

**Minutes of the Ponca Public Schools  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
October 16, 2023**

Posting Date: October 5, 2023

The Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) held a regular meeting on Monday, October 16, 2023 in the Ponca Public Schools library at 505 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, Kristie Hayes, Secretary Lorrie Huston, and 4 visitors. Principal Hayes was absent due to supervision of an athletic event.

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 September 18, 2023 meeting and hearings; the treasurer's report showing a general fund balance of \$3,097,624.84, a depreciation fund balance of \$400,688.74, a bond fund balance of \$815,901.16, a special building fund balance of \$56,907.53, an employee benefit fund balance of \$9,043.37, an activity fund balance of \$323,201.73, and a school nutrition fund balance of \$139,022.17; general fund disbursements of \$60,132.31; credit card payments; and the October payroll report.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent Calahan –Reported on the flood mitigation schedule, plans for the NASB State Ed Conference on November 15-17, the Labor Relations Conference, the Negotiation timeline, new classified staff hires, and Perkins Grant awards.

Principal Stansberry – Gave updates on the PLC institute and Guiding Coalition, the staff book study, completed evaluations, the school improvement committee and subcommittees, assessment data, Red Ribbon Week, the Student Leadership Team, and an upcoming presentation on Fentanyl.

Principal/Athletic Director Hayes – Mr. Calahan reported on the various activities scheduled for Ponca and Jackson Elementary students including Trunk or Treat, Red Ribbon Week, Parent/Teacher conferences, the Halloween Dance, Grandparents' day, Sioux City Musketeer Hockey game, and the ESU1 Fall Science Workshop. Softball ended, Brody Taylor and Broderick Hogan qualified for State in cross country, volleyball sub-districts begin October 23<sup>rd</sup>, winter sports begin November 13<sup>th</sup>, Junior High wrestling begins for both boys and girls on Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>, and NSAA District 3 has a proposal to increase the 8-man football male student number requirement. The printed reports are on file.

There were no Board communications or committee reports.

Discussion Items:

Mrs. Fran Hassler, Mrs. Cindy Anderson, and Mrs. Suzette Curry presented the annual Olweus survey results on bullying and updated the Board on the Character Team plans for the 2023-24 school year.

Principal Hayes joined the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Action Items:

Dohma moved to approve an increase of home admission prices to \$6 for adults and \$5 for students beginning with the winter season. Burki seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.U.

Kramper moved to approve a bid from Verzani Farms for snow removal at the Ponca campus this winter. McGhee seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.U.

Burki moved to approve the annual bus loan payment of \$44,350 to the Bank of Dixon County. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. Abstaining (with conflict): Dohma. M.C.

At 8:10 p.m. McGhee made a motion to enter into executive session for personnel and the evaluation of job performance. Dohma seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.U.

At 8:49 p.m., the closed session was declared over and Dohma moved to resume open session. Luebe seconded the motion. Voting Yea: Burki, Dohma, Fethkenher, Kramper, Luebe and McGhee. M.C.U.

The next regular board meeting will be held on November 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:51 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