

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools  
Board of Education Hearings and Regular Meeting**

**July 17, 2023**

Posting Date: July 6, 2023

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 17, 2023 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 6:48 p.m. and welcomed public comment. Members present were Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, and Casey McGhee. Absent: Monte Burki and Christina Luebe. There were no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:53 p.m.

President Fethkenher opened the parental involvement hearing at 6:53 p.m. and welcomed public comment. Members present were Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, and Casey McGhee. Absent: Monte Burki and Christina Luebe. There were no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:58 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 Richard Dohma, Shawn Fethkenher, Phil Kramper, Christina Luebe and Casey McGhee. Absent: Monte Burki. Others present were Supt. Brendan Calahan, Principal Allison Stansberry, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 5 visitors. Principal Hayes and Kristie Hayes joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

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

There were two requests to speak before the Board.

Dohma moved to approve the consent agenda and McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, McGhee and Luebe. Absent: Burki. M.C. The consent agenda included approval of the agenda; the minutes of the June 19, 2023 meeting; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$3,728,047.57, a depreciation fund balance of \$154,566.41, a bond fund balance of \$678,172.37, a special building fund balance of \$167,428.78, an employee benefit fund balance of \$8,981.22, an activity fund balance of \$277,120.85, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$132,999.24; general fund disbursements of \$47,107.82; credit card payments; and the July payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent Calahan – Summer facilities maintenance projects, 2023-24 Budget process, upcoming dates of importance, and a total of 245 superintendent work days for the 22-23 contract year.

Principal Stansberry - Guiding coalition retreat day on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, assessment update, graduation credit requirements, and back to school open house night on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Principal Hayes – Elementary class lists sent out week of July 31<sup>st</sup>, finalization of elementary schedules, kindergarten and pre-K numbers, meet and greet night on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and 6 new elementary students.

Athletic Director Hayes – Fall sports practice begins August 7<sup>th</sup>, coaches' rules meetings and required videos, and Impact tests for athletes.

The printed reports are on file.

There were no Board communications or committee reports.

Discussion Items:

The football schedule and the number of participants in the sport were discussed. There will be an action item on the August agenda to discuss it further.

The Safe Return to School Plan was reviewed. The public was given the opportunity to comment on the plan. No comments were given by the public and no changes were made to the plan. The public also has an ongoing opportunity to provide comments on the district website link to the plan.

The 2023 Census Report was presented for the Ponca Public School District. The report showed 365 students ages 5 through 18 in the District.

The following policies were reviewed: Attendance, Anti-bullying, and Title I Family Engagement.

Action Items:

McGhee moved to approve the option enrollment requests into the District of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, 4<sup>th</sup> grader, and 7<sup>th</sup> grader from Emerson-Hubbard, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader from Homer, and a 7<sup>th</sup> grader from Hartington-Newcastle. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Dohma moved to approve payment of the annual NRCSA dues. Kramper seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

An increase of 15¢ on meals, 20¢ on extras, and 5¢ on milk for the 2023-24 school year was approved on a motion by Dohma, second by McGhee. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Kramper moved to approve the 23-24 staff and student handbooks as presented. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

The milk bid from Kemps passed on a motion by Dohma and second by McGhee. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Luebe moved to approve the adoption of the new school policies from KSB to supplant all existing policies. 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 August 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:11 p.m., there being no further business, McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe, and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Respectively submitted:

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Shawn Fethkenher, Board President

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Lorrie Huston, Board Secretary