

Board of Education Work Session

October 11, 2021 6:00 PM

Blair Public Library

2233 Civic Drive, Blair NE 68008

Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in this room at a location accessible to members of the public. The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Work Session to order at 6:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Brandi Petersen, Kari Loseke, Laura Ronning, Deb Parks, Brittney Gunderson (6:10pm), and Steve Callaghan.

Absent Board Members: Denise Cada, Bob Schoby, and Ginger Fredericksen.

3. Items for Discussion

3.1. K-12 Data Presentation

The building principals, gave a presentation on kindergarten – 12th grade assessment data. The data presented included MAP testing (Measure of Academic Progress), FastBridge (Formative Assessment System for Teachers), Pre-ACT, and ACT. The districts assessment practices must support student learning.

- MAP Testing:
 - MAP testing is completed in grades k-2 in the subjects of math and reading, in grades 3-5 in math, reading and science, and in grades 6-10 in math, reading, science, and language arts.
- FastBridge:
 - FastBridge assessment is given to students in grades k-5 and to students in grades 6-8 who take part in classroom interventions. The assessment gauges the students' progress in reading, math and SAEBRS (Social, Academic and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener).
- PreACT:
 - The PreACT is given to freshman and sophomore students in order to receive early feedback on the core academic areas before their junior year.
- ACT:
 - In January 2017, Nebraska required all juniors to take the ACT assessment as part of the comprehensive plan for having all students meet the academic state standards and for being college ready.

4. Adjournment

The Board of Education Work Session adjourned at 7:00pm

Board of Education Regular Meeting

October 11, 2021

Blair Public Library

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1. Call to Order

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:08pm.

2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Brandi Petersen, Kari Loseke, Deb Parks, Bob Schoby, Brittney Gunderson, and Steve Callaghan.

2.1. Approval of Absent Board Members

Motion Passed: I move to approve the absence of Board Member(s): Bob Schoby, Ginger Fredericksen and Denise Cada passed with a motion by Laura Ronning and a second by Brittney Gunderson.

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Gilson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda - None

5. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items - None

6. Consent Agenda

Motion Passed: I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Brittney Gunderson and a second by Laura Ronning.

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

- 6.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting
- 6.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published
- 6.3. Receipt of Communications
- 6.4. Treasurer's Report
- 6.5. Audit of Claims

7. Business

- 7.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda - None
- 7.2. Recognitions
- 7.3. Acceptance of Gifts
- 7.4. Consideration of Communications
- 7.5. Comments from The Public

The Board heard comments from one (1) community member.

7.6. Board of Education and Superintendent Goals

The Board Committees discussed Board and Superintendent Goals at their September & October meetings. A Board Retreat was held August 21, 2021, to review the 2021 School Board Self-Evaluation findings and work to create short-term and long-term goals.

Topics identified as priorities during the retreat were:

1. To develop Short-term Goals for Strategic Long-term Planning for Growth and Facilities, *and*
2. Long-range Goals for Anticipated Student Enrollment Growth, Future Facility, and Staff Needs Related to Growth.

Dr. Gilson presented Objectives and Key Results (OKR) to the committees. This is a goal management framework structure used to set challenging, ambitious goals with measurable results. The OKR structure can assist in tracking progress, create alignment, and encourage measurable goals. Each staff member will set their own individual goal.

The **Objective** is the "what" or long-term goal. Figure out what you would like to achieve in the future. The **Key** is the "how" or short-term goals and are completed every quarter. They are the results you need to achieve to get to your Objective and to measure the progress towards it.

Census of the committees is to have individual staff objectives set by the November Board meeting and to incorporate this into regular monthly meetings for progress reports and discussion.

Dr. Gilson shared his individual Board Goals using the OKR structure:

Objective #1. Establish a system that assists Blair students and staff to set incremental goals to monitor their learning and supports them to significantly outperform their peers in math, literacy, science and social studies.

- **Key Result #1A.** As measured by 84% of K-10 students performing at the 40th percentile and 64% reaching the 60th percentile or higher on the Spring MAPS math assessment.
- **Key Result #1B.** As measured by 80% of K-10 students performing at the 40th percentile and 57% reaching the 60th percentile or higher on the Spring MAPS reading assessment.
- **Key Result #1C.** As measured by Blair Juniors averaging a 21 or higher composite on the ACT.

Objective #2. Develop a five-year plan for the most effective use of educational programming, personnel, and facilities to support current and projected increases in student enrollment.

- **Key Result #2A.** As measured by the successful installation of a turf field completed by August 1 for a cost not to exceed \$1 million.
- **Key Result #2B.** As measured by a report indicating the facility and personnel needs during the next five years based on increases in student enrollment by 50 intervals. The report will use a Building Condition Evaluation instrument to determine the cost necessary for each building to be renovated or expanded to meet projected enrollment trends using an Analogy method to evaluate potential enrollment growth. The report will evaluate all grade configuration possibilities and welcome recommendations from an Ad Hoc committee based on education research, best practices, and local interests.
- **Key Result #2C.** As measured by a report outlining the facility, personnel costs, training and all steps necessary to begin new educational programs like (automotive, electricity, health care, agriculture, high abilities, Level 3 Program to support special behavior, social and emotional needs, and English Language Learner programming.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the Board of Education and Superintendent established goals as presented passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Laura Ronning.

