

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 12, 2018 at 8:21 PM
McPherson County High School Commons

I. CALL TO ORDER for Regular Board Meeting at 8:21 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: President Trent Neal, Vice-President Rusty Kemp, Secretary Lana Watson, & Treasurer Toni Powers. Superintendent Jeppson and Principal Brownfield present.

Absences: Member Christena Schultis and Member Will Coffman absent. Powers moves to excuse Member Christena Schultis and Member Will Coffman from the meeting. Watson seconds. Powers AYE, Watson AYE, Kemp NAY, and Neal AYE. Schultis & Coffman excused. Open Meetings Law Posted.

Recognition of Recording: All present deny recording.

Verification of Posting of Legal Notice of Meeting on 4/9/2018.

II. CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Agenda: Kemp moves to approve agenda. Powers seconds. Neal reads the “Consent Agenda Conflict of Interest Statement” outlining any declaration of potential conflict of interest. This statement recognizes that a potential conflict of interest exists when board members vote on their own reimbursements, and affected board members declare that their vote on the consent agenda excludes a vote on their own respective reimbursement claims as noted. Conflict form signed by board members with potential conflict of interest. Kemp AYE, Powers AYE, Watson AYE, & Neal AYE. None NAY. Agenda approved.

Minutes of Previous Meeting reviewed.

Claims Payable reviewed.

Financial Reports reviewed.

Monthly budget of expenditures.

Monthly budget of receipts.

Fund balances.

Kemp moves to move Discussion Item Number 1 “ESU 16 – Deb Paulman” ahead of Recognition of Visitors. Powers seconds. Discussion. Kemp AYE, Powers AYE, Watson AYE, and Neal AYE. None NAY. Motion approved.

ESU 16 - Deb Paulman: Paulman presents informational packet to promote awareness of the resources and services provided by Educational Service Unit 16, which covers a nine county area in Nebraska including McPherson County. ESU 16 currently provides Special Education Services to McPherson County Schools and Network Operations including staff development, distance learning, and educational technology support services.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Public comment declined by public.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Schultis arrives to meeting and takes her place.

Housing/Facilities/Transportation – Neal, Coffman: Neal: Propane is filled.

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Negotiations/Finance – Kemp, Schultis: Nothing to Report.

Americanism/Multiculturalism/Curriculum/Policy – Powers, Watson, & Coffman: Powers; Waiting to start approved KSB School Law policy program.

Marketing Committee – Kemp, Watson: Kemp discusses using social media and online communication to promote school. Currently Ms. Florea and Ms. Connell are assigned to update the Facebook and website sites for the school.

Sports Coop Committee – Neal, Powers, & Kemp: Sports Co-op Meeting with Stapleton on 4/11/18. Cooperative sports agreement desired by McPherson County including two-way collaboration with practices and games at both schools to provide all students an opportunity to celebrate school pride and team spirit while developing a stronger competitive edge. Powers discusses possible proposals and Kemp discusses exploring additional co-op options. Watson recommends a community meeting with both Stapleton and McPherson County communities to obtain stakeholder insight into the co-op. This would allow community members to share their opinion with the committees. Supt. Jeppson will follow up with Stapleton Superintendent regarding possible community meeting in the near future.

Principal's Report: Deb Brownfield:

Discussion of fund disbursement for FFA versus Agricultural Education. Mr. Nielsen discusses that FFA is an intricate part of Agricultural Education. Discussion of where funding should be divided between the two. Students attended FFA State Convention and Mr. Nielson discusses awards and certificates presented to students at State FFA.

Graduation practice will be 4/26/18. Graduation speakers will be faculty member Mr. Blomstedt and Dr. Matt Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education. Ms. Connell will read the Principal's Address at Graduation in Ms. Brownfield's absence. All testing is complete; ACT proctoring performed by Ms. Connell and Ms. Anderson.

Legislative Update: We must offer a summer reading program for students below average reading benchmarks. Currently planning implementation for Summer, 2019.

