

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
May 11, 2015

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on May 11, 2015 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Duane Teter, Ondrea McConville, Jenni McConville, Steve Daffer, John O'Dea, Principals Kathy Latta and Matt Springer, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: Lynda Baumbach.

Visitors: Mary Marsh, Kris Marotta, Nick Brost, Don & Donna Behnke, Jane Rayer, Kimmie May, Ben Springer, Jeff and Brooke Brooks, Janet and Tim Cornwell, Dave McConville, and Jason Kloepping.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O'Dea, to excuse absent Board Member Lynda Baumbach. Ayes: O. McConville, J. McConville, Daffer, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: Baumbach. Motion carried.

Lynda Baumbach arrived at the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Daffer, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Daffer, O. McConville, Baumbach, J. McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. 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 informed the Board of recent junior-high and elementary Quiz Bowl results.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2015 board meeting minutes with the appropriate revision. Ayes: Daffer, Baumbach, O. McConville, J. McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Superintendent Porter reviewed the district's preschool admission guidelines and the strict regulations governed by the Nebraska Department of Education with board members. Janet Cornwell asked why staff member's children were given priority over district residents, and why the guidelines were not mailed with the preschool applications. Jeff Brooks asked questions concerning the selection process of preschool children and asked that the May 1 application deadline be changed to an earlier date, as several preschools in McCook have already filled their 2015-2016 classes. Brooke Brooks voiced concern with the limit of twenty students and the increasing number of children born within the past year, thus increasing future preschool numbers. Preschool Instructor Kimmie May, Elementary Principal Kathy Latta, Board Member Lynda Baumbach, and Superintendent Porter answered many visitors' questions. Board President Duane Teter thanked patrons for attending the meeting and for bringing their concerns to the Board and Administrators' attention. Board members asked Mrs. Latta and Mrs. May to review and revise the current guidelines and include the free and reduced lunch application form and the guidelines with the preschool application. The revised guidelines document will be presented to Board Members for discussion.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Baumbach, to approve the contract of Paula Newhouse as a vocal/instrumental instructor for the 2015-2016 school year. Ayes: Teter, Daffer, O. McConville, J. McConville, Baumbach, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by Daffer, to accept the resignation of Pam Frecks effective at the end of the school year. President Teter voiced appreciation for her years of service in several of the former districts and at Southwest Public Schools. Ayes: O'Dea, O. McConville, Baumbach, Daffer, J. McConville, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by J. McConville, to declare the 2001 school bus and other miscellaneous items as surplus items to be sold on an auction. Ayes: Teter, O. McConville, J. McConville, Baumbach, Daffer, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the quote from Samway Floor Covering for the installation and/or replacement of carpet in entryways at the elementary and junior-senior high school buildings for safety and cleaning ease. Ayes: Teter, O. McConville, J. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5 of New Business Action Items, Discuss and take appropriate action on a high school personnel issue, was tabled until after Administrative Reports.

Superintendent Porter discussed upcoming workshops and webinars, the Southwest Foundation melodrama to be performed on June 6 and 7 at Bartley Days, and the receipt of \$2,394.00 for the purchase of elementary iPads from a Community-Based Walmart Grant.

Principal Springer thanked Les Roggenkamp and Rudy Kennedy for hosting the Elementary Field Day. He discussed upcoming athletic events, mower delivery, conversion of the computer lab to a classroom, timeline for demolition of the elementary driveway, and the removal of locker room doors for painting.

Principal Latta reported on the recent Bicycle Rodeo, the NRD presentation, completion of NeSA testing, the recent AQuESTT Conference, June 1-25 summer school, and recent elementary field trips with thanks to the Board for allowing students' participation in these events.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Daffer, to enter closed session at 9:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. President Teter restated the motion, and the board voted. Ayes: Teter, O. McConville, J. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, and O'Dea. Nays: None. Motion carried.

President Teter declared the adjournment of closed session at 9:32 p.m.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by Baumbach, to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Ayes: O'Dea, Teter, J. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, 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, June 8, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.