

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 6:00 PM

Gothenburg Public Schools Discovery Center (Greenhouse Classroom)
1322 Avenue I
Gothenburg, Nebraska 69138

The mission of Gothenburg Public Schools is to prepare all students to become lifelong learners within a positive and innovative learning environment.

Attendance Taken at :

Present Board Members: Other Present:

Seth Ryker

Ellen Mortenson -- Times

Allison Jonas

Jay Holmes

James Widdifield

Tyler Herman

Mary Meisinger

Michael Teahon, Superintendent

Kay Streeter, Business Manager

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approve the Agenda

3. Recognition of Visitors

4. Executive (Closed) Session for the evaluation of the superintendent candidates

5. Next Meeting

6. Adjournment

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationAgenda Construction and Control

- A. Written meeting agendas will be prepared by the Superintendent of Schools in corroboration with the President of the Board of Education. Any Board member may submit agenda items to be placed on the agenda by the Superintendent and the Board President.
- B. Control of the agenda is the responsibility of the Board President.
- C. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting.
- D. An agenda, kept continuously current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent of School of the Gothenburg School District during normal business hours. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting. The School Board shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only by action taken at the public meeting at which the item is to be considered.

Legal Reference: § 84-1411

Date of Adoption: November 13, 2006

Internal Board Policies - Methods of OperationProcedures During Meetings

In the absence of the President and the Vice President of the Board of Education at any meeting, the Board shall choose a President pro tempore. In the absence of the Secretary at any meeting, the Board shall also choose a Secretary pro tempore.

Any action taken on a question or a motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the Board in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted, or if the member was absent or abstained.

The vote to elect the leadership of the Board of Education at the reorganization meeting shall be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Legal Reference: §79-569
 §79-520
 §84-1413

Date of Adoption: April 14, 2008

Bylaws of the Board - MeetingsRegular Meetings

The Board shall meet in regular session on the second Monday of each calendar month, unless otherwise designated by the president with the approval of the Board. All meetings shall be held in the boardroom at the Gothenburg Schools unless otherwise designated by the president with the approval of the Board. In each odd-numbered year, the January meeting will be held on or after the first Thursday after the first Tuesday.

Legal Reference: §79-554 §79-555 §84-1401

Special Meetings

A special meeting of the Board may be called by the president when in his opinion it is necessary, or upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, or any two (2) Board members. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting, which does not come within the purpose, or purposes set forth in the call for the meeting unless it is of an emergency nature. Special Board sessions may be adjourned to a definite date and time.

Legal Reference: §79-520 §79-554 §79-555 §84-1401

Advance Delivery of Meeting Materials

The Board shall require the Superintendent to prepare an agenda which, with the minutes, shall be mailed or delivered to the Board members on Friday or prior to each regular monthly Board meeting.

Items not placed on the regular agenda may be tabled until the regular meeting on the following month to provide the Board adequate time to research the item in question. All citizens in the district boundary are permitted to place an item on the agenda. Those persons outside the district may place an item on the agenda by permission of the President of the Board or the Superintendent of Schools.

Order of Business

The following shall be the order of business for the regular meetings. The order of business may be changed by consent of all members present.

Meeting call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, Approval/Changes to Agenda, Recognition of Visitors, Business Items (Consent Agenda, Action Items, Policy Review, and Reports), Discussion Items, Time/Date of Next Meeting, Adjournment.

Parliamentary Procedure

The rules of parliamentary procedures as embodied in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the school Board in its deliberation when the issue in question is not covered by these policies and bylaws.

Minutes

The Board of Education shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed. The minutes shall be prepared by the secretary immediately following the meeting, shall be written, shall be available for inspection by the public and for distribution to the members of the Board within ten (10) working days, or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, and shall be a part of the agenda for the next regular meeting at which time they shall be corrected, if necessary, and approved. The minutes shall be kept in the office of the superintendent and shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

Legal Reference: §79-577 §79-555 §§ 84-1408-1414

Voting

Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the Board in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted, or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirement of a roll call or viva voce vote may be satisfied by used of an electronic voting device, which allows the yeas and nays of each member of the board to be readily seen by the public.

Date of Adoption: May 12, 2008

Date of Revision: August 8, 2016

Bylaws of the Board - MeetingsClosed Sessions

The Board of Education may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as: (a) strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, or litigation; (b) discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices; (c) investigative proceedings regarding allegations or misconduct; or (d) evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting; provided, however a closed meeting shall never be held for the purpose of discussing the appointment or election of a new member to the Board of Education.

The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The Board shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken.

Any member of the Board shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reasons stated in the original motion to hold a closed session. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

The term "closed session" as used in the policies, regulations and Bylaws of the District shall include within its meaning any "executive session" or "executive meeting" authorized or prescribed by said policies, regulations and Bylaws, all of said terms being interchangeable.

Legal Reference: §§84-1407 to 84-1414

Date of Adoption: November 13, 2006