

Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
October 14, 2024

President Jason Neseth called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m. on October 14, 2024 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present: Brooke Brooks, Jennifer McConville, Jason Kloeppling, Jason Neseth, Superintendent Drew Billeter, Principal Tara Fries, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: John O'Dea and Duane Teter.

Visitors: Hillery Kelley and Derek Meyers.

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

President Neseth observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

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

The treasurer's report was presented to the Board.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Kloeppling, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024 Board Meeting. Ayes: Kloeppling, Brooks, McConville, Neseth. Nays: None. Absent: Teter and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Kloeppling, seconded by McConville, to approve the Southwest Teacher Association's request for recognition as the exclusive bargaining agent representing the district's certified staff for the 2026-2027 contract year. Ayes: Kloeppling, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by Kloeppling, seconded by Brooks, to approve the proposed revisions to Policy 3003.1: Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds. Ayes: Kloeppling, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Klopping, to approve the quote from Wagner Chevrolet for two Chevrolet suburbans in the amount of \$120,914.00 to replace the two illegal vans using funds from the depreciation fund. Ayes: Klopping, Brooks, Neseth, and McConville. Nays: None. Absent: Teter and O'Dea. Motion carried.

Superintendent Billeter asked board members to complete the superintendent evaluation and return them to President Neseth in order to take action according to Board Policy 4057 at the November 11 board meeting.

Superintendent Billeter reported on the approval of an emergency generator under DR-4778 for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. He had received no quotes from vendors he had contacted and felt the 25% share of district funds needed to purchase the generator could be used in other areas. The Board shared their opinions regarding the Beef in Schools Program giving the approval to proceed with the process. He also shared recent grant payment information with the Board.

Principal Fries reported on Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled for appointments on Thursday, October 24, from 1:00-6:00 p.m. Completion of the Wonders Reading Training has been completed by staff members. She also discussed several possibilities for changing the stipulations of the 2025-2026 preschool applications.

Moved by Klopping, seconded by McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Ayes: McConville, Klopping, Neseth, and Brooks. Nays: None. Absent: Teter and O'Dea. 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, November 11, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley with the postponement of the Americanism Committee meeting until the December board meeting.