

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
March 10, 2025

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on March 10, 2025 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

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

Absent: John O'Dea.

Visitors: Sagan Carman-Downer, Stacy Wilson, Alyssa Garrett, Hillery Kennedy, and Mindy Haag.

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

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

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

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

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

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve the teacher contract for Sergio Alarcon as a math instructor at the junior-senior high school. Ayes: O'Dea, Neseth, Brooks, Teter, Meyers, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the 2025-2026 bus driver rates at \$65.00 per route and the activity trip hourly wage will remain at \$18.00 per hour. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Neseth, Brooks, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve the bid by Unitech to refinish the gym floors in the summer of 2025 for \$4,740.00. Ayes: O'Dea, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, Teter, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Meyers, to approve the quote in the amount of \$4,956.00 from K-C Motor and Electric to install lighting controls at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the resignation of District Nurse Janette Nelms and have contacted the Red Willow County Health Department for a contracted services proposal for the 2025-2026 school

year. The additional security cameras have been installed at both buildings, and the claim damage on the elementary roof is awaiting a decision from ALICAP, the district's insurance company. Advertising for the head maintenance position, to be vacated this summer, has begun; and surplus vehicles will be auctioned by Kris Schaffert at Adam Marshall Auction on April 8th. The district met local special education costs via maintenance of effort for the 2023-2024 school year.

Principal Fries reported on kindergarten orientation, notification of 2025-2026 preschool attendees and possibility of updating the board policy for determining the selection of preschool attendees, and the implementation of a buddy system to prepare preschool students for kindergarten.

Principal Springer reported on the testing schedule at the junior-senior high school, and the process of determining a 2025-2026 class schedule. Grade Six student and parent orientation will be scheduled.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, McConville, Neseth, Meyers, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: 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, April 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.