Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
December 14, 2015

Vice-President Ondrea McConville called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:32 p.m. on December 14, 2015 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.


Absent: Duane Teter.

Visitors: Mary Marsh, Jolene Miller, and Sarah Krause.

Vice-President Ondrea McConville observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Daffer, to excuse absent Board Member Duane Teter. Ayes: O. McConville, O’Dea, J. McConville, Baumbach, and Daffer. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Baumbach, O. McConville, O’Dea, J. McConville, and Daffer. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by the board-approved method of meeting notice. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Superintendent Porter reported an $850 donation from the Frenchman Valley Coop for the FFA program, Gracie Fries and Avery McConville participated in the All-State Children’s Choir held in Lincoln on November 19, the high school quiz bowl took first place at the Arapahoe Quiz Bowl on December 7, students receiving honors to participate in the January 25 Kearney Honor, Festival and Women’s Choirs are Karlie Swink, Alex Porter, Shelby Nelson, Bethany Fickle, Ellie Brown, Kyle Van Pelt, Stevie Wadle, and Ashley Kragelund and Festival Band participant is Brady Porter. Students participating in the Doane Vocal Festival on January 10 and 11 are Karlie Swink, Alex Porter, and Brady Porter, Kaden Guerrero was nominated as the Class D Wrestler of the Week for the Nebraska USA Wrestling Organization, and Ellie Adam, Zander Dack, and Walter Fitzsimmons received Outstanding Actor Recognition at the District One-Act Play Production Competition on November 18.


Moved by Daffer, seconded by Baumbach, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: J. McConville, Daffer, O’Dea, Baumbach, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.
Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Baumbach, to approve the 2014-2015 audit as presented by Bentley & Kisker, PC. Ayes: J. McConville, O. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, and O’Dea. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the design work for the junior-senior high school gym floor as presented. Ayes: J. McConville, O. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, and O’Dea. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the possibility of replacing the concrete on the west side of the elementary building. No action was taken, and New Business, Action Item #3 was tabled until the January board meeting.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the installation of natural gas lines to the junior-senior high science room. Ayes: Daffer, O. McConville, Baumbach, O’Dea, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. Motion carried.


Superintendent Porter reported on an ESU Board Member Workshop scheduled in January, the NSAA draft of gender participation, highlights of the Legislative Preview, an upcoming Legislative Issues workshop by NASB, and Attorney Karen Haase’s presentation to Grade 6-12 students regarding internet safety and cell phone use.

Principal Latta reported on the attendance of sixth grade students at the Karen Haase presentation, a Grade 3-5 student internet safety presentation by ESU #15, the attendance of Grades 3-6 at The Nutcracker presentation in McCook, and the upcoming elementary Christmas Appreciation Breakfast.

Principal Springer discussed semester tests planned for December 21 and 22, graduation requirements and the need to review and possibly revise the requirements, and the finalization of an on-line College Speech class.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Daffer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Ayes: Daffer, O. McConville, Baumbach, O’Dea, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter. 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, January 11, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.