

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
August 11, 2025

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m. on August 11, 2025 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Derek Meyers, Jason Neseth, Brooke Brooks, Duane Teter, Superintendent Drew Billeter, Principal Matt Springer, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: John O'Dea and Jennifer McConville.

Visitors: Hillery Kennedy and Mindy Haag.

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by Brooks, to excuse absent board members, John O'Dea and Jennifer McConville. Ayes: Neseth, Brooks, Teter, and Meyers. Nays: None. Absent: O'Dea and McConville. Motion carried.

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

Mindy Haag reported on the recent Beef in Schools fund raiser.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2025 Board Meeting with said corrections. Ayes: Neseth, Brooks, Teter, and Meyers. Nays: None. Absent: O'Dea and McConville. Motion carried.

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Brooks, to approve the Southwest Teacher Association's request for recognition as the exclusive bargaining agent representing the district's certified staff for the 2027-2028 contract year. Ayes: Neseth, Brooks, Teter, O'Dea, and Meyers. Nays: None. Absent: McConville. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve transferring \$85,000 from the general fund to the school nutrition fund and \$65,000 to the activities fund. Ayes: O'Dea, Neseth, Brooks, Teter, and Meyers. Nays: None. Absent: McConville. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the receipt of more classified staff applications following the hourly rate increase, new classified staff members, the Beef in Schools program, and plans for a budget workshop are being made.

Principal Springer reported on the current bus routes and a 1:00 dismissal on Wednesday, August 13.

Mr. Billeter informed the Board members of Principal Fries report on Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 12, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Meyers, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Ayes: Neseth, O'Dea, Brooks, Teter, and Meyers. Nays: None. Absent: McConville. 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, September 15, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.