

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
April 14, 2025

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on April 14, 2025 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Jennifer McConville, John O'Dea, Derek Meyers, Jason Neseth, Brooke Brooks, Duane Teter, Superintendent Drew Billeter, Principals Matt Springer and Tara Fries, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: None.

Visitors: Hillery Kennedy, Anne Kennedy, Payton Schake, and Deanne Ruggles.

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by McConville, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Meyers, McConville, Neseth, Teter, O'Dea, and Brooks. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, the Stockmens Bank Bartley Branch, Post Offices in Bartley and Indianola, Southwest Elementary School in Indianola, Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley, and published in the Valley Voice newspaper and on the school website. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Moved by Teter, seconded by McConville, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2025 Board Meeting. Ayes: Teter, Brooks, Meyers, McConville, and Neseth. Nays: None. Abstain: O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: McConville, Meyers, Brooks, Teter, O'Dea, and Neseth. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Meyers, to approve the renewal of a two-year coop agreement with McCook and Medicine Valley Schools for girls' and boys' swimming. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Neseth, Brooks, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the quote by Gov.Connection to purchase eleven staff computers in the amount of \$10,180.06. Ayes: O'Dea, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, Teter, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Brooks, to approve the resignation from Joni Bowman at the end of the school year. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by O'Dea, to postpone action on New Business, Action Item 4, and to go into closed session to discuss the resignation of Michael Brodd for the needless injury to the reputation of an individual following the administrators' reports. President Neseth repeated the motion, and the board voted as follows: Ayes: Neseth, McConville, Brooks, Meyers, and O'Dea. Nays: Teter. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve the teacher contract of Carly Rodaway as an instructor at the junior-senior high school. Ayes: O'Dea, Neseth, Brooks, Teter, Meyers, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the special education meeting scheduled for April 22, 2025 at 3:40 p.m. in the library at the junior-senior high school for home school students. He also reported to the board on the surplus items sold the past month. Mr. Billeter informed the Board of the completion of

the school nurse's office at the elementary building, installation of electrical switches at the junior-senior high building, and the selection for the Choice Gas supplier would be Wood River Energy for one year.

Principal Fries reported on the MAPS Assessments and the state NSCAS testing. She also commented on scheduled field trips and music concerts.

Principal Springer reported on the orientation of next school year's Grade Six students and their Parents Meeting. He reported that the junior-senior high schedule for 2025-2026 is almost complete. Junior-Senior high students may not be required to complete semester testing if they have reached specific criteria for second semester. Howard Kester will be retiring as a bus driver and discussion of the 25-26 bus routes and cost of new bus driver training was discussed.

President Neseth announced board members would go into closed session at 8:05 prior to voting on New Business, Action Item 4.

President Neseth ended closed session at 8:18 p.m.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve the resignation of Michael Brodd at the end of the school year. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, McConville, Neseth, Meyers, and Brooks. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.