

**Conestoga Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting Agenda
March 14, 2023 @ 5:00 PM**

Jr./Sr. High Media Center/Library, 8404 42nd Street, Murray, NE 60409
Conestoga Inspires and Prepares Students for Life

I. Opening Procedures

I.A. Welcome

I.B. Pledge of Allegiance

I.C. Statement of Open Meetings Law

I.D. Roll Call

II. Comments from the Audience

III. Presentations

5th grade teachers, Mrs. Glazebrook and Miss. Baugh shared some pictures and happenings in the classroom. Reviewed cross-curricular going on in Science, Writing and Social Studies. Completed a live museum on the American Revolution where the community is invited in.

III.A. Jayden Speed - Legislative

Jayden Speed, student board member. Attended the United States youth program with other student delegates across the country. Each delegate received a flag that flew around the United States capital as well as a \$10,000 scholarship signed by both United State senators. Amazing experience and Senator Carole Blood congratulated myself and the other student from Lincoln High. I attended the weekly legislative meeting with NASB, and I forwarded the reports to all board members this week. I highlighted points we would find of interest; a bill currently on the table that would provide a 15 million grant for school security and 5 million to health practitioners and school psychologists. Later this week we will hear the governor's final part of the education package that provides a 1 billion dollar fund for school districts to receive \$1,500 for every student in additional aid and includes an increase to the sped program.

III.B. Building & Grounds

Building and Grounds update met last week and went over different projects. Jeremy Stone over viewed the concrete options in front main entrance of the high school. Greg Page mentioned seeing problems he knew were in the bond but new stuff he wasn't aware of. Other issues to be addressed, mold around the cracking stucco at elementary, new windows at elementary showed problems in the ceiling. Pot holes in the high school parking lot. Improvements need to be made.

III.C. Building Project Committee

Building Project Committee update, time to start addressing space issues and will start weekly meetings via zoom next week. Having information from buildings and grounds will help address the issues. The committee consists of Candace Kelley, Seth Ahrens, Allison Welch as well as some administrators and community members.

IV. Consent Agenda

Board member Tracey Priefert made a motion made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Candace Kelley.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

IV.A. Minutes

IV.B. Claims

V. Discussion Items

V.A. Americanism Hearing

President Welch opened the American Civics hearing and the floor for public comment. The purpose of the annual hearing is to allow public comment on the district's compliance regarding Americanism. Mr. Apple stated the 5th grade teacher's presentation on Americanism tied in nicely.

Welch complimented the school and all it took to organize a Veterans Day program for the community. No other public comment was given. Welch closed the hearing.

V.B. Admin Reports

Eric Dennis, Elementary principal. Parent teacher conference attendance was at 86% and with the snow day some parents didn't complete conferences. Kindergarten round up will happen again in August with registration at the end of March. I will meet with the leadership team and re-work the schedule for next year to better meet individual needs. Like every year, I will also look at the mission, vision and goals for the elementary school.

Daycare had ITERS (infant and toddler environmental rating scale) visit and daycare did well. Most daycares received a 5.0 and we received a 4.8. Daycare also had a CQI (continuous quality improvement plan) from Sixpence and feedback from Aisha was positive.

Rob Geise, Secondary principal. Congratulations to Jayden Speed. Outstanding job by Ms. Taylor and the students during National FFA week. Congrats to all state qualifiers. Thank you to winter coaches, sponsors, participants, state qualifiers and state champions. Mr. Wills did a great job recognizing those students. Held college/career fair last week with 31 booths in a variety of career fields, colleges and military branches. Big thank you to Mr. Brokaw and Mrs. Kreifels for helping with career day.

Update on Mrs. Kreifels scheduling process, She is planning meetings with juniors and juniors have taken asvab test, scores used for military entrance and exploration, scholarship info was sent out to seniors and parents via parent square and hard copy of local scholarships were given to students. Prepping for the registration process, which usually takes place in April, the SCC rep met with students to talk about SENCAP opportunities for next year.

Lisa Bergmeyer, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment. Curriculum, ELA pilot is wrapped up and teachers have completed several different rubrics. HMH was decided to be the best fit for teachers and students. No quote tonight from HMH, but to compare it to the other program we looked at, it was around \$120,000 for K-12. Not all seniors will use it as we have college courses. I hope to have a quote for the April meeting and we received good samples of all options and components of programs.

Instruction, continuing to enhance the TEAMing and PLC process, each principal selected a team of teachers to attend a PLC institute in person this summer.

Assessment, sent out surveys at parent-teacher conferences, 157 responses. Overall, results were great with data broken down per building. Addressed security and community results were kids were safe but understand that updated enhancement are necessary. 75% said buildings are outdated, multipurpose room addition was 8% against. We did address the bond in the survey and 7% were against the bond. Testing season, 3/21, juniors will take ACT, 3/22 sophomores will take pre-act and using John Baylor test prep.

