

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
August 19, 2024**

Posting Date: August 8, 2024

The Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) held a regular meeting on Monday, August 19, 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 Monte Burki, Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, Christina Luebe and Casey McGhee. Others present were Supt. Brendan Calahan, Principal Allison Stansberry, Principal John Stroud, Andy Stark, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 1 visitor. A.D. Evan Colfack was absent due to supervision of the softball game.

There were no requests to speak before the Board.

Dhoma moved to approve the consent agenda and McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.U. The consent agenda included approval of the agenda; the minutes of the July 15, 2024 meeting and hearings; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$3,425,794.65, a depreciation fund balance of \$390,215.97, a bond fund balance of \$719,216.94, a special building fund balance of \$907.53, an employee benefit fund balance of \$5,209.83, an activity fund balance of \$245,903.00, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$115,056.38; general fund disbursements of \$163,173.39; credit card payments; and the August payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Supt. Calahan reported on the completion of most of the facility projects, new classified staff hires and remaining openings, bus route changes with the number of routes dropping from four to three, and upcoming NASB meeting dates.

Principal Stansberry reported on the opening days of the new school year, the Coffee Bean theme for 2024-25, upcoming opportunities for Special Education Supervisor training, PLC plans for the new year, the SpEd determination of "Needs Improvement" and the process for fixing the determination, open house night, first day with students, the Buddy Pizza Party, and the homecoming schedule.

Principal Stroud reported on the enrollment numbers for pre-K and Kindergarten, lines painted in the Jackson parking lot, meet and greet night, picture day on August 21st, Ray's Midbell instruments for 5th grade on August 22nd, hearing checks in Jackson and Ponca on August 23rd, MAP and Aimsweb testing schedules, and pre-K through 6th grade enrollment numbers of 240 students.

Activities Director Colfack's report was read by Superintendent Calahan and consisted of the number of participants in each fall sport, the softball jamboree starting the fall sports season on August 19th, and streaming for athletic events being solely on HudlTV moving forward.

Committee Reports: The finance committee met at 6:00 pm on August 19th to discuss transfers to the depreciation fund and the 2024-25 budget. The committee decided to have a special board meeting on August 29th for the purpose of discussing and holding a Board vote on whether to increase the school district's base growth percentage by up to 7% in preparation of large expenses possible in the future. They also recommended transfers to the depreciation fund in the amount of \$112000.00.

Discussion Items:

The Board reviewed the utility profile and analysis done by the Navitas company. Supt. Calahan also shared the explanation of the information obtained from Northeast Power. The Facilities committee will meet with Navitas to determine the best way to move forward with the information.

Action Items:

Luebe moved to approve the payment for the 2024-25 Alicap premium. Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

A motion was made by McGhee and seconded by Kramper to approve the option enrollment requests into the district for three students from the Allen District in 1st, 4th, and 6th grade, a kindergartener from the Emerson-Hubbard District, and a 10th grade foreign exchange student from the Allen District. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

Upon the recommendation of the finance committee, Dohma moved to approve a transfer from the general fund to the depreciation fund in the amount of \$112,000. The transfer would be divided as follows: \$37,000 to technology, and \$25,000 to each of the facilities, curriculum and transportation categories. Burki seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

There will be a special meeting on August 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm for a vote on whether to increase the school district's base growth percentage by up to 7%.

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

At 7:54 p.m., there being no further business, Dohma moved to adjourn the meeting. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

Respectively submitted:

Shawn Fethkenher, Board President

Lorrie Huston, Board Secretary