

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

January 13, 2025

Blair Central Office

1326 Park Street, Blair NE 68008

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Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda. The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Friday, January 7, 2025.

## 1. Call to Order

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## 2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Denise Cada, Steve Callaghan, Ginger Fredericksen, Nate Larsen, Kari Loseke, Bob Schoby, Melaini Sturm, and Courtney Tabor

### 2.1 Approval of Absent Board Member(s) – None

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

## 4. Organization of the Board of Education

The following board leadership positions were voted upon:

President: Steve Callaghan nominated Kari Loseke as Board of Education President and Courtney Tabor seconded the nomination. Kari Loseke accepted the nomination and the Board of Education re-elected Kari Loseke as President of the Board of Education on a vote of 7-0-1.

Vice President: Ginger Fredericksen nominated Courtney Tabor as Board of Education Vice President and Bob Schoby seconded the nomination. Courtney Tabor accepted the nomination and the Board of Education re-elected Courtney Tabor as Vice President of the Board of Education on a vote of 7-0-1.

Approval of Offices and Appointments:

- Secretary – Angie Conety
- Treasurer – Leslie Watts
- Official Newspaper – Blair Enterprise and Omaha World-Herald
- Bank Depository – Washington County Bank and RVR Bank
- Truant Officer – Blair Police Department and Washington County Sheriff

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the current offices and appointments as presented passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

**5. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda – None**

**6. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items - None**

**7. Consent Agenda**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

**7.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting**

**7.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published**

**7.3. Receipt of Communications**

**7.4. Treasurer's Report**

**7.5. Audit of Claims**

**8. Business**

**8.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda - None**

**8.2. Recognitions**

**8.3. Acceptance of Gifts**

**8.4. Consideration of Communications**

**8.4.1. Blair High School Dance Team**

The Blair High School Dance Team is requesting permission to attend the Nationals Send Off Performance on Sunday, January 26, 2025, from 3:30pm - 6:30pm. The dancers will perform their National Pom and Hip-Hop routines along with other schools from the area, as they prepare to head to Orlando, Florida, for the Universal Dance Association National Dance Team Championship.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the request for the Blair High School Dance Team to attend the Nationals Send Off performance on Sunday, January 26, 2025 passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Nate Larsen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

**8.4.2. Local Community Scholarship Ceremony**

A letter has been received from Christine Ross, Blair High School Counselor/Local Scholarship Chair, to request permission to host a Local Community Scholarship Ceremony at Blair High School in the Auditorium/Cafeteria on the evening of Sunday, April 27, 2025. Ms. Ross has received requests from our local community to hold a reception for all local community-affiliated organizations and feels holding it on a Sunday evening would allow for the greatest participation.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the request to hold a Local Community Scholarship Ceremony at

Blair High School on Sunday, April 27, 2025 passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

**8.5. Comments from The Public** - Public comment was heard from two (2) patrons.

### **8.6. Committee Reports**

#### **8.6.1. Policy/Curriculum Committee**

The Policy/Curriculum Committee met on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Denise Cada.

#### **8.6.2. BG&T Committee**

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 4:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Steve Callaghan.

#### **8.6.3. Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Courtney Tabor.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the district to follow the Federal Business Mileage Reimbursement rate of \$0.70 per mile to begin January 1, 2025 passed with a motion by Courtney Tabor and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

### **8.7. Deerfield Elementary Project**

On February 27, 2024, Mr. Jeff Steinbeck shared with the BG&T Committee the need for a boiler heater at Deerfield Elementary to heat the well water that is circulated through the building loop for heating purposes. The building has heat pumps that function off the well field water for heating the building. In the colder months, when the water from the wells becomes colder, it will stop the heat pumps from working. The heat pumps will stop at around 50-55 degrees water temperature. When the days and nights are cold, and it doesn't get above freezing, the water temperature will drop. Right now, on January 8th, we are getting 47 degrees water, which has caused the gym heat to quit working and also a few classrooms. We are only getting those rooms and the gym to about 60 degrees room temperature. In talking to Rick Brant, this has been a problem since the building was built. With the added gas-fired heater to the water, we can control the temperature of the water coming in and keep the heat pumps working even when we reach extreme cold in the winter. This will also help the system to not have to run so hard and will prolong the life of the units. Mr. Steinbeck asked Mechanical Systems

to hold the one water loop heating unit (Lochinvar boiler) that is available in Omaha until Tuesday, January 14, 2025. This would allow us to get the project started as soon as possible. The project could be done while school is in since it will be in the mechanical room by the playground and the gas line will be run across the roof of the building for the boiler heater. The cost of the new boiler system from Mechanical Systems is \$68,800.00.

In addition, we will need to purchase, install, and program a new Alerton controller for the new boiler system controls in the amount of \$17,983.00.

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the bid from Mechanical Systems, Inc. and Albireo Energy for the purchase of a new boiler system and new control panels at Deerfield Elementary in the amount of \$86,783.00 passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

#### **8.8. Approval of New Teacher(s)**

#### **8.9. Acceptance of Retirements**

- Kristine Pfeil, Otte Middle School Media Specialist, 25-years
- Mariann Andersen, Arbor Park Grade 1, 34-years

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the retirements of certified staff members, Kristine Pfeil and Mariann Anderson, upon the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Melaini Sturm.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes
Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

#### **8.10. Superintendent Report**

#### **8.11. Informational Item**

### **9. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** I move to adjourn the meeting at 7:54pm passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Courtney Tabor.

Denise Cada	Yes
Steve Callaghan	Yes
Ginger Fredericksen	Yes
Nate Larsen	Yes
Kari Loseke	Yes

Bob Schoby	Yes
Melaini Sturm	Yes
Courtney Tabor	Yes

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Angie Conety  
Secretary Board of Education

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Randall Gilson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent