

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

**September 2015**

**The Dundy County Stratton Board of Education met in regular session on September 14, 2015 at the Dundy County Stratton High School. The following members were present: Mike Blecha, Jason Frederick, Amy Haines, Kevin League, Kent Lorens, Sandy Noffsinger, and Shad Stamm. Also present were Principal Adam Fette, Superintendent Jim Kent, and recording secretary JoAnn Decker. Visitors were Amy Frederick from the Benkelman Post, Jean Marie Jones, Ron Jones, Nick Ladenburger, Dan Ladenburger, Kelly Raichart, Craig Kerchal, Steve Krug, Greg Burrows, Jeanene Borrows, Stan Jones, Phyllis Jones, Frank Stehno, and Melvin Duvel. Board members Brad Baney and Mike Lutz were absent. Principal Mike Rotherham arrived late.**

**President Stamm called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.**

**President Stamm stated that the board follows the Open Meetings Act Guidelines which are located in the meeting room. A. The Board of Education reserves the right to enter closed/executive session during the hearing for 1) the protection of the public interest or 2) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and the individual has not requested a public meeting. When making a motion to enter into closed/executive session, the member making such a request should be specific as possible keeping the previously listed stipulation in consideration. B. If the Board is in agreement, a motion to enter into closed/executive session to 1) discuss a personal matter or 2) for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individual, or 3) to discuss litigation and for the protection of the public interest. C. Action concerning matters discussed in executive session will be taken in open session.**

**Under public items of discussion Craig Kerchal and Steve Krug discussed the high request in property taxes this year compared to prior years. They also were concerned on expenditures and classified/certified raises. Board member Lorens explained that 75% or more of the budget is comprised of administrative, classified, and certified salary and benefits. Superintendent Kent also reflected that we need to plan ahead due to the possibility of how the Affordable Care Act could affect the Dundy County Stratton Schools during the 2015-2016 budget year. Amy Frederick voiced her concerns on making sure all teachers are being placed on the salary schedule and movement is consistent for all. Dan Ladenburger introduced himself to the Board as a former Stratton school board member that served twelve year tenure. He thanked the board for their effort and that he thought they were doing a good job. He told the Board he had attended the meeting to listen and see what was going on. He ended his comments by telling the Board that in 1980 the Stratton School Board had to go to the bank to borrow money to operate, and that he can see the boards concern especially with prices this year and only \$900,000 in reserves.**

**Principal Rotherham arrived at 6:29 P.M.**

**Motion by Haines seconded by Frederick to approve the Consent Agenda items. 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 September 14, 2015 regular meeting; approval of minutes of the August 10, 2015 regular meeting; excusing of board members Brad Baney and Mike Lutz from the**

**September 14, 2015 regular meeting; and payment of bills. Yes: Blecha, Frederick, Haines, League, Lorens, Noffsinger, and Stamm. No: None. Absent: Baney and Lutz. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Frederick seconded by League to approve the financial reports. Yes: Blecha, Frederick, Haines, League, Lorens, Noffsinger, and Stamm. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**Motion by League seconded by Blecha to adopt the 2015-2016 Dundy County Stratton Public School Budget as presented. Yes: Frederick, Haines, League, Lorens, Noffsinger, Stamm, and Blecha. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Blecha seconded by Haines to approve the 2015-2016 Tax Request Resolution for Dundy County Stratton Public School. Yes: Haines, League, Lorens, Noffsinger, Stamm, Blecha, and Frederick. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**The Board recessed at 7:40 P.M.**

**The Board reconvened at 8:13 P.M.**

**Motion by Lorens seconded by League to approve the 2015-2016 bus routes as presented. Yes: League, Lorens, Noffsinger, Stamm, Blecha, Frederick, and Haines. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Haines seconded by Lorens to approve the low propane bid of \$1.119 from Farmers Coop. Yes: Lorens, Noffsinger, Stamm, Blecha, Frederick, Haines, and League. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Noffsinger seconded by Haines to approve the list of substitute teachers for 2015-2016 as presented. Yes: Noffsinger, Stamm, Blecha, Frederick, Haines, League, and Lorens. No: None. Absent: Lutz and Baney. Motion carried.**

**President Stamm appointed Sandy Noffsinger, Jason Frederick, Kent Lorens, and Amy Haines to the Board Negotiations committee for the 2016-2017 contract year.**

**Motion by Noffsinger seconded by Haines to accept the resignation of JoAnn Decker as bookkeeper and to graciously thank her for her 26 years of dedication and excellent service to the district and wish her the best in her retirement. Yes: Noffsinger, Stamm, Blecha, Frederick, Haines, League, and Lorens. No: None. Absent: Baney and Lutz. Motion carried.**

**The board discussed the football classification for 2016.**

**Superintendent Jim Kent asked for the board's input and permission as he has been approached about testifying in favor of augmentation on behalf of the district at Senator Groene's hearing on NCORPE.**

**The board discussed that the safety committee needs to meet and review the safety audit and Rule 10 safety visit from Ed Johnson. Sandy Noffsinger is the new board member on the safety committee replacing John Metzger.**

**Principal Rotherham and Superintendent Kent presented some preliminary assessment information based on last year's scores and discussed some new testing rules.**

**The Board discussed enrollment numbers.**

**Technology report. High School laptop rollout sessions for Grades 9-12 will be held Monday and Tuesday, September 14th and 15th beginning at 6:30 P.M. Students will be issued a device for both at home and in school for a small fee. These devices will allow our school to expand the educational opportunities for our students and build upon the excellent programs already established. 20/20 Tech status was also reported. Principal Rotherham reported on enrollment numbers; watermelon feed sponsored by BWTelcom; school pictures; fresh fruit and vegetable program at Stratton Elementary; Lion's Club mobile screening, Benkelman Elementary HVAC project; new staffing; workdays, and AR carnival. Principal Fette reported on open house; ACT pre course; chain of command/communication tree; professional development; dress code; sport activities; teacher in-service; homecoming week September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>; lockdown drill; MAP testing, and the addition of 2 foreign exchange students.**

**The Board discussed the transportation/maintenance report.**

**Superintendent Kent reported on new classified staff hiring for 2015-2016 school year. He also reported on NSAA news; and NRCSA Executive Committee meeting in Kearney.**

**The Board discussed the upcoming NASB/NCSA State Education Conference and the NASB area membership meeting.**

**Motion by Noffsinger seconded by Blecha to adjourn at 9:55 P.M. Yes: Stamm, Blecha, Frederick, Haines, League, Lorens, and Noffsinger. No: None. Absent: Baney and Lutz. Motion carried.**

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**Sandy Noffsinger, Secretary**