organization to contribute \$2,000 per year for three years while the district contributes \$10,000 per year for three years. The contributions began in 08-09 and will be complete in 10-11.

D. Unscheduled Audiences: None

E. Action Items

- Motion by Powers, seconded by Clem to approve 2010-2011 School Calendar.

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

Voting No: None

Motion Passed: 6-0

- Motion by Bruss, seconded by Clem to authorize the Superintendent to issue contract renewals on March 15, 2010 to the certified staff in accordance with terms to be determined by the outcome of collective bargaining.

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

Voting No: None

Motion Passed: 6-0

3. Motion by Schroder, seconded by Powers to approve a teaching contract with Cassidy Lubben.

Voting Yes: Bruss, Calfee, Clem, Maahs, Powers, Schroder
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

4. Motion by Powers, seconded by Schroder to authorize the Board of Education President to Sign a memorandum of understanding with the Fine Arts Booster Club.

Voting Yes: Bruss, Calfee, Clem, Maahs, Powers, Schroder
Voting No: None
Motion Passed: 6-0

F. Non Action Items:

1. Contained within the board packet is a Report of High School Graduation Requirements In Nebraska Public Schools. The report is similar to the one that we developed a couple of years that included schools similar to us and those in the surrounding area. This report is statewide and would seem to confirm that our school's graduation requirements are not out of the ordinary.
http://www.nde.state.ne.us/stateboard/support%20materials/2006/october/graduation_survey.doc

2. Discuss issues raised by listed board members at the February meeting. This might be the appropriate time to also re-visit the Nebraska Association of School Boards pamphlet titled Surviving Your First Year on the Board. The pamphlet contains good advice for board members on how best to respond to issues such as these.

- Bullying – Lori Bruss – See Board Policy 524.20 and Section 505 Student Discipline
- Name of School District on School Buses – Jaimi Calfee – See Board Policy 101
- Sportsmanship – Mike Powers – See Student Handbook Article 9 – Extra-Curricular Activities

<http://www.nebr-schoolboards.org/Publications/FirstYear.pdf>

G. Communication:

1. Letter to the board of education from Robert Hanger expressing thanks for the opportunity to become Superintendent of Schools at District OR-1.

H. Elementary Principal's Report

1. March is Here! Spring is Close at Hand

We went outside for recesses this week for the first time since before Christmas. We really needed to get outside. It is that stretch of the year where everybody gets a little cranky with each other. Getting out and getting fresh air does help.

2. Fifth and Sixth Grade B.B. Games

Part of “March Madness” includes our annual Fifth and Sixth Grade v. Staff basketball games. The fifth grade plays the staff on Friday, March 5th. The sixth grade is slated to play us on Wednesday, March 10th. This year it is looking tough for the staff. I have a sore neck and shoulder and will not be playing. Several other staff members are doubtful also. I’m thinking we need to find another type of challenge. Maybe chess, checkers, or some cerebral engagement would be more suited to an aging faculty!

3. Family Read-athon and Spaghetti Supper.

We had over 130 people at our first Family Read-athon and Spaghetti Supper on Tuesday, March 2nd (Dr. Seuss’s birthday). Proceeds after expenses from the supper are going to be donated to the Bruce Family. We took in over \$800.00 that night. I haven’t heard from the Boosters about how much we had in expenses, but it shouldn’t be much over \$100.00, as we had a lot of vendors donate items for the event. There were over 200 points in AR quizzes taken that night as part of the read-athon portion of the evening. Many families stretched out in the Library, computer lab, and hallways to read together and take quizzes on the Accelerated Reader.

4. Malcolm Elementary Music Contest

Our fifth and sixth grade band students will be taking part in the Malcolm Elementary Music Contest on Thursday, March 18th and Friday March 19th. This is the elementary student’s first experience with music competition. It is impressive to see how far the fifth graders have come in less than one year. And the sixth graders always seem to do amazingly well also.

5. P-T Conferences

We had over 95% attendance for P-T Conferences during the week of February 9th. If parents were not able to make in on the 9th, we tried to reschedule later in the week or at least do a phone conference.

6. State Writing Assessment

Our 4th graders completed their state writing assessments the second week in February. They have been sent to the state department for scoring. We should have some preliminary data on results in May. Next up is the state reading assessment. We are taking practice assessments on line this month. We will complete the reading assessment during the first two weeks in April.

7. Special Ed File Review

This year is our year for SPED file review. We will be hosting members from the State Department of Education here on Wednesday, March 24th. They will be checking our Special Education files and folders to make sure that we are following Rule 51 rules and procedures.

