

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools  
Board of Education Hearings and Regular Meeting  
July 15, 2024**

Posting Date: July 4, 2024

The Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) held a student fee hearing, a parental involvement hearing, and a regular meeting on Monday, July 15, 2024 in the Ponca Public Schools library at 505 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Ponca, Nebraska. All were 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 opened the student fee hearing at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed public comment. Superintendent Calahan explained the types of fees charged by the district. Members present were Monte Burki, Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, Christina Luebe and Casey McGhee. There were no visitors and no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:50 p.m.

President Fethkenher opened the parental involvement hearing at 6:50 p.m. and welcomed public comment. Members present were Monte Burki, Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, Christina Luebe and Casey McGhee. There were no visitors and no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:55 p.m.

President Fethkenher called the regular 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, Activities Director Evan Colfack, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 1 visitor.

There were no requests to speak before the Board.

Luebe moved to approve the consent agenda and Dohma 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 June 17, 2024 meeting and the American Civics Committee hearing; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$3,938,573.55, a depreciation fund balance of \$402,797.97, a bond fund balance of \$711,877.96, a special building fund balance of \$56,907.53, an employee benefit fund balance of \$5,207.84, an activity fund balance of \$270,694.24, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$117,004.03; general fund disbursements of \$172,672.08; credit card payments; and the July payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Supt. Calahan reported on the completion of the concrete for the flood mitigation project, the hiring of a softball coach, other classified staff openings, budget season information and the meet and greet night on July 31<sup>st</sup> at Cedar Hills for the new administration.

Principal Stansberry reported on the Midwest Educational Leadership Conference that she attended, gave updates on assessments and special education meetings, and gave the date for the school registration night/open house as August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Principal Stroud reported the enrollment numbers for pre-K and Kindergarten, there will be 6 new elementary students for the 24-25 school year, class lists will be sent out the week of July 29<sup>th</sup>, and open house will be held on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Activities Director Colfack reported the hiring of Joe Riker as the new softball coach and all fall practices start on August 12<sup>th</sup>. He is getting acclimated to the school and the paperwork associated with his new position.

The printed reports are on file.

Discussion Items:

The 2024 Census Report was presented for the Ponca Public School District. The report showed 347 students ages 5 through 18 in the District.

The Anti-bullying and Title I Family Engagement policies were reviewed. No changes had been made to the policies this year.

Action Items:

On a motion by Kramper, second by Dohma, the adoption of the following revised policies were approved: 2006-Complaint Procedures, 2008-Meetings, 2009-Public Participation at Board Meetings, 3003.1-Bidding for Construction Remodeling Repair or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds, 3004.1-Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, 3011-No longer in policy, 3017 Official Communication with the Public, 3032-Fees for School District Records, 3033-No longer in policy, 3053-Nondiscrimination, 3057-Title IX, 3059-Audio and Video Recording, 3060-Firearms and Weapons – Non-Students, 4011-Employee Leave Under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), 4053-Conflict of Interest, 5001-Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism, 5004-Option Enrollment, 5005-Transportation, 5008-Pregnant or Parenting Students, 5035-Student Discipline, 5045-Student Fees, 5049-No longer in policy, 5052-School Wellness, 6031-Emergency Exclusion, 6036-Reading Instruction and Intervention Services, 6039-Repeat of Grade at Parent-Guardian Request, 6041-Malcolm X Day Education, and 6042-Projection Maps. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

The 2024-25 District Staff, Student, and Elementary Handbooks were approved as presented on a motion by Dohma, second by Burki. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

Luebe moved to approve the annual membership with Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA). McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

2024-25 lunch prices were approved as presented on a motion by McGhee and second by Burki. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U. All meal prices increased by 10 cents. The price of a single milk increased by 5 cents.

Kramper moved to approve the option enrollment requests of 2 sophomores and a junior into the district from South Sioux City, and a senior foreign exchange student into the district from the Allen district. Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

The next regular board meeting will be held on August 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:51 p.m., there being no further business, McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting. Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. M.C.U.

Respectively submitted:

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Shawn Fethkenher, Board President

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Lorrie Huston, Board Secretary