

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
May 12, 2025

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on May 12, 2025 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

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

Absent: John O'Dea.

Visitors: Sagen Carmen-Downer and Emma Rasmussen.

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Meyers, seconded by McConville, 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 Brooks, 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.

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

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by McConville, seconded by O'Dea, to adopt new Policy 5901 Foster Care Plan, as recommended at the recent Title I review. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Neseth, Brooks, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Brooks, to approve the quote in the amount of \$23,111.20 by Gov.Connection to replace 70 existing Chromebooks for Grades 3, 7, and 10 students, utilizing REAP funds. Ayes: O'Dea, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, Teter, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the quote from AGParts Education to sell used and outdated computers. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, Meyers, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the State of the Schools report and the fulfillment of the new graduation mandate, that all seniors have either completed the FAFSA or signed a wavier opting out.

Principal Springer reported on the new Jace HVAC control system's installation and operation. The Jace is a computerized system that electronically manages heating and air conditioning at the junior-senior high school building. A list is being finalized for grade 6-11 students who will be exempt from semester tests scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20 and 21. As an incentive for this exemption, students' absences, tardies, lack of missing assignments, and testing growth in 3 of 4 core subject areas is being calculated. An intervention and enrichment period for grades 6-8 is being finalized for students for the 2025-2026 school year.

Due to a projected decrease in kindergarten enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year, only one section of kindergarten is planned. No additional elementary instructors will be hired. The ESSA Title I Consolidated Monitoring Review, which occurs every five years, has been completed.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, McConville, Neseth, Meyers, and Brooks. 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, June 16, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.