

Work Session

Monday, December 19, 2011 5:30 PM

Board Room
1519 10th St
Gering, NE 69341



Minutes

1. Attendance

2. Assessment & Data Report

Curriculum and Assessment Director Terri Martin distributed a copy of a powerpoint that she presented to the Board, as well as a copy of the District Report Card. Included in the packet were comparisons of class B schools and comparisons of NeSA scores among similarly sized districts. Martin covered the district's purpose and direction and shared that she feels the district is keeping these goals in focus and that the district is preparing the students for the 21st century as well as empowering them to function in the world. Three of the district's school improvement goals are 1) all students will improve and apply literacy skills; 2) all students will improve and apply math skills; and 3) improve personal and social skills of all students to allow them to be productive and accountable in their academic and personal endeavors. These district goals are revised every 5 years. Common assessments that were discussed in detail included ACT, EXPLORE, PLAN, Terra Nova, NeSA Writing, Reading, Math and Science, DIBELS AND AIMSweb. Some online testing will be utilized to save funds, as well as provide immediate results. Gering's current curriculum reflects NeSA tests. A discussion focusing on "Common Core" curriculum took place. Nebraska has not yet adopted those standards. Student demographics were reviewed, including district enrollment, ethnicity, poverty rates, ELL population and Special Education program enrollment. National, state and district student performance scores were examined and the district's John Baylor results were discussed. Scale scores on the NeSA tests were explained. The board would like to hold another work session in January to continue this discussion. The board was encouraged to bring their handouts with them next month.

3. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.