

OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
VALTS BOARD OF EDUCATION

The regular meeting of the Valley Alternative Learning and Transitioning School Board of Education (VALTS BOE) was called to order by Administrator, Tom Peacock on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 12:05 PM at the Harms Center, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE. Meeting notice was published in the Star-Herald on March 7, 2024.

Mr. Peacock 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.

Oath of Office taken and signed by VALTS BOE member John Maser.

Present: Brad Helgerson, John Maser, BJ Peters, Paul Pieper

Absent: Kathy Nienhueser, Brenda Smith, Tracy Wiese

Reorganization of the Board:

The Board voted to keep the members in the same positions for President, Vice President and Secretary. Moved by Pieper, seconded by Maser that nominations cease. Aye: Helgerson, Peters. Nay: None. Absent: Nienhueser, Smith, Wiese. Motion passed.

President Helgerson appointed Jodi Walker, ESU 13 Business Manager as Treasurer.

President Helgerson appointed Jasmin Ramirez as Recording Secretary.

Moved by Peters, seconded by Pieper, that absent Board members Nienhauser, Smith, Wiese be excused. Aye: Helgerson, Maser. Nay: none. Absent: Nienhueser, Smith, Wiese. Motion passed.

Moved by Maser, seconded by Peters, that the agenda be approved as listed. Aye: Helgerson, Pieper. Nay: None. Absent: Nienhueser, Smith, Wiese. Motion passed.

Moved by Peters, seconded by Pieper, that the consent action items be approved as listed. Aye: Helgerson, Maser. Nay: None. Absent: Nienhueser, Smith, Wiese. Motion passed.

Public Forum: None

Reports:

- Mireya Perez, VALTS student from Gering, advised the Board that she started at VALTS in January of this year to begin the 3rd Quarter. Mireya discussed struggling in school during her Freshman, Sophomore and beginning of Junior year due to poor choices she

had made in the past. She stated that since being at VALTS she has good grades and better attendance. Mireya discussed her goals for the future including graduating from VALTS and moving out of state. Mireya received the Rising Star award for 3rd Quarter presented by VALTS staff.

- Karen Reason, VALTS math teacher, advised the Board of a \$930.00 check that was donated to the Festival of Hope. The funds were raised by VALTS students who made slime and sold it at last year's Festival of Hope event in June. Reason told the board that donating to Festival of Hope was important to her personally as she is a cancer survivor. The VALTS students are currently working on a new fundraiser idea that will involve 3D printing. Reason taught 3D Geometry during the 3rd Quarter. Charms were created with the 3D printer to be added to shopping bags for customers of the Shopping for Seniors program. VALTS students volunteer their time to the Shopping for Seniors program often throughout the school year. Reason discussed how volunteering helps the students with life skills. Ms. Lesley Billingsley, VALTS English teacher, is on the Scottsbluff Volunteer Board and helps VALTS students find opportunities to volunteer their time. Reason advised the Board that she is currently teaching Statistics and Probability this quarter.
- Administrator's Report:
 - Mr. Peacock informed the Board that there were 6 graduates in the 3rd Quarter, all from Gering.
 - Peacock informed the Board that the Inter-Local Agreement has not changed, therefore, the number of seats for each district will remain the same for the 2024-2025 VALTS school year.
 - Gering: 10
 - Mitchell: 8
 - Sidney: 4
 - Morrill: 3
 - Bridgeport: 3
 - Bayard: 2
 - Minatare: 2
 - Kimball: 1
 - Banner County: 1
 - Creek Valley: 1
 - VALTS will be getting new students for the 4th Quarter from Gering and Mitchell school districts.
 - The Sidney VALTS location has a new facilitator, Leticia Herrera. She has been doing well in the position.
 - During the 4th Quarter, the daily schedule will be different for the afternoon classes. Each teacher will teach 2 periods every afternoon, one for distance learning students only and the other for in person students.
 - Mr. Peacock discussed the activities that took place during the 3rd Quarter at VALTS
 - Discover WNCC- February 21st
 - Shopping for Seniors- February 13th

- Chadron State College Speaker-February 9th
 - Check presented of \$930.00 to Festival of Hope- February 7th
- Cassandra Behnke, VALTS Science teacher, welcomed 100 plus trout eggs in her classroom for “Trout in the Classroom”.
- VALTS staff is currently planning an event for the 25th Anniversary of the VALTS program.
- Mr. Peacock informed the Board that he is in his 3rd year at VALTS and he’s loving it.
- Mr. Peacock informed the Board that there will be a meeting on Thursday, March 14th, 2024 to discuss the WNCC construction plans at John N. Harms Advanced Technology Center.
- The 2024-2025 VALTS Academic Calendar will be available at the June board meeting and be presented as a business item.
- Future VALTS Board meeting dates
 - June 11th, 2024
 - September 10th, 2024
 - December 10th, 2024
- Board Member Comments- none

Business: none

Adjourn

With nothing further to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM