

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
March 13, 2023

Vice-President Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on March 13, 2023 at the Southwest Jr/Sr High School in Bartley.

Present: Duane Teter, Jennifer McConville, Brooke Brooks, John O’Dea, Jason Kloepping, Superintendent Todd Porter, Principal Matt Springer, Principal Tara Fries and Natalie Meyers.

Absent: Jason Neseth

Visitors: Drew Billiter, Cody Gerlach

Vice-President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Kloepping, to excuse absent board members, Jason Neseth. Ayes: Teter, McConville, Brooks, and O’Dea. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

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

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, 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 O’Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2023 board meeting as presented. Ayes: Teter, O’Dea, McConville, Kloepping, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

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

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Kloepping, to approve the Resolution on School District Standards for Rejection of Option Enrollment Applications for the 2023-2024 school year, keeping option enrollment numbers as they currently are by capping elementary classes at 20 students, Grades 7-12 at 40 students, and no new special education students requiring specific academic and behavioral support (program full). Ayes: Teter, O’Dea, McConville, Brooks, and Kloepping. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by Brooks, seconded by O’dea, to approve offering all returning teachers a contract for the 2023-2024 school year as recommended by the Administration. Ayes: Teter, Kloepping, McConville, O’Dea, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve placing surplus items for sale through public auction at Holbrook on April 1, 2023. Ayes: Teter, Kloeping, McConville, O'Dea, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloeping, to reaffirm Policy #5052 School Wellness. Ayes: Teter, Kloeping, McConville, O'Dea, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloeping, to approve the resignation of Hannah Ash, 6-12 Art Teacher and Miranda Teel, Kindergarten Teacher. The board thanked them for their years of service. Ayes: Teter, Kloeping, McConville, O'Dea, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloeping, to approve a pay raise of \$60.00 per bus route and \$17.50 per hour for activity pay for bus drivers for the 2023-2024 school year. Ayes: Teter, Kloeping, O'Dea, and Brooks. Nays: McConville. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Moved by Brooks, seconded by McConville, to approve a 3% pay raise for the school nurse for the 2023-2024 school year. Ayes: Teter, Kloeping, McConville, O'Dea, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.

Mrs. Fries explained the schedule for the March 15 and 16 External Team Review and invited the board to view the team's presentation that is available on the school's website.

Superintendent Porter discussed with the board the transfer of the school house to the Billiter family in the month of June and what the move out and move in process may involve.

Principal Springer reported the Jr/Sr High school has come up with some different incentives to help motivate students to excel when taking MAPS Tests, ACT Tests, and NSCAS tests. Currently the students are taking MAPS Tests and if the student improves in 3 out of the 4 areas they will get to partake in bowling and pizza in McCook. Mr. Springer informed the board the bus that was purchased in October of 2022 should be delivered in November of 2023.

Principal Fries informed the board of the Family Literacy Night that will be held on Monday, March 20th at the Jr/Sr High Building in the HS Gym. The juggler with the yellow shoes will be entertaining students and parents from 6:30pm to 7:30 pm. Mrs. Fries reported the Southwest Public Schools Foundation will be holding a meal prior to the event from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

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 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloeping, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Ayes: Teter, McConville, O'Dea, Brooks, and Kloeping. Nays: None. Absent: Neseth. Motion carried.