



Schuyler Community Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, October 14, 2013 6:30 PM
Schuyler Central High School Music Room
401 Adam Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2400

Attendance Taken at 6:30 PM.

Virginia Semerad: Absent

Richard Brabec: Present

Eric Cerny: Present

Lumir Jedlicka: Present

Chuck Misek: Present

Brian Vavricek: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

I. Call Meeting to Order

STRIVE • COMMIT • SUCCEED - District Mission Statement

Schuyler Community Schools in partnership with parents, students, and the community is committed to educate students to become skilled, knowledgeable and responsible citizens in a global society - District Vision Statement

Notice of this meeting was given in advance according to State Law 84-1411, by giving notice of the meeting to the public. Notice of this meeting was also given in advance to all members of the Board of Education

President Jedlicka called the meeting to order. Board members present were Jedlicka, Brabec, Cerny, Vavricek, Misek; Semerad was absent. Others present were Superintendent Dr. Hoelsing, Principals Pavlik, Grammer, Comley, Vrba, and Reinch; Assistant Principal Kovar, Activity Administrator Egr, Curriculum Director Gibbons; and Student Representative Kellan Heavican.

I.A. Pledge of Allegiance

All those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Jedlicka stated that this meeting was posted in advance in accordance with the open meetings act and this meeting was open to the public.

I.B. Declaration of Open Meeting

This meeting has been preceded by advance notice and is hereby declared to be in open session. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the hallway outside the Media Center.

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

Discuss, Consider and Take Action on the consent agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda and all bills over \$5000. Passed with a motion by Richard Brabec and a second by Brian Vavricek.

Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

II.A. Agenda

II.B. Minutes

II.C. Acceptance of Claims

II.C.1. Bills of \$5,000 or more

II.D. Financial

II.E. Other Listed Reports

III. Public Forum - We ask that all presentation be limited in their length.

III.A. Recognition of visitors and guests

III.B. Other topics (limited to 5 minutes - subject to guidelines of the Board Participation Policy)

Lucas Juarez, representing Young Adults for Christ, affiliated with Divine Mercy Parish asked for the use of the high school for a three-day retreat which would include two overnights. It would include approximately 150 participants. They would hire SCS maintenance for any needs required. A question was raised about violating the "separation of church and state" rule. Dr. Hoelsing said because the participants are adults and they are not a "captive audience" there should be no violation. The school board will act on this at the November meeting.

III.C. Recognition of Students of the Month

Three students Recognized at the Middle School:

Alexandria Garcia

Preston Anderson

Kevin Gomez

III.D. Recognition of Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest Winner

On October 4th Fatima Arroyo traveled to Lincoln to the Capital Building for the awards ceremony recognizing October as Hispanic Heritage Month in the state of Nebraska. As part of the Heritage Month Celebration, an essay was sponsored by the Department of Education. Fatima won 2nd place middle school division essay contest. The topic for this year was "How does the Latino Culture Strengthen Your Community". Fatima received a medal, certificate, \$100 gift certificate to McDonalds, and scholarship money.

III.E. Student Representative's Report

State Student Council will be held October 18 at Millard South. FFA members newest project includes breeding two sows and raising the piglets with the intention that members will show the grown piglets at the Colfax County Fair.

IV. Action Items

IV.A. Curriculum

IV.A.1. Discuss, consider, and take action to approve the affiliation agreement with Central Community College

Enclosed is a copy of an affiliation agreement between Schuyler Central High School and Central Community College for the 2013-14 school year. This agreement allows the school to work with the college in offering community education classes, high school early entry courses, continuing education and teacher in-service programs. See Attachment

Approve the Affiliation Agreement with Central Community College for the 2013-14 school year. Passed with a motion by Eric Cerny and a second by Brian Vavricek.
Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

IV.B. Negotiations

IV.B.1. Set the date and time for the board negotiations committee to meet with the SEA to begin negotiations for the 2014-15 contract year.

According to Statutes 48-811, 816, and 818, negotiations must begin on or before November 1st and shall be completed by February 8th or mandatory mediation or fact finding begins, unless waived by both parties.

