

## Regular December 2024 Meeting

Monday, December 9, 2024 7:00 PM

as advertised in the *Pilot-Tribune/Enterprise* and on  
fortcalhounschools.org

High School Media Center

### ROUTINE BUSINESS

-Call to Order: President Schrum called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 3 administrators and 10 visitors present.

-Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted.

-Excused Absences: Moved that the absence of Josh Christensen be excused. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Absent, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Roll Call: Mike Bonacci-Present, Josh Christensen-Absent, Cassie Kelly-Present, Amanda Schrum-Present, Kelli Shaner-Present, Ted Welchert-Present.

-Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda as presented. This motion, made by Shaner and seconded by Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Absent, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

### PRESENTATION

Mr. Green presented plaques to Mike Bonacci and Kelli Shaner. He thanked them for their service and time spent on the Board of Education and supporting the schools and students.

### REGULAR AGENDA

-Public Participation: No one asked to address the board.

-Approval of Claims: Motion to approve the Claims as presented in the amount of \$349,049.14 from the General Fund, \$728,478.02 from the Bond Fund and \$32,355.59 from Savings and Depreciation. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green and Cassie Kelly had reviewed them prior to the meeting. Mr. Green explained the claims from Lexia for reading curriculum renewal, repair on the elementary entryway heaters, the elementary lease payment, and maintenance and repair on buses. The new engine on the Mini Bus is complete and the Woodhouse bill is for this which was approved previously by the board. There was also a bond payment made.

-Claim from Abe's Trash Service: Moved that the claim from Abe's Trash Service be approved in the amount of \$1,733.00. This motion, made by Shaner and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Consent Agenda: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. This motion, made by Shaner and seconded by Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea,

-Standing Committee Reports: Finance: President Schrum reported the committee discussed adding an Elementary Art staff member which will be researched in conjunction with the

standard set by Rule 10; realignment of Jr-Sr High staff to address areas of greatest need; JAG/NE providing 2 free years of help for students to explore career options, identify interests and develop skills aligned with the current CTE program for post secondary education and entry level careers; discussed and formulated the Business Manager contract; discussed the teacher contract and accepted the negotiations committee's recommendation; and discussed the superintendent contract and made recommendations that will be presented at the board meeting for further discussion and approval. American Civics: Kelli Shaner said they discussed the same topics as the Finance Committee, but also reviewed policies that need changing due to new legislation. They need updated language and the committee is recommending them for approval.

-Policies 2008 Meetings and 3004.1 Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds: Moved that the board of education pass Policies 2008 Meetings and 3004.1 Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds as reviewed and recommended. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Shaner, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. The changes are minimal and clean up some language due to legislation to make them more understandable.

-Resignation: Moved that the resignation of Ashlie Nelson be approved at the end of the school year. This motion, made by Shaner and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. She is moving on to help with the family company but will stay involved in the schools through the Booster Club, subbing and supporting her kids. She has done a lot for us and we will miss her.

-Resolution 25-2 to Update Staff for the WCB Accounts: Moved that the Board of Education approve and pass Resolution 25-2 to add Derrick Blomstedt as Business Manager and Shelly M. Nourse as HR/Payroll to the WCB accounts. This motion, made by Shaner and seconded by Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This is standard procedure for new employees in these positions. WCB will need the resolution and board minutes to allow them to be on the school's accounts. Eventually our current Business Manager will be removed.

Superintendent Contract and Salary: Moved that the board of education extend a contract of employment to Jerry Green, Superintendent for 2025-26 with the salary as noted in it. This motion, made by Bonacci and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Kelli Shaner: Nay, Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. President Schrum explained the process used by the Finance Committee to come up with this package. They decided on a 3% raise instead of 2.5% that was in the Teacher contract because this position is not eligible for a longevity bonus. It also includes 6 months of insurance at retirement and upping the activity stipend from \$1,500 to \$2,000. They had looked at the 2.5% that was the teacher amount and felt that 3% was warranted. They used information from other schools in order to make sure we are comparable and within the array. Kelli Shaner spoke for the Americanism Committee and they had an analysis of teachers/administrators from Sparq. They also wanted to stay in the mid-range of the array. One question they discussed was the large discrepancies in benefits among the schools and found that some also include the employee portion of FICA, Retirement, Insurances etc. Her feeling and recommendation is 2.5% which follows the teachers and puts him with other districts' in the midline range. They also agreed on the 6 month insurance at retirement. Ted Welchert said he wants to be closer to the middle which will be the 3%. Cassie

Kelly agreed on the 3% but understands the reasoning for 2.5%. President Schrum said the contract being voted on now is at 3% with the insurance.

