

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
DUNDY COUNTY STRATTON PUBLIC SCHOOL
BENKELMAN NE 69021**

The Dundy County Stratton Board of Education met in regular session on December 8, 2014 at Stratton Elementary. The following members were present Mike Blecha, Amy Haines, Craig Kerchal, Mike Lutz, John Metzger, and Shad Stamm. Also present were Principal Mike Rotherham, Principal Phil Truax, Superintendent Jim Kent, and recording secretary JoAnn Decker. Board members Steve Krug, Kent Lorens and Sandy Noffsinger were absent. Visitors were Teri Faimon and Board members elect Brad Baney, Jason Frederick, and Kevin League.

President Stamm called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

President Stamm stated that the board follows the Open Meetings Act Guidelines which are posted in the meeting room. The Board of Education may enter closed session during the meeting when it determines that doing so is appropriate and is to protect the public interest and is authorized by the provisions of the Open Meeting Act.

There were no public items of discussion.

Motion by Metzger seconded by Lutz to approve the Consent Agenda items included to verify that notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Benkelman Post, a legal newspaper for Dundy County Stratton Schools, and by written notice to each member of the Board, the designated method of giving notice; approval of the agenda of the December 8, 2014 regular meeting; approval of minutes of the November 10, 2014 regular meeting; to excuse Craig Kerchal and Steve Krug from the November 10, 2014 regular meeting; and payment of bills. Yes: Blecha, Haines, Kerchal, Lutz, Metzger, and Stamm. No: None. Absent: Krug, Lorens, and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Motion by Metzger seconded by Haines to approve the financial reports. Yes: Haines, Kerchal, Lutz, Metzger, Stamm, and Blecha. No: None. Absent: Krug, Lorens, and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Principal Rotherham reported on Christmas concerts; Lion's club van and local volunteers; Thanksgiving dinner; Title I open house; Veterans Day program; and field trip to Hasting's Museum. Principal Truax congratulated the Mock Trial Team and sponsor Tracy Peckham for a great year, they qualified for their 6th consecutive State Mock Trial competition; the play production cast and sponsors Taylor Lutz and Elisha Hinojosa for an outstanding job with their One Act competition this year with the students; All State choir students Nicole Kent, Sheina Regan, and Katy Cleveland; and the fall musical cast, crew and sponsors Diane Hughes and Gregg Loghry. He also reported on the PLC growth; high school finals, Nebraska School Activities Association practice/competition moratorium; reflection on schedule changes after completion of one semester; digital citizenship; and fall sports banquet.

Principals Mike Rotherham and Phil Truax left at 6:40 P.M.

President Stamm appointed Amy Haines as acting secretary for the December 8, 2014 regular meeting.

Motion by Lutz seconded by Metzger to acknowledge receipt of the annual external audit for 2013-2014 as prepared by Dana F Cole & Company LLP, for the Dundy County Stratton Public Schools. Yes: Kerchal, Lutz, Metzger, Stamm, Blecha, and Haines. No: None. Absent: Krug, Lorens, and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Motion by Blecha seconded by Haines to adopt Policy 7500 Design-Build Contract Policy as recommended by legal counsel and presented. Yes: Lutz, Metzger, Stamm, Blecha, Haines, and Kerchal. No: None. Absent: Krug, Lorens, and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Motion by Metzger seconded by Kerchal to approve the request for qualifications for the development of district criteria and planning for the upgrade of the HVAC at Benkelman Elementary. Yes: Lutz, Metzger, Stamm, Blecha, Haines, and Kerchal. No: None. Absent: Lorens, Noffsinger, and Krug. Motion carried.

Motion by Kerchal seconded by Blecha to acknowledge that Indiana Insurance has reached a settlement with Miguel Garcia-Zavala and Jesus Garcia-Zavala in the matter of the April 7, 2011 bus accident and to provide notice that the matter has been settled and dismissed by the courts. No district funds were spent in this settlement. Yes: Lutz, Metzger, Stamm, Blecha, Haines, and Kerchal. No: None. Absent: Noffsinger, Krug, and Lorens. Motion carried.

The board discussed teacher negotiations for 2015-2016 contract year.

Superintendent Kent reported on NSAA issues; election certification; basin wide water management planning committee; and District 117 Foundation quarterly meeting date.

The Board discussed the transportation report.

Under board items of discussion Amy Haines asked about the window repair/replacement at the high school. Blecha, Haines, Metzger, and Superintendent Kent reported on the State Education Conference. The Board also discussed the new board member workshop; the tentative agenda for the Board in-service; election of officers at the January meeting; and current committee assignments.

The board recessed at 7:25 P.M.

The board reconvened at 7:37 P.M.

Motion by Blecha seconded by Metzger to enter into executive session to conduct the Superintendent evaluation at 7:40 P.M. Yes: Metzger, Stamm, Blecha, Haines, Kerchal, and Lutz. No: None. Absent: Noffsinger, Krug, and Lorens. Motion carried.

Board member Craig Kerchal left at 9:05 P.M.

President Stamm declared the Board out of executive session at 9:32 P.M.

Motion by Lutz seconded by Blecha to come out of executive session at 9:33 P.M. Yes: Stamm, Blecha, Haines, Lutz, and Metzger. No: None. Absent: Noffsinger, Kerchal, Krug, and Lorens. Motion carried.

Motion by Metzger seconded by Lutz to approve the annual Superintendent evaluation. Yes: Stamm, Blecha, Haines, Lutz, and Metzger. No: None. Absent: Kerchal, Krug, Lorens and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Motion by Blecha seconded by Metzger to adjourn at 9:34 P.M. Yes: Blecha, Haines, Lutz, Metzger, and Stamm. No: None. Absent: Kerchal, Krug, Lorens, and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Amy Haines, Acting Secretary