The SEA has sent a letter requesting a date and time to begin negotiating the 2014-15 Master Contract for certificated, non-supervisory, contracts. See attached request.

Motion to set the date for the initial negotiations meeting for October 22 at 6:00 PM
Passed with a motion by Lumir Jedlicka and a second by Chuck Misek.
Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

IV.B.2. Recognize SEA as Sole Bargaining Agent for 2015-16 Certificated Contract Negotiations

The SEA has been directed by the NSEA to send a letter asking to be recognized for the 2015-16 Certificated Staff Master Agreement. See attached request.

Motion to recognize the SEA as the sole bargaining unit for the 2015-16 Certificated Staff Master Agreement. Passed with a motion by Brian Vavricek and a second by Chuck Misek.
Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

IV.C. Planning

IV.C.1. Amend the 2013-14 School Calendar

The original school calendar reflects parent-teacher conferences on Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Board policy restricts Wednesday evening activities to be completed by 6:00 PM. After meeting with the ministerial association, they agreed to allow us to host the September conferences as scheduled and we agreed to move the December and February

Conferences to another day of the week.

We also agreed to look at the daily schedule see if our scheduled times were supported by parents in attendance. The principals reported that while times throughout the day varied at the buildings where most parents had walk-in appointments, it was necessary to keep the times from first quarter consistent for the 2nd and 3rd conferences. So with this in mind, we are recommending the following changes:

Move from Wednesday, December 4th to Thursday, December 5th and dismiss school for students on December 6th to promote staff input on the district strategic plan and school improvement.

Move from Wednesday, February 19th to Thursday, February 20th. We currently have mid-winter break scheduled for Friday, February 21st so we would not need to bring students back on Friday.

Motion to approve the administrative recommendation to amend the 2013-14 school calendar to accommodate the change in Parent-Teacher Conferences moving the December 2013 date from the 4th to the 5th and the February 2014 date from the 19th to the 20th. Passed with a motion by Richard Brabec and a second by Brian Vavricek. Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

IV.C.2. Set date, time, and place for the 2014 Strategic Planning Meeting.

I am looking forward to working with the board, staff, and district patrons to set goals, strategies, and action plans for Schuyler Community Schools. Attached is a recent document from the NASB that you used to determine the qualities in leadership you were looking for. Please review this document as it clearly outlines the qualities the staff and community value in their schools as well. See Attached.

In addition to the date, time, and place, the board will need to determine "who" is to be involved in this meeting and the expected outcomes of this meeting. We will visit at the meeting about these important issues.

Arrangements will be made to include parents, support staff, administration, community members, building representatives, and other interested persons to discuss ideas for the 2014 strategic plan. Dr. Hoelsing will prepare a format for those attending to follow. Suggested dates to meet were October 22, 24, or 29.

V. Discussion Items and Reports

V.A. Education Foundation Report

SCHUYLER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

MEETING 10/07/13 @ 12 NOON – 1:00 P.M.

@ SCHUYLER CHAMBER OFFICE

Membership: Lumir Jedlicka-Treasurer, Brian Vavricek- President, Virginia Semerad, Clinton Parr- Secretary, Sandy Seckman- Vice President, Victor Lopez, and Dan Hoelsing

Guests: Lora Johnson – Chamber Executive Director, Joyce Baumert – Performing Arts consultant – 402-352-532, -mandjbaumert@gmail.com – possible member, Kem Cavanah – Economic Development Coordinator

Shelley Friesz – sfriesz@esu7.org – 402-352-3527 Ext 216 – Foundation Assistant

Sheri Balak – sheribalak@gmail.com – Alumni Honors consultant

Absent:

Vision: To support the enrichment of educational programs and student life experiences

Goals: -To promote education in Schuyler Community Schools

-Additional giving of \$100,000 by August 31st, 2013

Secretary Report/Minutes – Review and Approve (refer minutes e-mailed by Shelley Friesz – September 9, 2013)

Treasurer’s Report – unofficial total balance \$115,037

- Donation received from Robin Stevens for \$500.

New Business

- Presentation by Scott Larson & Paul J Strawhecker on fundraising
- Presentation by Kem Cavanah regarding the Alumni Website

Committee Reports:

- Labor Day:Brian*, Clinton, Victor
- Scholarship:Sandy*, Lumir
- Education:Lumir*, Lora, Brian

- Fine Arts Center- Sandy, Joyce and Virginia

○ Need to set:

- Method of Funding
- Timeline
- Completed Visual Rendering
- **Contact Conference Schools to find out about fund raising, Started by large donor and or by special building fund levy**

○ Need to create partnerships – Need for meeting w/ Representatives from:

- SCS Foundation

- Colfax Foundation
- Schuyler Community Schools
- City of Schuyler
- Economic Development
- Latino Community
- Cargill

○ Other areas of funding:

- Individuals/**Groups that have an interest/need for such a facility**
- SCS General Fund
- SCS Special Building Fund
- **Union Pacific Grant**
- **Bricks for Bucks**
- **Projected cost Refer to e-mail from Hewgley & Associates**

- Auditorium: 14,058 sf x \$195.00 = \$2,741,310 plus 10% contingency & fees \$274,131.00
- Music Hall: 8,866 sf x \$165.00 = \$1,462,890 plus 10% contingency & fees \$146,289.00
- Cost of project \$4,204,200.00
- Cost of project including contingency & fees \$4,624,620.00
 - Working w/ the Library Foundation?

· Promotion: All members – Honors Convocations, Graduation, Labor Day, **Dance Recital**

- Donor recognition board
- Giving Challenges

○ Classes

• **Marketing Plan**

○ TV in West and East Gym

- Names of givers
- Historical perspective of what the foundation has done
 1. SMS Foundation included
- Use of Brochure
- Visual projection of the area – sent to Kem for website
- Solicit donations:

-Sporting events

-Foundation Fund Raising and Awareness Annual Banquet

-\$75/plate

-Silent Auction

-Melodrama

-Other Ideas

▪ Channel 99 (11)

Alumni Honors Committee: Sheri & Joyce

Next Meeting – November 11, 2013 – Monday – 12:00 Noon @ the Schuyler Chamber Office

The SCS Education Foundation met October 7. The professional fundraising group, Paul J. Strawhecker, Inc. provided the group with a detailed outline of their services. They would check the feasibility of the fundraiser before making recommendations. This is the same company that raised funds for the local hospital.

V.B. Rural/Satellite Schools Report

Board of Education Meeting

October 14, 2013

Rural School Principal – Gerry Reinsch

Operating Council Meetings at Fishers and Richland

Reviewed Operating Council Policy

Teacher's Report

Curriculum

Maintenance

Red Ribbon Week Activities October 14-17

Terra Nova Testing October 22-24

Mr. Reinsch met with the operating councils of the two rural schools. Both schools are involved in separate community-service projects.

V.C. Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment

The focus of this report is the newly released State of the Schools Report. If you would like, you can check out the report card by clicking on the link for [Schuyler](#). This will take you to the district report card. You can then find the individual school pages by clicking on the "School" icon in the upper right-hand corner. I will be highlighting the accountability information for you.

Standards/Assessment/Accountability – The State of the Schools report has been released to the public. There are links on the home page of the district website. Included in this release are

the follow status reports: Federal Accountability “ As a district, Schuyler Community Schools is in the third year of “Needs Improvement.” This does bring an additional list of requirements for us to complete. Here are the results at the building level for the 2012 “ 13 school year: Richland “ Elementary Reading: Met Elementary Math: Not Met Middle Reading: Not Met Middle Math: Not Met 4R - Elementary Reading: Met Elementary Math: Met SES - Elementary Reading: Not Met Elementary Math: Not Met Fishers #24 - Elementary Reading: Met Elementary Math: Met Middle Reading: Not Met Middle Math: Not Met SMS - Middle Reading: Not Met Middle Math: Not Met SCHS - Reading: Met Math: Met

V.D. Activities Administrator Report

Once a month, the 7-12 coaches meet. One of the items we have discussed is how can we increase fan attendance at events or how can we make our games more like an event to attend. One item we have implemented and it has gone well is we are allowing middle school athletes attend their high school sporting event for free. For example, the middle school football team may attend any high school football game for free and the middle school volleyball teams may attend any high school volleyball game for free. This year, we are having two hand touch football for K-6 graders before each varsity football event. Cheerleaders have had more dress competitions at volleyball games and they fund a \$10 gift card to either Casey's or Parkview.

All sports are implementing character education. We have seen an increase in sportsmanship with our students.

Intramural volleyball at Schuyler Elementary are going well. Ms. Conrad states her numbers are good. We are struggling with getting numbers for the middle school. Each teacher is promoting and the program is in the student announcements.

Our activities are going strong. Play production is getting ready for competitions along with speech. FCCLA is getting ready for districts and so are FFA. Art Club recently took a trip to Columbus library. They had featured artist.

Attached are the minutes from the October NSAA Board Meeting. See attached information.

At the NSAA Board of Directors meeting the main discussion points and actions included “ Opting in Classifications-Approved a ruling in regards to opting up in activities classification. The approved ruling will read as follows: A school which elects to opt up to a higher classification in any NSAA sponsored program must opt up to that same relative classification in every NSAA activity that school, in a non-cooperative sponsorship status participates in during that school year with the exception of football and music.

V.E. Director of Facilities/Transportation Report

TO: Schuyler Community Board

Richland

We are having some problems with coli form in our drinking water. I met with Larry Wennekamp on Oct 3rd to discuss what action needs to be taken to solve this problem. I also met with Webster Drilling out of North Bend to chlorinate the well, and we also had a bad pressure tank. I hope that may be the cause of the coli form. If not we will have to run a pump to chlorinate the system.

High School

Repaired air conditioner in room #2, freezer in concession stand, oven and switches on hot plate, and installed a motion light in the Green House.

Middle School

Repaired air conditioner in rooms #303,#304 and roof top unit # 7, #2, #3; new electrical circuits for computer lab and band room.

Elementary School

Repaired steam oven, dish washer, garbage disposal, thermostat in milk cooler, heat tape walk in freezer and Freon leak in kitchen, replaced roof top unit motor in West gym, repaired air conditioning in rooms #163, #164 and #165.

Preschool

Repaired air conditioner in office, hooked up all disconnects

Richland

General maintenance

District 4R

General maintenance

District 24

Newelectrical circuit in basement for projector

Ronnie R. Mundil

The water at Richland School will be tested again for coliform at the end of October to determine if further action needs to be taken.

V.F. Schuyler Elementary School Report

See Attached

Gross sales for the annual SES fundraiser totaled \$34,739.

V.G. Schuyler Middle School Report

Highlights of the past months of September and October:

- Excellent attendance at Parent - Teacher Conferences. Best in six years.
- Student gets second place for the Hispanic Heritage Essay Contest.
- September Students of the Month
- Attendance by administration and staff at the Fall NETA Conference in Kearney. Attendance at Parent Teachers Conferences had an over-all 68% attendance attributed to extra contact with parents through phone reminders using Campus Messenger.

V.H. Schuyler Central High School Report

Alternative School Report:

We are definitely in full swing right now! Students have adjusted to the new location, and the expectations that we have for them. Our biggest success to date, is the fact that we have recently had two students earn enough credits for graduation. That is a tremendous accomplishment! Another positive is that we recently had an entire week without any behavior referrals. Students and staff are working extremely hard to make our new Alternative Education Program a success.

High School Report: See Attached Information

Mr. Kovar complimented Ms. Saathoff, teacher at the 504R Alternative Education School on working to develop successes in this program. He also complimented the support staff for their part in helping students succeed. Mr. Pavlik gave a review of the ACT Profile report comparing data of students who took the test in years 2009-2013. New for the 13-14 year, the administration, counseling staff, and the faculty at SCHS will be working together to increase awareness and understanding of the educational opportunities at SCHS and beyond of all stakeholders in the educational process.

V.I. Superintendent's Report

The Department of Education sent out the following notice on the impact of the Government shutdown on the food service program.

This message is being sent to all school lunch programs (NSLP), school breakfast programs (SBP), and milk programs (SMP) to inform all programs on the continuing impact of the Government shutdown. Nutrition Services believes communication is essential for our programs and will continue to provide updates on the impact of the shutdown.

The purpose of this message is to inform you of the status of funding for reimbursement of claims should the Government shutdown continue beyond the month of October.

The Nebraska Department of Education – Nutrition Services currently does not have sufficient resources to fund reimbursement for claims for any meals served in October; and, future months should the Government shutdown continue beyond the end of October.

USDA has indicated retroactive funding will be made available once the shutdown is resolved; however, at this time NDE-Nutrition Services does not know when that will occur.

This email update on the impact of the Government shutdown is intended to provide information to help you plan so that you can continue to feed your students. We all hope the shutdown will be resolved soon.

I will continue to communicate with you as more updates are received from USDA.

Beverly A Benes, PhD, RD

Director, Nutrition Services

NE Department of Education

The 12-13 audit is close to being completed; Dr. Hoelsing has included a summary for board members. The question was raised about traffic flow around Fishers #24 when construction on the levee begins. Sue Jacobus supply Dr. Hoelsing with information as soon as it becomes available.

V.I.1. District Audit Management and Discussion Report

Attached is the required Management & Discussion Report provided to the auditors as our contribution to the 2012-13 audit. See attached report.

V.I.2. Option/Transfer Student Report

See attached report for October.

V.I.3. Early Retirement Policy and Eligibility List

Attached is the early retirement policy and eligibility list for 2012-13. According to your policy, I need to notify eligible employees on or before November 15th and they have a window from January 1st to March 1st to apply. See attachment.

V.I.4. State Board Report

October 2013 State Board Report

Once again, the progress on the search for a new Commissioner of Education took top billing at the State Board of Education meeting. Board Vice President Mark Quandahl provided the following timeline for the search:

Application Deadline: October 15

Search Committee meets with Proact to select semifinalists: November 6

Search Committee interviews semi-finalists: November 25-26

Board interviews finalists along with policy partners, education committee: December 11-12-13

The December interview days will be full-day affairs at the Holiday Inn in downtown Lincoln, and because of the full board participation, these will be open meetings. Board members were asked to submit any specific questions for interviewees to either President Patricia Timm or NDE Human Resources Director Joel Scherling by October 9th.

NDE staff also presented the Board with further information on the [State of the Schools Report](#), which was released at the end of September. Dean Folkers, of the Data, Research, and Evaluation team at NDE, updated the Board on changes in the way data is displayed. He highlighted both state and federal accountability sections of the report, as well as the other areas of the data, reminding Board members that public release of data used to be in November, and this year, they were able to release data over a month earlier. Diane Stuehmer informed the Board of schools falling under the classification of Needs Improvement for both Title I and non-Title I schools, stating that while the state does have schools not making AYP, it is not a percentage to be concerned about. Board member Molly O'Holleran added that the public should look at the trend data, which indicates that schools are improving overall -- and to remember that 2014 is the year in which all schools are to be at 100% proficiency as per federal requirements. To clarify the differences between state and federal accountability, Stuehmer reminded the Board that "while NePAS [the state accountability model] looks at growth, AYP has a bar that keeps on raising."

Other updates and presentations to the Board included information and updates to Nebraska's career and technical education and upcoming vacancies on the State Accreditation Committee.

Attached is a copy of the Retirement-Related Interim Study. See attachment.

V.J. Board Member and Committee Reports

1. Congratulations to the following board members for their NASB Achievement Awards
Virginia Semerad: Level I Award
Chuck Misek: Level II Award
Lumir Jedlicka: Level II Award
2. Thank you to Lumir Jedlicka for attending the Tax Modernization Hearing in Norfolk and testifying on behalf of Schuyler Community Schools.
3. We need to finalize registrations for the NASB State Convention in Omaha on November 20-22.

See Attachment.

VI. Correspondence Items

Correspondence was received from the City of Schuyler regarding a hearing on October 15 to discuss the construction of a new hotel on the north end of town. Information was received from the Nebraska Whole Child Project which included data on childhood obesity.

VII. Executive Session

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Passed with a motion by Brian Vavricek and a second by Eric Cerny.

Virginia Semerad: Absent, Richard Brabec: Yea, Eric Cerny: Yea, Lumir Jedlicka: Yea, Chuck Misek: Yea, Brian Vavricek: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1