

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
November 20, 2023**

Posting Date: November 9, 2023

The Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) held a regular meeting on Monday, November 20, 2023 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 Bob Hayes, Kristie Hayes, Andy Stark, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 9 visitors.

Dohma moved to excuse absent 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.

Dohma moved to approve the consent agenda. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C. The consent agenda included approval of the agenda with item 8.1 of the agenda being moved to immediately follow item 5.4; the minutes of the October 16, 2023 meeting; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$2,821,139.35, a depreciation fund balance of \$400,688.74, a bond fund balance of \$830,166.08, a special building fund balance of \$56,907.53, an employee benefit fund balance of \$9,046.83, an activity fund balance of \$304,300.56, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$140,768.17; general fund disbursements of \$84,397.49; the Bond payment of \$422,700.00; credit card payments; and the November payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent Calahan –Reported that Gill Construction has tabled the flood mitigation project until Spring, the Pathways program in Jackson is closing due to a small enrollment, applications are coming in for the staff openings, evaluation sheets were passed out for the superintendent evaluation, and a Student Leadership Team account will be added to the Activity Fund.

Principal Stansberry –Reported on the status of teacher evaluations, PLC topics, book study progress, school improvement updates, NSCAS data availability, Student Leadership Team events, the Veterans' Day program, and the FBLA March of Dimes support.

Elementary Principal Hayes – Reported on the MAP testing schedule, December music concerts, trunk or treat, the Halloween dance, the book fair, the status of teacher evaluations, and student visits to Freedom Park, Science Day at Wayne State, the Musketeer Hockey Game, and the Sioux City Airbase. The elementary had 90% of the parents attend parent/teacher conferences and midterm reports went home November 16th.

Athletic Director Hayes – Reported on the winter sports season, contests continuing to be streamed from the east gym, jamboree game date, State cross country results, the football classification proposal at the NSAA District Meeting, and the Ponca play production team finishing 4th at the conference meet.

The printed reports are on file.

Board Communications – Dohma updated the Board on topics from the recent Education Conference.

Discussion Items:

Mrs. Kristie Hayes will apply for E-Rate funds and ask for bids to replace technology switches. Mrs. Hayes also presented the 2022-2023 annual report to the Board.

Action Items:

Blaeden Brummond approached the Board to request early graduation. The request was approved on a motion by Dohma, second by McGhee. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Dohma moved to approve the hiring of Tristan Bostwick as head wrestling coach, Michael Logue as assistant wrestling coach, and Kim Garcia as a Special Education para. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

The 2024-25 Negotiated Agreement was approved on a motion by Luebe, second by McGhee. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C. The changes included \$1000 added to the base, “summer band” changed to “pep band” and added to extra duty schedule, 1% added to cheer sponsor, 1% added to all high school coaching positions, assigned extra duties increased \$10, and certified staff children attend regular season home games for free.

The revision of Policy 3051 Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response was approved on a motion by Dohma, second by McGhee. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Kramper made the motion to not offer an early retirement incentive for the 23-24 school year. Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

No action was taken to purchase a district van for pupil transportation.

Kramper moved to approve the purchase of an enclosed trailer not to exceed \$10,000. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Absent: Burki. M.C.

Dohma moved to approve the resignations of Bob and Kristie Hayes with thanks for many years of exemplary service to Ponca Public Schools. Luebe 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 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:43 p.m., there being no further business, Luebe 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