

Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

Present: Duane Teter, Brooke Brooks, Jason Neseth, Derek Meyers, Superintendent Drew Billeter, Matt Springer, and Sydney Mousel.

Absent: Jenni McConville, and John O'Dea

Visitors: Sagen Carmen – Downer, Hillary Kennedy, Pat Minary

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

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

Moved by Teter, seconded by Brooks, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, 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 Teter, seconded by Meyers, to approve the minutes of the January 2025 Board Meeting minutes with three corrections including absent board members, bank depositories, and news publications. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Brooks, to take appropriate action on transferring \$13,936 from QCPUF to Special Building Fund for additional Verkada Security Cameras. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth, McConville, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Meyers, to take appropriate action policy revision 4040 Classified Staff. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, & Meyers. Abstain: Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Brooks, seconded by Teter, to take appropriate action on 4 % wage increase for classified staff. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, & Meyers. Abstain: Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Meyers, to take appropriate action on offering contracts to certified staff for the 25-26 school year. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Brooks, to take appropriate action on selling surplus items. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter recently distributed a questionnaire to teachers as part of the district's annual report on multicultural education. The goal of the questionnaire is to assess what is being taught in classrooms regarding multiculturalism, allowing the district to better understand how diverse perspectives are being integrated into the curriculum. This information will help guide future initiatives and programs that support inclusivity and cultural awareness. Additionally, with the "Beef in Schools" program, which has now began being serving in school lunches. With more processing dates scheduled for February 25th and March 3rd. The district also taken the time to recognize those who have generously donated to the program. Another important update is the recent CDARS renewal that took place on February 6th, with another maturing on February 27th. In response to hail damage, the district has received a quote for necessary repairs to the elementary school roof. Furthermore, both local banks have shown interest in contributing funds toward a potential video board for the gym. Such a video board would have multiple uses, including during wrestling meets, graduations, and various school programs, enhancing the overall experience for students and the community.

Principal Springer has informed the board that the spring MAPS testing is approaching, although it's important to note that seniors are exempt from participating in the spring testing. In addition to the testing schedule, the district is planning to introduce a Senior Seminar class for the 2025-2026 school year. This new class aims to provide seniors with dedicated time to focus on important post-graduation preparations, such as applying for scholarships, creating or updating resumes, and addressing any questions they may have for the school counselor. This initiative is designed to support seniors as they transition from high school to the next stage of their lives. On top of that, the state is mandating the addition of a Digital Media class starting in the 2025-2026 school year. This class will help equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the increasingly digital world, fulfilling state requirements . Both new additions are aimed at enhancing student readiness and meeting evolving educational standards.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Meyers, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Ayes: Brooks, Teter, Meyers, & Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: McConville, O'Dea. Motion carried.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.