

A meeting of the Board of Education of Conestoga Public School in the County of Cass, in the State of Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at, 5:00 PM Wednesday, July 16, 2025 located at the Elementary Library, 104 E. High St., Murray, NE 68409.

Notice of the meeting, agenda and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting were given in advance to all members of the Board of Education and thereof by posting at the Elementary and High School offices and Statue 84-1407 to 84-1414 requires that the Open Meetings Act be posted in the meeting room. President Page informed the board and the public that the Open Meetings Act is located in the meeting room.

Opening Procedures

Pledge of Allegiance. Statement of Open Meetings Law. Roll Call-Ahrens: Present, Kelley: Present, Page: Present, Priefert: Present, Stone: Present, Weisz: Present.

Comments from the Audience

Public comment about due diligence, support from new local law enforcement, and introductions from community members looking to learn and share their experiences.

Consent Agenda

Minutes/Claims-Board member Kelley made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Stone. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discussion Items

Admin Reports

Nick Krause-Director of Student Services

Absent, report submitted.

Rob Geise-Jr./Sr. High Principal

A handful of Teachers attended a Conference in St. Louis and they are excited to share new practices and ideas. Efforts continue with class projections and enrollment numbers. The supply list has been shared with families, with more communication and events to come in early August. Building Leadership met to reflect on procedures, data, furniture, initiatives, and schedules. Emergency/Evacuation operations met and plans will be modified with renovations for classroom sizes and locations. New opportunity for our students and school from the Nebraska Supreme Court, who accepted Conestoga to host an oral arguments invite in November. Our first day is August 14th, Open House the 12th and 7th grade Orientation the 11th.

Molly Stieren-Assistant Jr./Sr. High Principal/Activities Director

Handbooks were submitted and changes solely per KSB verbiage. The conditioning program is going strong, mentioning "lifter of the week" provided by Mr. Brothers. All Coaches were notified of courses and requirements to complete before the season starts. Working with Thompson Electric to get a quote for updating our sound system in the gym. The Booster Club is fundraising for a video board, which will work with that sound system and can be relocated as needed. The official start of fall practice is

August 11th for high school teams.

Lisa Bergmeyer-Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Met with our contact from ESU to prepare and plan for District meetings, with new processes and outlines to be finalized with our Principals. Meetings are to be held separately to focus on different roles and align with leadership team goals. Teachers continue work in flex days and the team that Mr. Geise mentioned were grateful for the opportunity to attend the PLC. With support from Mrs. Spangler, another student achieved silver level for the Seal of Biliteracy going into their senior year.

Eric Dennis-Elementary Principal

Updated student/parent and staff handbook to reflect policy and legal recommendations. Attending training as available. Class lists are being finalized and will be mailed the first week of August. Construction is making a lot of progress. Daycare is wrapping up summer and the Directors are working on enrollment, leading to conversation of finding students to serve and sustaining those numbers.

Superintendent Report-Mike Apple

Construction is in full swing with dirt work, drywall, electrical and plumbing all progressing. School begins in a few weeks and intensity will be picking up to prepare, and it will get done. Teachers will be given access to their rooms as soon as they become available. Concrete has been poured for the new transportation office at the maintenance building. The pole barn has arrived for school vehicles. Met with two playground companies to discuss the needs of our preschool children that will be accessible to all with a path and space that they need for their age level. Costs so far will run close to \$165,000 and the plan is to have this decided by January for spring delivery and installation. Once a plan is somewhat narrowed down, we will have another presentation. DLR will be conducting a session at Administrator Days and has asked for participation. Anticipating a loss of federal funds for Title and will update if materialized.

Hearing

Policy 5018 Parent Involvement in Education Practices. Hearing open at 5:28 p.m. No input regarding Policy 5018. Hearing closed at 5:29 p.m.

Hearing

Policy 5045 Student Fees. Hearing open at 5:29 p.m. No input regarding Policy 5045. Hearing closed at 5:31 p.m.

Action Items

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the 2025-2026 Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association membership renewal. Board member Priefert made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 NRCSA membership renewal, seconded by Kelley. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 4059 Behavioral and Mental Health Training. Board member Kelley made a motion to approve revisions to Policy 4059, seconded by Weisz. Members voting aye: Ahrens:

Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0
Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 5015 Protection of Pupil Rights. Board member Ahrens made a motion to approve revisions, seconded by Weisz. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 5018 Parent Involvement in Education Practices. Board member Stone made a motion to approve revisions, seconded by Kelley. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 5031 Student Appearance. Board member Priefert made a motion to approve revisions to Policy 5018, seconded by Ahrens. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 5045 Student Fees. Board member Ahrens made a motion to approve revisions, seconded by Stone. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 6031 Emergency Exclusion. Board member Weisz made a motion to approve Policy revisions, seconded by Ahrens. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 6034 Concussion Awareness. Board member Kelley made a motion to approve revisions, seconded by Weisz. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the Substitute Teachers' pay rate of \$180.00 per day. Board member Stone made a motion to approve the Substitute Teacher's Pay rate of \$180.00 per day, seconded by Kelley. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Abstain (With Conflict), Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve revisions to Policy 2006 Complaint Procedure. Board member Kelley made a motion to approve revisions, seconded by Priefert. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve school meal prices. Board member Stone made a motion to approve school meal prices, seconded by Kelley.

Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the 2025–2026 Handbooks for the staff, students and parents at our Elementary, Jr./Sr. High, and Activities. Board member Kelley made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Handbooks, seconded by Weisz. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Closed session for Investigation Proceedings. Board member Kelley made a motion to a closed session for Investigation Proceedings, seconded by Weisz. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.

Upcoming Meetings

- 8/12/25 BOE Meeting at 7 p.m.
- 8/14/25 First day of the 2025 school year

Adjourn

Board member Priefert made a motion to adjourn at 6:05 p.m., seconded by Kelley. Members voting aye: Ahrens: Yea, Kelley: Yea, Page: Yea, Priefert: Yea, Stone: Yea, Weisz: Yea, Yea: 6, Nay: 0 Motion Carried.