

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
November 18, 2024**

Posting Date: November 7, 2024

The Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) held a regular meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024 in the Ponca Public Schools library at 505 3rd Street, Ponca, Nebraska. The meeting was convened in open and public session and advance notice was publicly posted at the Bank of Dixon County, the Dixon County Courthouse, the post office, the school main entrance, published in the Nebraska Journal Leader, and given to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the agenda was kept continuously current and available for inspection at the office of the Superintendent of Schools. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

President Fethkenher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the meeting room, and led the salute to the flag. Roll was taken. Members present were Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, Christina Luebe and Casey McGhee. Absent: Monte Burki. Others present were Supt. Brendan Calahan, Principal Allison Stansberry, Principal John Stroud, AD Evan Colfack, Andy Stark, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 5 visitors.

Kramper moved to approve the absence of Board member Monte Burki. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.

There were no requests to speak before the Board.

McGhee moved to approve the consent agenda and Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C. The consent agenda included approval of the agenda; the minutes of the October 21, 2024 meeting; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$3,027,747.21, a depreciation fund balance of \$502,994.72, a bond fund balance of \$848,434.79, a special building fund balance of \$907.53, an employee benefit fund balance of \$5,215.53, an activity fund balance of \$330,914.06, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$126,579.44; general fund disbursements of \$139,485.43; a bond fund payment of \$422,825.00; credit card payments; and the November payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent Calahan reported on accounts within the activity fund, retiring board members Shawn Fethkenher and Monte Burki, the re-election of board member Phill Kramper, the election of new board members Julie Schamp and Jerod Davis, and the distribution of Superintendent evaluation forms to the board members.

Principal Stansberry reported on the School Improvement Team, special education improvements, the Veteran's Day program, mental health day, the student leadership team retreat and their help with character lessons as well as implementing high five Fridays, 7-12 student of the month, and Monday meets.

Principal Stroud reported on a 91% attendance for parent-teacher conferences, the Ponca elementary student council Halloween dance, trunk or treat at Jackson elementary, the Sioux City Musketeers hockey game for the 3rd-6th graders, the Jackson elementary learning about the Veteran's monument in Jackson, Mrs. Stewart taking three 5th graders and three 6th graders to the ESU1 Fall Science workshop, testing schedules before the end of the semester, the elementary Christmas concert dates, and NSCAS scores being released to the public on November 27th.

Activities Director Evan Colfack reported on softball Mid State Conference selections of Jaeden Hughes-1st team all-conference and Gracie Coughlin and Lyndsee Waldee – honorable mention; Addie Stewart setting a new record for career solo blocks; Connor Schamp, Alexa Swick and Ellesyn Hrouda selected as Believers and Achievers local school winners; Ava Brennan placing 7th, Gannon Pfister placing 22nd,

Broderick Hogan placing 40th and Zyan Conrad placing 101st in the State cross country meet; Mike Ney and Bradley Lentz chosen for All State Choir; and 12 students attending the Sportsmanship and Leadership Summit with Mr. Colfack and Mr. Poulosky on November 21st. Congratulations to all of the students and their coaches or sponsors.

Board Communications and Committee Reports:

The facilities committee reported on the process to replace the Ponca HVAC system which is nearing its end of life in the next few years.

The negotiation committee reported on a successful negotiation meeting with the Ponca Education Association settling on an \$1100 increase to the base salary, the addition of a paid Quiz Bowl sponsor position, a paid assistant One-Act play production position, and a paid assistant JH wrestling coach position.

Discussion Items:

Guidance Counselors Quinn Wragge and Dacia Jensen gave the annual report on the Olweus bullying survey and the character lessons for the school year.

Action Items:

Luebe moved to approve the 2025-26 Negotiated Agreement between Ponca Public Schools and the Ponca Education Association. Kramper seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Dohma moved to approve the revision as presented to Policy 4016 - Jury Duty/Service as Witness in Court. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

The next regular board meeting will be held on December 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:03 p.m., there being no further business, Dohma moved to adjourn the meeting. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Respectively submitted:

Shawn Fethkenher, Board President

Lorrie Huston, Board Secretary