

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
December 13, 2021

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on December 13, 2021 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Duane Teter, Jennifer McConville, Jason Kloeping, Jason Neseth, Brooke Brooks, Superintendent Todd Porter, Principal Matt Springer, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: John O'Dea.

Visitors: Les Roggenkamp.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

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

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

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Post Offices in Bartley and Indianola, Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, Stockmens Bank Bartley Branch, 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 McConville, seconded by Kloeping, to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 board meeting as presented. Ayes: Neseth, Brooks, Kloeping, and McConville. Abstained: Teter. Nays: None. Absent: O'Dea. Motion carried.

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

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

The semi-annual review of Covid-19 Protocols and uses of the ARP ESSR III Grant, as posted on the school website, are being used for class size reduction and interventions and was discussed by school board members.

New Business, Action Item 2, discuss and take appropriate action on teacher contract negotiations for the 2022-2023 contracts was tabled until the end of the meeting.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Brooks, to adopt the required revision of Board Policy 2009 Public Participation at Board Meetings to reflect new statutory wording. Ayes: Teter, Neseth, Brooks, O'Dea, Kloeping, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Neseth, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the District Audit for the year ended August 31, 2021. Ayes: Brooks, Kloeping, Neseth, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Porter informed the board on notification of filing deadlines for the School Board Candidates. The deadline for incumbents to file is February 15, and the non-incumbent filing deadline date is March 15.

No concrete bids have been submitted for the junior-senior high school project at this time. Therefore, the item was tabled until the January 2022 board meeting.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloepping, to approve the appointment of Michael Lord to the Southwest Public Schools Foundation Board. Ayes: McConville, Teter, O'Dea, Kloepping, Neseth and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

A report from Board Members and administrators was given on the listening opportunity with the Cambridge and Arapahoe administrators and Board Members regarding possible athletic and academic opportunities. No action was taken.

Superintendent Porter reported that Jack Moles from NRCSA has requested to be placed on the February agenda to offer help concerning the superintendent search. Mr. Porter reminded Board members of the NRCSA Spring Conference on March 17 and 18. The Southwest Foundation is interested in providing funds for motivational speakers for students and staff and needed student-centered projects. Superintendent Porter is planning to attend the Western Nebraska Administrator's meeting in Alliance on January 12, 2022.

Principal Springer informed the Board of the semester test schedule. Topics of attendance and participation rates were discussed.

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, January 10, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

President Teter made a motion to go into closed session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss the 2022-2023 teacher negotiations for the protection of the public interest, which was seconded by McConville. President Teter restated the motion that the school board would go into closed session to discuss only the 2022-2023 teacher negotiations for the protection of the public interest at 8:40 p.m.

The Board ended closed session at 9:05 p.m. with no action being taken.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Neseth, to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Ayes: McConville, O'Dea, Neseth, Teter, Brooks, and Kloepping. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.