Tracey Priefert, summarized survey results of parents on the bond. Some comments stated updates are needed but wouldn't support a bond no matter the money amount or project needed. More information will come out in an upcoming newsletter. We want to get as much information to the community as we can to inform everyone.

ELA is the most expensive curriculum purchase a school will make per Mr. Apple

Nicholas Krause, Director of Student Services. Absent, report submitted.

Cole Wills, Secondary Assistant principal and Activities Director. Winter sports finished. Girls basketball finished 9-15 with the most wins since 2017-18, boys basketball finished 14-11 with their first winning season and wins since the 92-93 season. Boys wrestling had 3 state qualifiers and girls wrestling had 1 state champion, Kylee Plowman, and 3rd place medalist, Maggie Fiene. Great job to winter sports student's and coaches, thanks to Skiles, Trampe and Ahrens for assistance and hard work this past season. Speech has 2 state qualifiers, John McConnell and Ella Lewis in 2 events each and headed to Kearney tomorrow. The dance team are C1 State Hip Hop champions, with 7x medalists. Our cheer team joined them with a C1 Game Day State Champions. Great job coach Bloch and coach Rieke. FFA had 16 state qualifiers

with 4 different teams; Agriscience, Nursery Landscape, Natural Resource, Farm Business Management teams. Conference honor band was last week as well as our school performance last Tuesday, they did an awesome job. This Friday, myself, Mrs. Morton and Mrs. Vallis will take 97 junior high students to Malcom for their performance. The Junior High quiz bowl wrapped up, 6th and 8th grades were Cass County champions. 7th grade finished 2nd in Cass County. Junior High wrestling finished yesterday and spring sports have started. Boys track 28, Girls track 25, Girls soccer 25, Boys soccer 30. Junior High track begins on the 21st. Activity participation numbers are as follows:

7th - $56/58 = 96.55\%$ and 8th - $49/49 = 100\%$

Junior High = 98.13%

9th - $49/56 = 87.5\%$; 10th - $55/59 = 93.22\%$; 11th - $42/48 = 87.5\%$; 12th - $45/48 = 93.75\%$

High School - 90.52%

When we talked with students, there were different reasons students didn't participate, some focused more on studies/college courses, most participated in activities outside the school. Some students expressed interest in going out for an activity next year/season.

Shout out to Mrs. McDonnell with all the extra help with winter sports and she put in extra time and effort.

V.C. Superintendent Report

Setting up interviews for Tech and Instructional coach positions. Sprinklers at the practice field are fixed and working for Spring.

Finalists for the Nebraska Commissioner of Education are Lisa Coons, Brian Maher, Melissa Poloncic and Summer Stephens.

The Department of transportation moved their presentation on the new RCUT to the beginning of the school year. Teammates fundraiser will be at Runza on 3/27 and donate 10% of sales to the local teammates' program.

Jayden Speed did a nice job on legislation but Mr. Apple reviewed in further detail legislative bills that would affect the education system directly and funding/aid benefits for education.

Greg Page asked who would be brought up for the RCUT meeting? High school students, with the possibility of bringing up 6th grade as they will be close to driving age.

Tracey Priefert thanked Mr. Apple for handling the liquid asset money fund.

VI. Action Items

VI.A. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve and revise Policy 2008 Meetings with The Sarpy County Times, Omaha World Herald and the Cassgram as the district newspaper of record.

Board member Candace Kelley made a motion to approve and revise Policy 2008 Meetings with The Sarpy County Times as the district newspaper of record for the 2023-2024 school year, seconded by Greg Page.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

VI.B. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the NASB membership for the 2023-2024 school year.

Board member Tracey Priefert made a motion to approve the NASB membership for next school year, seconded by Candace Kelley.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

VI.C. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the purchase of new and updated Houghton Mifflin English Language Arts program materials for grades K-12.

VI.D. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the removal of Candace Kelley and Dean Nickels and the addition of Jeremy Stone to the First State Bank Nebraska checking and savings accounts.

Board member Tracey Priefert made a motion to approve the removal Candace Kelley and Dean Nickels with addition of Jeremy Stone to the First State Bank of Nebraska checking and savings accounts, seconded by Seth Ahrens.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

VI.E. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to enter executive session for the protection of school personnel.

Board member Candace Kelley made a motion to enter executive session to discuss superintendent negotiations at 6:04 p.m, seconded by Jeremy Stone.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

Board member Seth Ahrens made a motion to convene from executive session at 6:40 p.m., seconded by Jeremy Stone.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried

VII. Upcoming Meetings

VIII. Adjourn

Board member Seth Ahrens made a motion to adjourn at 6:41 p.m., seconded by Candace Kelley.

Members voting aye:

Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Welch: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried