

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
March 12, 2018

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m. on March 12, 2018 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

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

Absent: Jennifer McConville and John O'Dea.

Visitors: Cody Gerlach.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Kloeping, seconded by Neseth, to excuse absent Board Members Jennifer McConville and John O'Dea. Ayes: O. McConville, Kloeping, Neseth, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Kloeping, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Kloeping, O. McConville, Neseth, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville and O'Dea. 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 announced the results of the District Welding Contest at McCook Community College held on March 12 as reported by Les Roggenkamp. Board members were also informed of the upcoming State FBLA Convention April 5-7.

Moved by Neseth, seconded by Kloeping, to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2018 board meeting minutes as presented. Ayes: O. McConville, Kloeping, Neseth, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Jennifer McConville arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the purchase of the district's currently leased CAT skid loader in the amount of \$38,732.23 at the termination of the lease agreement, due to the discontinuance of the CAT leasing program. Ayes: Teter, J. McConville, Kloeping, Neseth, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: O'Dea. Motion carried.

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloeping, to approve Board Policy #6051.1--Early Dismissal Guidelines for Senior Students beginning during the 2018-2019 school year. Ayes: Kloeping, O. McConville, J. McConville, O'Dea, Neseth, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Neseth, to approve the substitute teacher pay rate to \$125.00 per day for the 2018-2019 school year. Ayes: Kloeping, Teter, O. McConville, O'Dea, Neseth, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by J. McConville, seconded by O'Dea, to approve a 3% pay increase for non-certified staff for the 2018-2019 school year. Ayes: Neseth, Kloepping, Teter, O. McConville, O'Dea and J. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

New Business, Agenda Item 5, to discuss and take appropriate action on principal salaries and contracts for the 2018-2019 school year was tabled until the end of the meeting.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by J. McConville, to approve offering all currently employed teachers, unless they are retiring, a contract for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by the Administration. Ayes: Kloepping, Teter, O. McConville, O'Dea, Neseth, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Administrators informed the Board of the increasing number of students wishing to participate in the Industrial Arts program and the lack of building space to effectively educate these students. Plans for a 24' X 28' building, attached to the east side of the current junior-senior high building, were discussed. Board members expressed the desire for bids to be accepted for the erection and finish work of additional space for Industrial Arts Education.

Superintendent Porter informed the Board that with the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), all schools are required to hire fully endorsed, certified special education instructors. Southwest Public Schools is in compliance with the Nebraska Department of Education regulations. The district received an A+ rating upon completion of the recent Title I review. Upcoming events include the district's external five-year school visit, the NRSCA Convention, ESU #15 and #16 Superintendents' meetings, and Threat-Assessment Team Training.

Principal Springer reported on the completion of the Artist in Residence project with high school students visiting Sondra Johnson's Art Studio, the upcoming FFA State Convention, STEP graduate process, the District Speech Contest, and one senior not meeting graduation requirements and not participating in the commencement ceremony.

Due to the Kathy Latta's absence, Superintendent Porter read the elementary principal's report to Board members. MAPS testing is almost completed, fifth and sixth grade students participated in a Sing Around Nebraska event in Cozad on March 3, Kindergarten Orientation was held on March 12, the 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Echoes of an Era presentation at the Junior-Senior High School on March 14, which is open to the public and paid for by Humanities Nebraska, and Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences achieved an 89.5% participation rate.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to go into closed session to discuss personnel to protect the needless injury to the reputation of an individual at 9:10 p.m. President Teter repeated the motion, and the Board voted. Ayes: J. McConville, Teter, Neseth, O'Dea, Kloepping, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

President Teter declared the end of closed session at 9:25 p.m.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by J. McConville, to renew contracts with Kathy Latta as elementary principal and Matt Springer as the junior-senior high school principal for the 2018-2019 school year. Ayes: J. McConville, Teter, Neseth, O'Dea, Kloepping, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Kloepping, to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, J. McConville, Kloepping, Neseth, and O. McConville. 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, April 9, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.