

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2013

The meeting of the Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) was convened in open and public session on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Jackson School Commons. Advance notice of the meeting was publicly posted and given to all members of the Board of Education. Members present were Richard Dohma, Kenton Book, Phil Kramper, Doug Rickett, John Gill, and Monte Burki. Others present were Supt. Joan Reznicek, Prin. Michelle Rinas, Prin. Bob Hayes, Sec. Lorrie Huston and 11 visitors.

President Richard Dohma called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the flag salute. A motion was made by Rickett, second by Gill to approve the agenda. M.C.U.

Justin Hamar of Mid-State Electric, Inc. presented a quote to the Board for the outdoor lighting project. The lights would illuminate the letters identifying the main entrance, gymnasium and performing arts areas.

Kindergarten teachers, Joann Todd and Leann Curry gave a report on the curriculum used in their classes.

The minutes of the September 16, 2013 School Board Meeting was approved on a motion by Burki, second by Gill. M.C.U. Book made a motion to approve the financial reports, second by Rickett. M.C.U. The Treasurer's report shows a General Fund balance of 562,628.78, a Depreciation Fund balance of \$200,460.09, a Bond Fund balance of \$852,536.06, a Building Fund Balance of \$37,744.95, an Employee Benefit Fund balance of \$6,858.91, a combined Activity Fund balance of \$104,669.51, and a Hot Lunch Fund balance of \$25,669.58. General Fund Bills totaling \$74,561.89; Employee Benefit Fund Disbursements of \$381.72; and Sports Complex Disbursements of \$617.45 were all approved with a motion by Rickett, second by Book. Voting Aye: Kramper, Rickett, Book, Dohma, and Gill. Voting Aye but abstaining on check #22379: Burki. Motion carried.

New Business

From Principal Hayes: The Kindergarten and Pre-K classes will be taking a field trip to a Lawton, Iowa pumpkin patch on October 23rd and will be hosting grandparents' day on October 24th. Grace Dorcey took a trip home in a fire truck for winning the fire prevention poster contest. The first grade class will be going to the Elms Care Center in their Halloween costumes. Elementary students will be concluding the MAP testing this week. Friday, November 1st is needed for an elementary teacher in-service day to work on the elementary curriculum. There would be no school for the pre-K through 6th grade students.

From Principal Rinas: Red Ribbon Week will be celebrated from October 21-24 with the theme being "One School, One Goal, Drug Free." Ms. Rinas gave a presentation on the recent State of the Schools Report and explained the criteria for meeting the No Child Left Behind requirements. The reports are available on the Nebraska Dept. of Education website. Because the elementary school is on the PLAS list, a letter of explanation will go out to the elementary parents.

From Supt. Reznicek: Board members John Gill, Richard Dohma and Kenton Book, whose terms are ending in December of 2014 will need to file for re-election if they so choose. Sketches done by Connor Brandt for possible east gymnasium artwork were shown to the Board members. A draft of the survey being conducted by Suzette McCarthy was distributed. EHA posted the Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance rate increases for the 2014-15 school year. The policy on open enrollment student capacity will be on next month's meeting agenda.

From Athletic Director Hayes: The volleyball team begins conference play on October 28 in Wakefield. Second round of tournament play is in Ponca on October 29. Qualifying for playoffs by the football team will be dependent upon the outcome of this week's games. Ten wrestlers reported for Junior High wrestling practice on October 21st. Trophies have been put in the new trophy case. The alumni and boosters will be contacted concerning remaining trophies. A state meeting is being held on October 23 regarding school sponsored summer baseball and softball.

Board Communications: At the recent Nebraska Association of School Boards meeting, four Board members received awards. President Dohma congratulated Phil Kramper on his level 4 award and also Doug Rickett, John Gill and Monte Burki on their level 2 awards.

A letter from Newcastle Superintendent, Joey Lefdal, was distributed to Board members. The letter informed the Ponca Board and Administration of the decision by the Newcastle district to consider Hartington for a possible reorganization.

President Dohma commended the Ponca School Core Committee and Administration for all of their time and energy invested in making every effort to answer questions and help the Newcastle district. He maintained that the Board, Administration and Staff of Ponca continue to concentrate on making our district even better.

Character Team members, Fran Hassler, Cindy Anderson and Christy Schweers, gave the annual update on the Olweus bullying prevention survey. Results of the 2012-13 survey were distributed and the group reported that the numbers were headed in the right direction.

Enrollment totals for Pre-K through grade 12 students were discussed along with the numbers of option enrollment students.

Rickett moved to approve the resignation of Angie Slaughter as Para-educator. Burki seconded the motion. M.C.U.

Stacey Swick was approved as a Para-educator on a motion by Book, second by Gill. M.C.U.

After reviewing submitted bids, Rickett moved to accept the bid from Silver Creek Electric to install lighting in the Fine Arts trophy case. Gill seconded the motion. M.C.U.

The approval of the proposed Social Studies Standards is tabled until the November meeting.

Book moved to approve expenses for the NASB State education conference on Nov. 21 & 22. Kramper seconded the motion. M.C.U.

The bid from Mid-States Electric, Inc. to do the exterior lighting for the gym, main entrance and fine arts lettering was approved on a motion by Rickett and second by Kramper. M.C.U.

No action was taken to approve the purchase of a janitorial floor machine. The board would like to have a demonstration and further research done.

Motion by Book, seconded by Burki that the Board of Education go into closed session for the purposes of discussion of strategy with respect to potential reorganization options with neighboring school districts, the negotiation of the terms and conditions of reorganization petitions and plans and/or interlocal agreements, and personnel matters attendant to any such reorganization, and for the protection of the public interest, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Voting Aye: Burki, Book, Dohma, Gill, Kramper, Rickett. M.C.U. The executive session began at 10:10 p.m. and was declared over at 10:27 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on November 18, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the High School art room. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Huston, Secretary