I. Secondary Principal's Report

1. Parent-Teacher Conferences

7th grade 15/25 – 60 %, 8th grade 25/37 – 68%, 9th grade 17/28 – 60%, 10th grade 14/32 – 44%, 11th grade 15/34 – 44%, 12th grade 18/31 – 58% - - 104 of 187 – 57% total

2. FFA Happenings – From Mr. Malone

During the National convention, Palmyra had its largest number of American Degree recipients this year, with Adam Field, Dan Robinett, Jason Cheney, Nicole Schroder, Kyle Schroder and Preston Bruss receiving the award.

Competing at the District Leadership Skills Experience contest Jan.19 at SCC in Beatrice, Kendra Haight, qualified for the State Junior Public Speaking contest, which will be held during the State FFA convention in April. The title of her speech was "Women in Agriculture".

Palmyra FFA hosted the District FFA State Degree interviews and test. Tyler Kinzie, Cory Grant and Jacob Knutson passed the interviews and test and will receive the State FFA Degree in April at the State FFA Convention in Lincoln.

Emma Bremer has been selected to represent Palmyra FFA in the State FFA Choir in April during State convention.

The chapter celebrated National FFA week, Feb. 22 with displays placed in businesses and the banks in Bennet and Palmyra and cookies delivered on Monday. A slide show was presented at lunch to the students and at the end of each day there were Agriculture Trivia questions with prizes for the winners. Friday the FFA members conducted a Loose Change Drive for the Food Banks and will be sending them \$100.

Six chapter members and Mr. Malone attended the Made For Excellence Conference in Kearney Feb. 26-27. It is conducted by past National Officers and provides an excellent base for leadership skills and training.

At the Career Development Events contest at Beatrice March 2, the Welding team and Meats team qualified to compete at the State Contest in Lincoln coming up in April. Scores are not in for Floriculture team yet.

We will be conducting our second Blood Drive, March 9. We currently have 58 scheduled with two walk ins. We hope combining the total collected on March 9 and the drive last November will provide a scholarship close to or over \$1000 for a Palmyra student. Scholarship forms will be available to students at the end of March and during April so the selection can be made before Awards night.

On a note for CPR Training for Staff we have our first training nights scheduled for March 15th and 16th.

3. Pre-registration 2010-2011

Ms. Merryman will be completing in the coming days. A draft of the schedule is included w/ my report. Please note the addition of a course 8th period called "Math Seminar" that Mr. Jensen will teach. This course will be designed to give students a 3rd year math option that isn't Pre-Calculus, and some cases Algebra 2. In April, I will have a recommendation for changing the wording in our graduation policy with regard to Math. Simply put, we need to word the policy so that it requires students to pass Geometry as part of their three year math requirement.

4. Ms. Gill at Central States Conference

Ms. Gill attended the Central States Conference of Foreign Languages (our regional Language conference that oversees our state language association - NILA of which she is the state Secretary) Covering 12 states from Kentucky to Ohio to Colorado and Texas). The opportunities are endless during the conference. Individual workshops are held on Thursday, along with an advisory council meeting she attended as well. On Friday and Saturday there are more than 40 different sessions to attend; it's certainly full, but the ideas heard about each year are a huge benefit to the students at Palmyra. This year our state language association (NILA) voted Ms. Gill's technology session "Best of NE" which allows her the opportunity to present at this level on Saturday from 4:00-5:00. Her session included nearly 40 slides and information detailing the different programs we use at Palmyra and that are available to assess students' language abilities (all are free). Feel free to see this project at the following web address: <https://sites.google.com/site/sragillrenken/nila-2009-conference-1>

J. Assistant Principal/Activities Director Report

1. Mr. Oltman provided an overview of activities scheduled for the month of March.

K. Superintendent's Report

1. According the Otoe County Election Commissioner, we have eight candidates seeking the three board member positions. One of the three incumbents, Clayton Maahs, has filed for re-election. Mike Powers and Lori Bruss have not. Non-incumbents who have filed are as follows: Kipp Haight, Ryan Dillon, Douglas Church, Sharon Dowding, Larry Jo Royal, Dennis Dowding, and Craig Bolz. The eight candidates will be narrowed to a total of six in the primary election on May 11th. Three will be elected from the remaining six in the general election November 2, 2010.

2. A reminder of upcoming opportunities for growth:

2010 NRCSA Spring Conference: March 23 & 24, 2010 at the Kearney Holiday Inn and Convention Center
http://www.nrcsa.net/conferences_events/spring_conferences.htm

L. Items for Future Board Meeting

M. Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.—Next Regular Meeting—April 12, 2010 at Palmyra High School Library at 7:00 PM.