Kaduceus Program: Discusses implementing this hands-on career training and career readiness program into our school curriculum to provide high school seniors the opportunity to train for careers in healthcare. Discusses the current generational learning traits and discusses the best way to teach Generation Z. Board is open to further research into the Kaduceus Program.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Jeppson discusses plan to attend NETA next week. The Nebraska Educational Technology Association exists for the purpose of providing leadership and promoting the application of technology to the educational process.

McPherson County Schools have been awarded a \$2,000 Applegate Grant.

The long jump pit has been dugout and cleaned up by Trent Neal.

V. POLICY:

No new policies.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

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Grading System- Kemp: Discussion of adjusting the grading scale to a 10-point grading system. Ms. Connell asked a school counselor list serve what grading scales were being used by other schools. According to Ms. Connell's findings, the 7 point scale is most popular, but she received few responses from area schools on the subject. Discussed that the GPA scale is needs reevaluated to include "plus" and "minus" grades within each letter grade to help differentiate the GPA for students. No action taken on this item.

Vending Machine- Kemp: Asks Supt. Jeppson if students want to manage the vending machine. Supt. Jeppson has concerns about the management and upkeep of a vending machine. Will explore further and report back to Board.

Website/Mobile App – Supt. Jeppson: Discusses idea for updated communication website for the school that will integrate with social media sites and promote our school to other communities and potential students. This proposed update would email, text, and call parents with alerts and schedule changes. This is a popular version that is used by some area schools with positive reviews. One-time \$6,000 set up fee; \$3,000 per year to maintain; 3 year contract gives a \$3,600 discount. Discussion questioning responsibility for maintenance of the website and regular updates. Supt. Jeppson will assign system administrators and routine posting schedules will be developed and overseen by administration. The system will be useful as a promotional aide and will enhance communication with the community and parents. Powers motions to approve implementation of Website/Mobile App with a 3 year contract. Kemp seconds. Powers AYE, Kemp AYE, Schultis AYE, Neal AYE, & Watson AYE. Motion passed.

FBLA Update – Ms. Connell: State FBLA Conference was last week. Three students attended and competed. Jency Starr is going to National FBLA competition in Baltimore, Maryland in June, 2018.

Personnel Issue – Kemp: No discussion or action at this time.

FFA/Ag Ed Clarification – Supt Jeppson: Discussion of FFA and Agricultural Education overlapping in funding. Supt Jeppson questions how to manage funding of each. Board discussion that Supt. Jeppson will work with Mr. Nielson and manage funding as appropriate.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ESU 16 – Deb Paulman: Completed this discussion item earlier in meeting.

Parent/Teacher Conference –Kemp: Discussion of minimal faculty available for parent/teacher conference in the fall and parent/teacher conferences not scheduled in the spring for second semester. Discussion that parent/teacher conferences should be mandatory work days. Supt Jeppson to work on this.

Open Forum for School Board Candidates – Watson: Discussion for consideration of an open forum for school board candidates before elections.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Kemp moves that the Board go into executive session. Neal seconds. Kemp AYE, Neal AYE, Watson AYE, Powers AYE, & Schultis AYE. None NAY.

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Motion passed. 10:17 pm Board moves into executive session. Powers moves that Board comes out of executive session. Schultis seconds. Powers AYE, Schultis AYE, Kemp AYE, Neal AYE, & Watson AYE. None NAY. Motion passed. 10:26 pm Board comes out of executive session.

Powers motions to file an investigation of a school employee with the State Board of Education. Kemp seconds. Powers AYE, Kemp AYE, Schultis AYE, Neal Aye, & Watson AYE. None NAY. Motion passed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Powers motions to adjourn meeting. Neal seconds. Powers AYE, Neal AYE, Schultis AYE, Kemp AYE, & Watson AYE. None NAY. Meeting adjourned at 10:27 pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By,

Lana Watson, Secretary, McPherson County School Board

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