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|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

7.7. Committee Reports

7.7.1. Americanism and Policy Committee

The Americanism and Policy Committee met on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Deb Parks.

Board discussion was held on Policy 204.12-Public Participation at Board Meetings – It is the business of the Policy Committee to routinely review board policies to assure that they are compliant with state and federal statutes and regulations, are relevant to the district, current and align to the district practices.

School board meetings are meetings of the board of education that are required to take place in the public; however, they are not actually meetings of the public. The board, through policy, sets the structure to include public comments in the interest of accountability and transparency. The board establishes the guidelines and restrictions on the time allowed for public comment.

The board appreciates and respect's public opinion; however, as the district continues to see a growing number of patrons sharing at board meetings, meetings can tend to run lengthy in time. The committee reviewed the public participation policy and shared some thoughts on possible revisions.

- A certain amount of time would be set for public comment during the regular board meeting. Patrons would sign-up to address the board and depending on the number of individuals who sign-up, time limit would be divided equally.
- Individuals must contact the administration office prior to the board meeting to inform they would like to address the board.
- Have a sign-up sheet patrons must fill out and then hand them a copy of the rules and protocol for public comment.

Possible revisions would be presented at the November 8th Board meeting for the first reading and at the December 13th Board meeting for second and final reading.

7.7.2. BG&T Committee

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 4:30pm. A report from the committee was given by Steve Callaghan.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the Geotechnical Exploration Proposal, in the amount of \$3,700 from Thiele Geotech, Inc., on the scope of services related to the proposed Blair High School Turf Field project and part of the site improvement process passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Deb Parks.

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| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase from Mechanical Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$71,500.00, for a new HVAC unit for the Blair High School Wrestling Room passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Laura Ronning.

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

7.7.4. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Brandi Petersen.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase of two (2) concert tubas in the amount of \$12,110.00 from Dietze Music passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Laura Ronning.

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|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

Motion Passed: I move to recognize the Blair Education Association (BEA) as the exclusive bargaining agent for the district's non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

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|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

7.8. Automotive Lab

Discuss, Consider and take all necessary action with regard to selecting the construction manager at risk method of construction delivery for the proposed automotive lab expansion and greenhouse addition project.

The board discussed and established to table the proposed Automotive Lab expansion for further discussion at the monthly committee meetings for further study.

7.9. K-12 Robotics Program

At last month's meeting, the Finance Committee minutes reflected discussion on a request to expand the district's Robotic Program into a K-12 platform. The committee was supportive of the recommendation and felt it aligned with the district goals.

At the time of the meeting, the quote to purchase the equipment to support the expansion was \$77,492.60. Dr. Gilson asked the Board to pause the request for one (1) month to examine the amount requested and to possibly scale down the cost.

A new quote has been received from VEX Robotics in the amount of \$55,083.69. This amount would both support the competition and classroom needs. The Blair Community Schools Foundation has approved to donate \$15,000 towards the program. The total amount being requested for Board approval is \$40,083.69.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the purchase of the new equipment from VEX Robotics, in the amount of \$40,083.69, to support the expansion of the district's Robotic program to a K-12 platform passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Laura Ronning.

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|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

Motion Passed: I move to accept the donation from the Blair Community Schools Foundation, in the amount of \$15,000, to help support the expansion of the district's Robotic Program to a K-12 platform passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Laura Ronning.

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|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

7.10. Nebraska’s College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts

The revised Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) were adopted by the State Board of Education on September 2, 2021. As per state statute, these standards must also be approved by the local Board of Education. The revision process began in the spring of 2020 and continued throughout 2020 and 2021. Draft #1 of proposed revisions was release on June 16, 2021, and Draft #3 was released on August 1, 2021.

The ELA standards challenge students to develop the essential literacy skills needed to succeed in college, career, and life. They cover a broad array of core knowledge and proficiencies in areas such as reading, writing, and listening and speaking.

Motion Passed: I move to approve the new Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts as previously approved by the Nebraska State Board of Education on September 2, 2021 passed with a motion by Brittney Gunderson and a second by Steve Callaghan.

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| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

7.11. Approval of New Teachers – None

7.12. Acceptance of Resignations – None

7.13. Superintendent Report

Dr. Gilson shared; overall student COVID-19 cases are down. It seems the modifications approved at last month’s Special Board Meeting to the 2021-22 School Reopening Plan have been effective. It has freed up principal’s time to focus on academics.

7.14. Informational Items

8. Adjournment

Motion Passed: I move to adjourn meeting at 8:44pm passed with a motion by Laura Ronning and a second by Brittney Gunderson.

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| Denise Cada | Absent |
| Steve Callaghan | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Absent |
| Brittney Gunderson | Yes |
| Kari Loseke | Yes |
| Deb Parks | Yes |

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|-----------------|--------|
| Brandi Petersen | Yes |
| Laura Ronning | Yes |
| Bob Schoby | Absent |

Angie Conety
Secretary Board of Education

Randall Gilson, Ed.D.
Superintendent