-Business Manager Agreement: Moved that the Business Manager Agreement for Derrick Blomstedt be approved as presented. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This contract is the same as the current Business Manager except it includes a \$1,500 stipend to attain his CPA licensure. It was asked if this was mandatory for the position and Mr. Green said it is not but Mr. Blomstedt felt it was important.

-Accept the Negotiated Agreement with Certified Teaching Staff for 2025-26: Moved that the board of education accept the negotiated agreement with the certified staff for 2025-26. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Amanda, Josh and Ted were on the committee and the process was very smooth. President Schrum said it includes a 2.5% raise and it now accepts 14 years of service and longevity payments at 20, 25, 30, and 35 years which will be 3% of whatever the base is at the time.

-Board Member Reports: Ted Welchert thanked Mike and Kelli for their work on the board and the time they've put in as members. Cassie Kelly also thanked them and appreciated their time in being a mentor to her when she came aboard; Mike Bonacci thanked the PFE for the reception and said when we came on the board he thought it was one time per month and he had simple goals of growing the district, improve the facilities and curriculum and get students ready to go out into the "real world". He is proud to be a part of all of this and thanked the board-past and present, administrators and students and the district is in good hands for the new members coming on. Kelli thanked Mike and everyone else for her time on the board. She noted how everyone has worked together and respected different ideas and "look how we've grown". "Everything you start you want to finish". Amanda said it was great to have them to work with and bounce off ideas, and thanked them for all they've done . . . and she is looking forward to Christmas vacation.

-Administrator Reports: Dr. Wemhoff thanked both Mike and Kelli and said yes, its not just one time per month. He continued that the success we have is because of the support of our boards over the years—they have been awesome and "thank you". The state of the schools report has been published and when looking at our numbers the Jr-Sr high school rated "Excellent". In contacting NDE to get an interpretation of the scores, he was told our school is "phenomenal", and is in the top 20% of schools in the state. Our test scores keep going up and we are exelling at a remarkable rate. Our absenteeism and graduating rates are amazing compared to other schools. He also spoke about the blood drive and the great job Chriss Lloyd and her MCC kids do to put this on to save lives; gave an update on the MTSS training; shared an intro to prom and post prom and thanked the committee for their work in getting this together; and highlighted upcoming activities with Winter break being 12/20 through 1/6.

Mrs. Horstman thanked Mike and Kelli even though she has only worked with them a short time but appreciated them. She spoke about testing taking place including Dibels, NSCAS and NWEA; upcoming building events including the PBIS celebration which PFE helps sponsor, and that the Thanksgiving Feast was a great success serving more than last year and couldn't have happened without Rachel, the kitchen crew and students. The first Science pilot is moving

forward and the second one will take place after Christmas. Dollar General is a sponsor of Reading is Fundamental (RIF) and Fort Calhoun has been selected to receive a grant of about \$7,000 to purchase books for our students grades K-5 to promote literacy. Each will receive a minimum of 3 books to take home. Extra para support has been added to the elementary which teachers appreciate.

Mr. Schleifer was supervising an activity and his report was available to read.

-Superintendent Report: Mr. Green reported board goals will update in January; the wrestling building is progressing after waiting for steel for the outside; and the new bus is here and in service. He will attend the new board member workshop with the newly-elected members on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the Legislative Issues Conference in January. This legislative session starts January 8<sup>th</sup> and will be a 90-day session. He thanked Mike and Kelli and that it was great for them to be a part of what has happened in Fort Calhoun.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Schrum adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM.