

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, February 17, 2014 6:00 PM

City of Gering Council Chambers
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 February 13, 2014

3. Excuse Absent Board Members

4. Consent Agenda*

4.1. *Sequence of agenda items are 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

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.

Robert Rahmig informed the Board that he plans to meet with Superintendent Hastings regarding the future of Cedar Canyon Elementary. Rahmig also invited Board members to attend a Booster Club soup supper at 6:00pm on February 28, 2014 at Cedar Canyon.

7. Reports & Discussions

7.1. Recognition of Accomplishments

7.1.i. 9th Graders Rebecca Svoboda & Shelly Reza were selected by the UNO College of Science & Technology's Women in IT Initiative called CodeCrush. They will attend 4 days with sponsor Crystal Palser at UNO learning more about the world of IT. 30 female students were selected from NE, IA & S. Dakota.

7.1.ii. Congratulations to High School student Ciara Sabala for being a recipient of the 2014 UNL Young Artist Award!

7.1.iii. Lincoln Elementary would like to recognize their Student Council for organizing the 100th Day of School activities.

7.1.iv. Lincoln Elementary would like to recognize it's 4th Graders for meeting the challenge of the state writing test and for Pennies for Patients activities.

7.1.v. Lincoln Elementary would like to recognize Mrs. Leigh Anne Tofflemire for organizing the 5th & 6th grade Show Choir performance tentatively scheduled for March 27th.

7.1.vi. Lincoln Elementary would like to recognize Mrs. Jennifer Schwartz for orchestrating A "Hundred Acts of Kindness" with her 5th grade students. This was an awesome demonstration of service to others

7.1.vii. Lincoln Elementary would like to recognize their K-6 students for showing AWESOME growth in their Winter DIBELs and AIMsWEB assessments.

7.1.viii. Northfield Elementary collected over \$4,000 for Pennies for Patients.

7.1.ix. Northfield Elementary participated in "Jump Rope for Heart" in February.

7.2. Committee Assignments

same as last year alan to personnel, brunner to facilities

7.3. Curriculum Committee Meeting Report

Peters stated that the Curriculum Committee received a preview of the District's Technology Vision from Superintendent Hastings.

7.4. Facilities Committee Meeting Report

Upp informed the Board that the Facilities Committee meeting had been postponed for one week. Meeting topics will be covered at the March Board Meeting.

7.5. Business Committee Meeting Report

Brunner said that the Business Committee had also reviewed the proposed Technology Plan, as well as reviewed bills and financial reports.

7.5.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 January, 2014 by specific funds are as follows:

7.5.i.1. Trial Balance Summary

7.5.i.2. Fund Balances

7.5.i.3. Schedule of Investments Held

7.5.i.4. Financial Statement

7.5.i.4.1. Revenues: General Fund=\$1,702,252.37; Depreciation Fund=\$253.23; Cafeteria Fund=\$77,476.31; Activities Fund=\$45,354.56; Fees Fund=\$0.

7.6. Personnel Committee Meeting Report

Winn said that the Personnel Committee had met on February 12th and also received information related to the District's Technology Plan. The committee also devoted time looking at an application for a District Technology Integration position. Qualifications and a detailed list of job related duties were reviewed. The committee discussed positions that will be left open by retiring staff, however these decisions will be based on final registration numbers for next school year. Hastings also provided information regarding the Director of Student Services position, as well as an interviewing time frame.

7.7. Superintendent's Report

Hastings provided information about a Technology Vision for the Gering District. He explained that this topic will be a part of the upcoming strategic planning process. Hastings worked with district administrators over the summer to determine strengths and areas of needed improvement. The group brainstormed and developed a rough outline of a plan, which was then taken to the staff for input and ideas. Hastings plans to present the plan publicly and determine where the district hopes to be in the next three to five years. The development of this plan will allow students to be prepared for their future. Research says that 65% of careers for elementary students do not even exist yet. The district wants to present tools to students to make education as effective as possible. The plan includes five main branches: hardware, curriculum, training, personnel and infrastructure. Plans are expected to be implemented next fall. Peters expressed his appreciation to Superintendent Hastings for developing a plan and understanding that there is more to technology than purchasing hardware and adding staff. Hastings spoke about the district's intent to participate in an inter-local agreement that is to be presented later in the meeting.

7.7.i. Gering Public Schools Technology Vision

8. Action Items

8.1. 2014-2015 School Calendar

Hastings presented a draft 2014-2015 school calendar and explained that there had been a few "tweeks" but that it is similar to last year's calendar. A change in the start date will enable a longer holiday break.

8.2. Intent to Participate in Nebraska Technology Cooperative

9. Tentative Committee & Meeting Dates

10. Board Comments

Upp said it was nice to see the district moving forward with a technology plan. He applauded Superintendent Hastings for his work on this project. Peters confirmed that the Facilities Committee Meeting was scheduled for February 18th at 4:30pm at the Central Office. Winn explained that she is excited about the technology plan and said that she is amazed by student demonstrations at NASB conferences. She is excited to see student potentials. Brunner reminded all that the deadline to register as a Board Member elect is March 3, 2014. Interested parties may register at the County Clerks office at the Scotts Bluff County Courthouse. There is no fee to run for a seat on the Board of Education.

11. Executive Session

12. Adjournment