

OFFICIAL MINUTES
 REGULAR MEETING
 BOARD OF EDUCATION
 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 17, 2020, at 7:00 PM at the ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE, and by video conference to ESU 13 Satellite Office, 1114 Toledo, Sidney, NE; Alliance Public Schools Adm. Bldg., 1604 Sweetwater, Alliance, NE; Hay Springs High School, 407 N. Baker, Hay Springs, NE; and Chadron State College, Miller Hall, Chadron, NE. Meeting notice was published in the Star-Herald on Friday, March 13, 2020.

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: Diane Coon, Heather Crofutt, Steve Diemoz, Don Egging, Tim Horn, Patricia Jones, Bill Knapper, Scott Marsh, Kim Marx, Tom Millette, Ray Richards, Mark Sinner, Dr. Andrew Dick, Administrator, Jodi Walker, Business Manager and Desira Martin, Treasurer. Guests: Donna Jenne, B.J. Peters, Jadie Beam, Dr. Pam Brezenski, Renee Miller and Jerald Ostdiek.

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

Moved by Knapper, seconded by Egging, that consent action items be approved as listed (minutes of February regular meeting, Treasurer's Report, Fund Balance Report, Budget Summary Report, claims and staff travel). Aye: Crofutt, Diemoz, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner, Coon. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed. The following General Fund claims were approved for payment:

March Claims	
Salaries, Benefits	\$831,169.64
Prof. & Tech. Services; Mileage	\$125,084.98
Leases, Utilities & Maintenance	\$26,753.45
Copies, Postage, Telephone & Travel	\$98,686.87
Supplies, Materials, Software & other Util.	\$57,410.42
Bldg. Improvements, Furn., Equipment, Hardware, Vehicle Acquisition	\$0.00
Transfer for Investments	\$395,000.00
Dues, Fees & Ind. Costs	\$5,634.28

Total	\$1,539,739.64
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Calendar items were noted.

No Public Forum

Reports: Jadie Beam, Director of Professional Learning, gave the Board a report about professional learning opportunities available for staff and students, partnerships, and participation with NDE and state-wide committees. There were 1,350 attendees at the annual Mid-Winter Conference. To assist teachers during the COVID-19, the department is providing webinar resources. Tom Millette commended Jadie and her department.

Donna Jenne, Head Start Director, explained Head Start staff will be delivering packets for students to do during school closures.

Dr. Andrew Dick, Administrator, reported that several staff members traveled to Colorado to visit several Day Treatment facilities in preparation of the start-up of Panhandle Beginnings Day Treatment in Scottsbluff. Dr. Dick has been working with WNCC and Baker & Associates to add a classroom to the Sidney building so that we may accommodate VALTS students in the southern tier.

Old Business: Amendment of Board Policy on Personnel - Article 4, Sections 1-6 was presented as first reading. The correction to Section 5, Standards of Conduct, under Employee Property #3 has been made to read "Created without ESU #13 support or ESU #13 facilities". No action required.

Proposed Video Surveillance Policy was presented as first reading. No action required.

New Business: Moved by Millette, seconded by Diemoz, that the board accept the letter of resignation from Holly Widener, Meridian Program teacher, effective May 24, 2020. Aye: Egging, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Knapper, seconded by Marsh, that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Ashley Halstead, Speech/Language Pathologist, effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Aye: Egging, Horn, Jones, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt, Diemoz. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Jones, seconded by Coon, that the Board accept the letter of resignation from George Toman, NeMTSS Regional Facilitator, effective June 30, 2020. Aye: Horn, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, millette, Richards, Sinner, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Marsh that the Board approve the change of employment contract instrument for Diane Reinhardt. Aye: Jones, Knapper, Marx, Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Richards, seconded by Coon, that the Board approve the employee contract with Laura Barrett as Director of Special Projects. The Gering School Board released her from her contract at their School Board meeting, March 16, 2020. Aye: Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Sinner, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Amendment of Board Policy - Article 4, Sections 7-13 (Personnel) was presented

as introduction only. No action required.

Code of Conduct and Procurement Plan was presented as introduction only. No action required.

Moved by Diemoz, seconded by Knapper, that the Board approve the deletion of “to approve all purchase orders for items covered by the budget” from 5d. in Article 1, Section 6C. Aye: Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt, Egging, Horn, Jones. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Coon, seconded by Sinner, that the Board approve the revised Head Start Fiscal Written Plans. Aye: Marx, Millette, Richards, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Knapper, that the Board approve Dr. Dick’s recommendation to accept the proposal from Nebraska Safety and Fire Equipment to install access control on six (6) door locations at the new Sidney building for a total of \$15,449.00. Aye: Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Marsh, seconded by Marx, that the Board approve Dr. Dick’s recommendation to purchase a PowerEdge R740 Server from Sterling Computers for \$12,533.27. Aye: Richards, Sinner, Coon, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Millette. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Coon, that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Administrator, or designee, to grant a paid leave of absence for duty days that occur during fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days with full current wages and benefits to exempt and nonexempt employees who are experiencing the following conditions or circumstances with related to the COVID-19 virus: (1) have traveled from China, South Korea, Japan, Italy, Iran or any other country added by the CDC as high risk, within the last 14 days, or lives or has close contact with someone who has been in those countries, (2) has been asked to self-quarantine by any health care provider or public health official, (3) has been diagnosed with, or has had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 virus; (4) is presently exhibiting the symptoms of an infectious respiratory illness, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath; and/or (5) has to leave their job duties to take care of a family member who has coronavirus, all subject to any required adjustment thereto required to comply with any state or federal law now existing or subsequently enacted. Aye: Sinner, Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Richards. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Diemoz, seconded by Knapper, that the Board of Education should and does hereby, authorize the Administrator, or designee, to take all necessary action to work with state and local health department officials for advice and direction on functions that may involve large gatherings of people. Aye: Coon, Crofutt, Egging, Horn, Jones, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Sinner. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Millette, seconded by Horn, that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, pass the Resolution declaring state of emergency exists due to COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness. Aye: Crofutt, Diemoz, Egging, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Richards, Sinner, Coon. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

Moved by Sinner, seconded by Coon, that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Administrator to monitor the COVID-19 virus conditions in the State of Nebraska and the Educational Service Unit No. 13 area, and based upon the directives of the Commissioner of Education, advice from the Panhandle public Health Department, and COVID-19 Unified Command, and present or potential community spread of the disease in the Educational Service Unit No. 13 area (1) close the Educational Service Unit No. 13 and suspend delivery of educational services, both regular education and special education while continuing to maintain critical programs that support the health and well-being of certain student populations; (2) close the Educational Service Unit No. 13 buildings to student attendance and continue delivery of educational service, including special education services, and/or the development and planning of alternative educational services for this and ensuing school years and assign administrative, instructional and support staff to carry out such duties in person or remotely; (3) employment and assignment and compensation of Educational Service No. 13 certificated (teachers and administrator) and non-certificated staff (education support staff) as needed and in a manner that provides for such employees continued service to the service unit and member school districts; and, (4) manage access to building and manage and extracurricular activity programs. Aye: Diemoz, Egging, Horn, Jones, Knapper, Marsh, Marx, Millette, Richards, Crofutt. Nay: none. Absent: none. Motion passed.

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

President Sinner declared regular meeting adjourned. There may be a special meeting for the purpose of approving a recommendation of the Finance Committee for ESU 13 office remodel on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at video conference sites noted above with the exception of Alliance. The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, 2020, beginning at 7:00 PM at the ESU 13 Main Office, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE, and broadcast to video conference sites at Alliance, Chadron, Hay Springs, Hemingford, and Sidney.