

OFFICIAL MINUTES
 REGULAR MEETING
 BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL
 SERVICE UNIT NO. 13

The regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 13 (ESU 13) was called to order by President Mark Sinner on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE. The meeting was also held by videoconference. The meeting notice was published in the Star-Herald on Thursday, March 16, 2023.

President Sinner referenced the Nebraska Open Meetings Act as posted and noted that the Board reserves the right to rearrange the order of the agenda and to convene an executive session in accordance with § 84-1410.

Present via videoconference: Diane Coon, Tim Horn, Patricia Jones, Scott Marsh, Casper Ningen, Dr. Caroline Winchester. Present at the Main Office: Kim Marx, Tom Millette, Ray Richards, Mark Sinner, Dr. Laura Barrett - Administrator, Jodi Walker - Business Manager, and Desira Martin - Treasurer.

Absent: Steve Diemoz, Bill Knapper.

Moved by Marx, seconded by Millette, that absent Board member Diemoz be excused. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz, Knapper. Motion passed.

Moved by Horn, seconded by Marsh, that the agenda be approved as listed. Aye: Coon, Jones, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz, Knapper. Motion passed.

Moved by Richards, seconded by Coon, that consent action items be approved as listed (Minutes of February regular meeting, Treasurer's Report, Fund Balance Report, Budget Summary, Claims, Certified Staff Resignations: Janelle Mathews, teacher; Ronetta Green, teacher; Kamie Rhodes, Communication Assistant; Nicole Kelley, teacher; Nikita Anderson, teacher, and Certificated Hires/Changes for 2023-24: Nicole Murphy, FTE decrease; Cassandra Behnke, teacher (contingent on release from current school contract). Aye: Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz, Knapper. Motion passed.

Mr. Knapper arrived at 7:03 PM.

The following General Fund claims were approved for payment:

March 2023 Approved Claims	
Salaries, Benefits	\$938,507.46
Prof. & Tech. Services; Mileage	\$76,886.04
Leases, Utilities & Maintenance	\$20,494.30
Copies, Postage, Telephone & Travel	\$67,623.65
Supplies, Materials, Software & other Util.	\$222,807.77
Bldg. Improvements, Furn., Equipment, Hardware, Vehicle Acquisition	\$34,123.50

Transfer for Investments	0.00
Dues, Fees & Ind. Costs	\$1,133.25
Total	\$1,361,575.97

Calendar items were noted.

No Public Forum.

Reports:

Michelle Keszler and Kristin Kasten of our Professional Learning Department gave a report on Selection and Implementation of High Quality Instructional Materials.

Head Start Director's Report: Krystie Hohnstein shared that CDC and ELC were both rated by Step up to Quality which is the quality rating and improvement system for the State of Nebraska. Both sites earned a step 4 out of 5.

Board Committee Reports: Jones noted that she shared information regarding LB753 and LB79 with the Policy/Legislative Committee.

Board Member Comments: Millette commended Michelle and Kristin in their efforts to help school districts when implementing curriculum.

Business:

As part of our Strategic Plan, ESU 13 is working on organizational effectiveness. One of the steps of the plan is defining success for ESU 13. Our external and internal stakeholder survey has been completed. Board members added their input for what success looks like at ESU 13.

Moved by Knapper, seconded by Millette, that the Board approve \$190,133 for the 5.6% Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase for Head Start and Early Head Start employees that is being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Knapper, seconded by Richards that the Board approve the Quality Improvement funding increase of \$87,530 for Head Start and Early Head Start employees that is being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Coon, seconded by Winchester, that the Board approve the revised Head Start Written Plan which includes the new employee compensation policy. Aye: Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Richards, Sinner. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Marx, seconded by Millette that the Board approve the Addendum to the 2023-2024 & 2024-2025 Negotiated Agreement to ratify the approval of the retention incentive for certified staff. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Marsh, seconded by Winchester, that the Board ESU 13's participation in all ESUCC Cooperative Projects for 2023-2024. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Richards, Sinner. Nay: None. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Marx, that the Board approve the administrator's recommendation to purchase two 2023 Chevrolet Equinox LT vehicles from Team Auto Center for a total of \$58,694. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Ningen, Richards, Sinner,

Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Richards, seconded by Horn, that the Board approve the administrator's recommendation to subscribe to Sparq Data Solutions Electronic Meeting Software. Aye: Coon, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Knapper, seconded by Coon, that the Board approve the administrator's recommendation to accept the quote from Cytek Media Systems, Inc. to include Burkhiser Complex, Room 109 Zoom room in Chadron, and remove Conference Room E Zoom upgrade from the original quote. Aye: Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Marsh, that the above listed minutes be approved as read. Aye: Coon, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marx, Ningen, Richards, Sinner, Winchester. Nay: none. Absent: Diemoz. Motion passed.

President Sinner declared the regular meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE.