

**Regular Business Meeting**  
Monday, October 21, 2013 6:00 PM

City of Gering Council Chambers 1725 P Street  
Gering, NE 69341  
1519 10th Street  
Gering, NE 69341



## **Minutes**

### **1. Signature of Notification**

### **2. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Welcome Visitors**

#### 2.1. Acknowledge Open Meeting Laws

2.1.i. The Board of Education reserves the right to enter into Executive Session for the protection of the public interest; or the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and if the individual has not requested a public meeting.

2.1.ii. Notice of this meeting was published in the Gering Citizen on October 17, 2013.

### **3. Excuse Absent Board Members**

### **4. Consent Agenda\***

4.1. \*Sequence of agenda items subject to change. Please plan to attend the entire meeting.

4.2. Approval of Agenda/Amendment of Agenda Items

4.3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Board Meetings

4.4. Approval of Claims/Bills

4.5. Personnel Items

4.5.i. Contract Approvals

4.5.ii. Resignations

Superintendent Hastings shared that he had received a resignation from the Director of Student Services Candy Hubbard effective October 21, 2013, and submitted it for consideration of approval by the Board.

4.6. First Reading of Board Policies

4.6.i. Board Policy 204.07 - Meeting Notice

4.7. Second Reading of Board Policies

4.7.i. Board Policy 902.05 - Construction Management At Risk School Construction Alternative

4.7.ii. Board Policy 902.06 - Design-Build School Construction Alternative

4.7.iii. Board Policy 903.01 - Security

4.7.iv. Board Policy 903.02 - Access to Buildings

- 4.7.v. Board Policy 903.03 - Maintenance Schedule
- 4.7.vi. Board Policy 903.04 - Requests for Improvements
- 4.7.vii. Board Policy 903.06 - Buildings and Grounds - Records & Reports
- 4.7.viii. Board Policy 903.07 - Traffic & Parking Procedures
- 4.7.ix. Board Policy 903.08 - Vandalism
- 4.7.x. Board Policy 903.09 - Energy Conservation

## **5. Recommendation to Approve Consent Agenda**

### **6. Patron Comments**

6.1. The Board recognizes the importance of citizen participation in school business. In order to assure citizens are heard and board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner, the Board shall set a 3 minute time limit per patron, not to exceed a total of 30 minutes for all comments.

### **7. Reports & Discussions**

#### 7.1. Recognition of Accomplishments

7.1.i. Amy Seiler arranged for the First Lady of Nebraska to be at Northfield Elementary on Tuesday, September 24th from noon to 2:30pm. The First Lady was there representing "ReTree Nebraska" and the NF students took part in educational activities about trees. Students also planted trees.

7.1.ii. Sixteen High School Science Club, Natural Science class, Environment Science & Spanish Club students planted 10 new trees on the High School Campus Saturday as part of ReTree Nebraska. This is the 2nd year the school has received the Nebraska Forestry Service Grant.

7.1.iii. Congratulations to Jack Martin for being selected as Western Conference Junior High Boys Coach of the Year for 2012-2013!

7.1.iv. Northfield Elementary & Fresh Foods are conducting a coat & backpack drive called "Got Your Back" during the month of October. Donations of new or gently used coats, gloves, hats and backpacks for students in need are being accepted at Fresh Foods.

7.1.v. Congratulations to High School student Sam Rahmig for placing 7th in the State Girl's Golf Tournament!

7.1.vi. Gering High School's Marching Band won 1st place in the High School Marching Band Competition at the 2013 University of Wyoming Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Oct. 12th. The event featured 20 entries.

7.1.vii. Congratulations to the girl's cross country team for placing 1st at districts on October 17th and to the boys for placing 3rd. Both teams qualified for State in Kearney on October 25th.

7.1.viii. Lincoln Elementary recognizes the outstanding efforts of students and staff who participated in the International Walk to School Day on October 8th. Fifth Grade Instructor Jennifer Schwartz organized the walk & assembly with Mayor Mayo, Superintendent Hastings and Board Member Mary Winn.

7.1.ix. Lincoln students and staff collected over 1,800 food items for the Gering Puppac Program on Patriot's Day, September 11th. Congratulations for a job well done to a very worthwhile program!

7.1.x. Lincoln staff had eleven members participate in the Wellness Walk on Wednesday, September 18th. Thank you to those staff for representing Lincoln proudly!

7.1.xi. For the 2nd straight year, the brother-brother team of Brian, a senior, and Jason Doll, a sophomore, will compete in the state tennis tournament for Gering. GPS implemented the tennis program in 2012.

7.1.xii. 8th grader Xavier Arellano placed first in the Nebraska State Jr. High Cross Country Meet on October 12, 2013. He competed against 141 other students and set a State record.

#### 7.2. Curriculum Committee Report

Peters stated that the Curriculum Committee reviewed information that was presented to the full board during the work session held directly before this board meeting. Topics included NESAs scores, ACT testing, Terra Nova tests and the implications of the results. Peters said that the information reminds him of why the board is in place and what it can do to improve the district. The committee is in the process of reviewing a new language arts program and Director of Curriculum & Assessment Terri Martin explained the selection process. The committee is looking at K-12 products to provide continuity throughout the district. The committee will make a final recommendation to the full board when the selection process has been completed.

#### 7.3. Facilities Committee Report

Upp informed the board that the committee met at Cedar Canyon for a tour and meeting. Principal Mary Kay Haun showed the committee projects that were completed over the summer, as well as priority projects which include a window update/replacement and lighting issues. Upp stated that the district is in the process of obtaining costs associated with updating lighting throughout the facility. Another priority project for the committee is the resurfacing of the track located at the High School. A resurfacing bid of approximately \$40,000, which would extend the track life an additional five years, was submitted and approved by the committee. The committee continues to review information and updates pertaining to the softball fields and soccer field expansion.

#### 7.4. Business Committee Report

Copsey stated that the committee reviewed the bill listing for September and spent time discussing school lunch balances. The committee directed Food Services Director Diane Coop, as well as the building staff who scan lunches, to follow district policy when a student's account reaches the maximum amount allowed. The committee asked that a revised list be provided at the next meeting with explanations of how this is being addressed. Uniform rotation was also discussed and Activities Director Glen Koski is in the process of developing a schedule. Also discussed was the yogurt machine at the High School, the purchase of a washer & dryer to wash custodial towels and the electronic sign at the High School. Freshman Academy Assistant Principal and Safety Coordinator Kray Weyrich provided the committee with costs and a recommendation for a security entrance update at the Jr. High.

7.4.i. Financial Report - The Business Committee reviewed all bills for this consent agenda. Bills unique to this month were discussed for clarification. The total amount of bills approved in the consent agenda for the month of September, 2013 by specific funds are as follows:

##### 7.4.i.1. Trial Balance Summary

##### 7.4.i.2. Fund Balances

Hastings explained that the district is waiting for federal reimbursement to the cafeteria account.

##### 7.4.i.3. Schedule of Investments Held

#### 7.4.i.4. Financial Statement

7.4.i.5. Revenues: General Fund=\$2,961,424.34; Depreciation Fund=\$334.08; Cafeteria Fund=\$58,825.65; Activities Fund=\$77,577.41; Fees Fund=\$0.

#### 7.5. Personnel Committee Report

Winn explained that the committee did not meet in October, as they were waiting for additional information to come in from attorney Rex Schultze. Schultze has completed a new comp study and received EHA tax insurance rates on the 17th, which will be used to make projections. The committee plans to meet soon and will then meet with the teachers.

#### 7.6. Superintendent's Report

Hastings explained that Parent/Teacher Conferences were taking place in the elementary schools and at the Jr. High. Grades 9-12 conferences will be held next week. This marks the end of the first quarter. Hastings feels that these conferences are the most effective methods to positively impact students in parent/teacher communications. If a parent is unable to attend due to time constraints, the building will work with that parent's schedule to arrange an alternative time if needed. Hastings stated that he and the principals have begun the practice of instructional rounds. The intent is for the principal and superintendent to walk into a classroom and watch a common lesson, which is discussed at a later time to assist in developing a common instructional language among the entire team. These discussions should have an impact on student learning. The visits are not evaluative but provide an opportunity to grow professionally. A December 2nd date has been set for the Board/Superintendent Work Session with NASB's Marsh Herring. This work session is part of the NASB Superintendent Search Service and will provide an opportunity to grow and work together as a district. Hastings stated that he appreciates the time and effort that Student Services Director Cary Hubbard had provided to the district. Hubbard was employed by the district for 34 years and served as a teacher, a principal and as a Director. Hubbard was very helpful during his transition to Superintendent. Hastings congratulated Shelly Revelle for her appointment as GEA President. Tyler Thompson will serve as Vice President, Keaton Green will serve as Treasurer and Jennifer Bohnsack will serve as Secretary.

### **8. Action Items**

### **9. Tentative Committee & Meeting Dates**

### **10. Board Comments**

Upp said that he enjoyed the long list of accomplishments on the agenda and feels that it is important to acknowledge these fetes Copsey echoed Upp's thoughts and appreciates hearing about successes in areas other than sports. Copsey also mentioned that Coach Jack Martin, who was recently recognized as Coach of the Year, has always gone above and beyond his call of duty. Winn recounted a fund exercise/dance that was led by Coach Martin on National Walk to School Day this year. Winn also provided congratulations to Revelle as the new GEA President. She also stated that Gering activities have had excellent coverage by both the Gering Citizen and Gering Courier newspapers. Peters reminded all that the number of Gering students involved in activities is phenomenal and confirmed that Gering is trying to raise well rounded kids. Peters feels that extra curricular activity participation is the icing on top of academic achievements. Doll said that he enjoyed the recent pep rally and that it was a lot of fun. A lot of work went into it and everyone seems to people enjoy it. He also acknowledged the painted paw prints along Gering streets, which were done by mothers of senior students.

### **11. Executive Session**

### **12. Adjournment**