

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 Tuesday, December 9, 2025 located at the Jr./Sr. High Media Center/Library, 8404 42nd Street, Murray, NE 60409.

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 Statute 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**

A candidate running for our district legislature made comment to introduce himself.

## **Presentations**

Foundation update by Tracey Priefert

Discussed the greenhouse plan for the spring. Classroom grants are available again. Met with Nurse Tracy and Laurel Kreifels to discuss Cougar Convenience Corner needs. FBLA chapter is helping with a food drive to help address that need. Currently considering a grant to restock the cougar convenience corner.

## **Consent Agenda**

Minutes/Claims Board member Priefert made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Ahrens. 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

Rob Geise-Jr./Sr. High Principal

Discussed how truancy issues are a national problem, and how our good standing policy is helping us tackle that problem, in addition to other student incentives. Welcome to DeAnne Peterson to the front office. The Annual Career Fair will be February 25. The end of semester one is only 7 days away, staff/students are working hard to finish strong. Our Softskills representative will come to an upcoming meeting to talk about where things are going with this program. Important December dates discussed.

Eric Dennis- Elementary Principal

Benchmark testing underway, focusing on school improvement goal. K-3 music concert was a success. Teacher evaluations are underway. DARE Graduation was December 3rd, huge thank you to Deputy Tuttle for doing such a great job educating our students. The elementary musical cast of 101 Dalmations will be performing in March. Instructional rounds will occur early in the second semester before testing. Attended ESU3's Community of Practice, focusing on the role of principals in continuous school improvement. The early education center employees will be attending a training December 29th over Early Learning Guidelines.

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

Provided update on the Cougar Classic, wanted to commend our tech department as everything ran smoothly with the online platform. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped make the day run smoothly. Winter sports season has started. Looking forward to the 7-12 music concert on December 18th. NSAA Moratorium will be 12/24-12/28. We will be hosting Spotlight on Girls Wrestling Tournament on December 30th.

Nick Krause- Director of Student Services

Attended a HAL/Rule 3 workshop at ESU3 and felt it was a good opportunity to learn more about HAL. Focused monitoring corrections are being made. Observations of special education staff have begun and should wrap up by the end of January. Submitted ESSA Title Grant Reimbursement, IDEA Grant Reimbursement, and SPED Proportionate Share worksheet.

### Superintendent Report

Mike Apple- Superintendent

The 2024-2025 Audit and AFR have been submitted, the auditors will come in January to discuss. Construction continues with a focus on closing areas, so work can progress on the inside during cold months. The fire hydrant at the elementary school has been

replaced. The elementary also has 3 non-working HVAC units that will be scheduled to be replaced. The lawn mower is also going to need to be replaced soon as well. Allicap representative is coming to visit about safety and will tour for safety checks and generate a report. Playground equipment will be delivered in the next few weeks.

#### 2025-2026 School Calendar

Construction time restraints have prompted the need for the High School building to be vacant 3/11 and 3/12. These days were scheduled as early outs. Alternative options for make up days were discussed, and the plan is to see what happens with snow days.

#### Report on School Testing by Lisa Bergmeyer

Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow presentation. Data shown is from Spring 2025. Shared classifications, data, areas of growth, and next steps. State testing scores are the base, then you can move up or down depending on other factors. Other factors could be the school's chronic absenteeism rate, graduation rate, demographic population. We are showing growth. At the high school level, data is pulled from the ACT. Data reviews are happening to compare ACT standards to our curriculum.

#### **Action Items**

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the addition of DeAnne Peterson as a signer to the High School Activities bank account.

Board member Ahrens made a motion to approve the addition of DeAnne Peterson as a signer to the High School Activities bank account., 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 removal of Policy 5049 Firearms and Weapons, as this information is now contained in Policy 3060 Firearms and Weapons for Non-Students, which was adopted in August 2024, and Policy 5035 Student Discipline which was adopted in June 2024.

Board member Ahrens made a motion approve the removal of Policy 5049 Firearms and Weapons, as this information is now contained in Policy 3060 Firearms and Weapons for Non-Students, which was adopted in August 2024, and Policy 5035 Student Discipline which was adopted in June 2024., 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 the review of Policy 5053 Self Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis, 5054 Student Bullying, 5056 Free Expression by Students, 5057 District Title 1 Parent and Family Management,

5059 Emergency Medical Treatment, 5062 Lice and Nits, 5065 Bed Bugs.

Board member Stone made a motion approve the review of Policy 5053 Self Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis, 5054 Student Bullying, 5056 Free Expression by Students, 5057 District Title 1 Parent and Family Management, 5059 Emergency Medical Treatment, 5062 Lice and Nits, 5065 Bed Bugs., 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 Policy 5064 Supplement and not Supplant.

Board member Priefert made a motion to approve Policy 5064 Supplement and not Supplant., 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 sale of surplus property that includes 4 snare drums, 4 bass drums, 2 tenor drums, 4 timpani drums, and 10 drum harnesses.

Board member Priefert made a motion to approve the sale of surplus property that includes 4 snare drums, 4 bass drums, 2 tenor drums, 4 timpani drums, and 10 drum harnesses., seconded by Stone.

Members voting aye:

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

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Next BOE Meeting 1/13/26

### **Adjourn**

Board member Ahrens made a motion to Adjourn at 6:16 pm., seconded by Weisz.

Members voting aye:

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