Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
November 9, 2015

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:45 p.m. on November 9, 2015 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.


Absent:  Lynda Baumbach.

Visitors:  Mary Marsh, Jolene Miller, Don and Donna Behnke, and Jason Kloepping.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved to excuse absent Board Member Lynda Baumbach.  Motion carried.

Moved by J. McConville, seconded by Daffer, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented.  Ayes:  O. McConville, O’Dea, J. McConville, Teter, and Daffer.  Nays:  None.  Absent:  Baumbach.  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 on the 2014-2015 Elementary Award Celebration with 26 students earning All-Academic medals for exceeding the NeSA state standards, the status of the Economics class participation in the Nebraska Stock Market Game, 8th grade field trip to the Arapahoe pumice mine, football playoff participants for the past two years, selection of Alex Porter for the All-State Band and Brady Porter for All-State Choir, the selection of eight junior high students for the North Platte Middle School Honor Band, and participation at the National FFA Convention.


The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the quote from Esslinger’s Construction in the amount of $7,850.70 to construct two awnings covering the south gym door entries to the Junior-Senior High School to keep precipitation from running down the exterior and onto the gym floor.  Ayes:  J. McConville, O. McConville, Daffer, Teter, and O’Dea.  Nays:  None.  Absent:  Baumbach.  Motion carried.

New Business Action Item 2, approval of the design work for the junior-senior high school gym floor, was tabled until the December meeting.
Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Daffer, to recognize the Southwest Teachers’ Association as the bargaining agent for the district’s non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2017-2018 contract year. Ayes: Daffer, O. McConville, Teter, O’Dea, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Baumbach. Motion carried.

No action was taken on New Business Action Item 4 concerning approval of the 2016-2017 negotiated contract for certified staff. The item will be placed on the December board meeting agenda.

New Business Action Item 5, Discussion of the Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract, was tabled until the December 14th board meeting.

Superintendent Porter reported the scheduling of a Grade 6-12 assembly on Monday, December 14, by Karen Haase of KSB Law Office, discussing digital citizenship and the ramifications of using electronic devices inappropriately, three board members and Superintendent Porter’s plans to attend the State School Board Convention November 18-20 in LaVista, plans to attend an Affordable Health Care Act Workshop on December 16, 2016-2017 health insurance rates and deductible increases, November 11 Veteran’s Program, and a reminder of no school for students on Wednesday, November 18, due to hosting the RPAC Play Production.

Principal Latta reported on attendance at Parent-Teacher Conferences and at the State Paraeducator Conference, completion of Title 1 Parent Surveys, and selection of Gracie Fries and Avery McConville to attend the All-State Childrens’ Choir on November 19.

Principal Springer discussed the start of winter sports practices, Wayne State College music auditions, MAPS testing scores becoming available for individual students on Infinite Campus, the delay of Nebraska’s process of filing a waiver for the No Child Left Behind program, and a 2:30 dismissal on Tuesday, November 24, with no school until Monday, November 30.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Daffer, to go into closed session to discuss teacher negotiations for the protection of the public interest at 8:35 p.m. President Teter repeated the motion, and the Board voted. Ayes: Daffer, O’Dea, O. McConville, J. McConville, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: Baumbach. Motion carried.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O’Dea, to declare the end of closed session at 9:00 p.m. Ayes: Daffer, O’Dea, O. McConville, J. McConville, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: Baumbach. Motion carried.

President Teter adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

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, December 14, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.