

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 24, 2024

6:30 PM

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following members in attendance:

I. Call Meeting to Order

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Motion to exclude Debra Schlake from the Special School Board Meeting

Motion to exclude Debra Schlake from the special school board meeting. This motion, made by Dana Dorn and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

I.C. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

II. Approval of Minutes from the September 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and the September 9, 2024, Budget Hearing

Motion to approve minutes from from the September 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and the September 9, 2024, Budget Hearing. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Betsy Frerichs, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

IV.A. Policy 6043: Sharing Mapping Data

Motion to approve Policy 6043: Sharing Mapping Data. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

IV.B.The 2024-2025 Southern Public Schools Budget

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Southern Public Schools Budget. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

IV.C.The 2024-2025 Property Tax Resolution

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Property Tax Resolution. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Jeff Argo, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 p.m. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.

Debra Schlake: Absent, Jeff Argo: yes, Dana Dorn: yes, Betsy Frerichs: yes, Jared McKeever: yes, David Zimmerman: yes
yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

BY

President of the Board of Education

Of this School District

ATTEST

Secretary of the Board of Education

of this School District

NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT

84-1407. Act, how cited. Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public. It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

84-1409. Terms, defined. For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders, and (iii) the Judicial Resources Commission or subcommittees or subgroups of the commission;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.

(1) Any public body 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. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. 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, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(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;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. 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 public body holding such a closed session 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. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. 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.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.

(1) Until January 1, 2025:

(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in

subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee or the governing body of a rural or suburban fire protection district, such notice shall be published by:

(A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website; or

(B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city, village, or district. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1) (b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(iv) In case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to timely publish the notice, the public body shall (A) post such notice on its website, if available, and (B) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting. The record of such posting shall be evidence that such posting was done as required and shall be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b) (i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2025:

(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committees, such notice shall be given by:

(A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or

(B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting to a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village, any advisory committee of such governing body, or the governing body of a rural or suburban fire protection district, such notice shall be given by:

(A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper;

(B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting to a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or

(C)(III) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city, village, or district. Such notice shall be posted by the public body in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (2) (b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(iv) In case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to publish the notice, the public body shall (A) post such notice on its website, if available, (B) submit a post on a statewide website established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, and (C) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting. The record of such posting shall be evidence that such posting was done as required and shall be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

(3)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (3)(b) of this section are met:

(i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;

(ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;

(iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(v) An educational service unit;

(vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;

(vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;

(viii) A community college board of governors;

(ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;

(x) A local public health department;

(xi) A metropolitan utilities district;

(xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority; and

(xiii) A natural resources district.

(b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:

(i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;

(ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;

(iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of (a) an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas, (b) an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, (C) a governing body of a risk management pool and any advisory committee of such governing body, or (D) any advisory committee of any state entity created in response to the Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act, such organization, governing body, or committee may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing.

(4) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(5) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(6) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (5) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(7) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(8)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (3) and (6) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.

(b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (5) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.

(c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of section 84-1413.

(9) In addition to any other statutory authorization for virtual conferencing, any public body not listed in subdivision (3)(a) of this section may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing if:

(a) The purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted upon at a subsequent non-virtual open meeting of the public body;

(b) No action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and

(c) The public body complies with subdivisions (3)(b)(i) and (ii) of this section.

84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, a camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing. Except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, a public body shall allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act; and

(f) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the in-state location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when; agenda and minutes; required on website; when.

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

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

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written or kept as an electronic record and shall be available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing or keeping the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the website at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public website for at least six months.

84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

Revised 07/2024

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 9, 2024
7:15 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:15 p.m. and the following members were present: Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, Debra Schlake, Jared McKeever, & Jeff Argo. The following administrator was present: Christopher Prososki.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 9/4/2024

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted on the back of the board of education meeting room.

I.C. Hear Support, Opposition, Criticism, Suggestions, or Observations Related to the Proposed Southern Public Schools Budget for the 2024-2025 School Year

Dr. Prososki gave an overview of the proposed 2024-2025 budget. The 2024-2025 budget continues to invest in meeting the needs of our district, which continues to have growing student needs dating back to the pandemic. The General Fund budget of expenditures shown on the Notice of Budget Hearing and Budget Summary (Public Notice) is greatly inflated to allow the district to expend "unused budget authority" for future years, and does not accurately reflect actual anticipated expenditures. The district over-estimates the budget of expenditures of all active funds so we don't have to amend the budget later in the year due to unanticipated costs (Activities Fund, Depreciation Fund, Employee Benefit Fund, General Fund, School Nutrition Fund, Special Building Fund, & Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund). The Notice of Budget Hearing and Budget Summary (Public Notice) is very deceiving to the public, and the only actual figures are Actual Disbursements & Transfers (Column 1) and Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement (Column 7).

For the 2024-2025 school year, the district gained \$410,182 in valuation revenue. These numbers do not account for the increased costs to run a school district over the years (e.g., Utility increases, salary and benefit increases, insurance increases, inflation, etc.). The overall

personnel cost will be up by \$247,486. He noted that this figure does not include purchased services through ESU 5 for special education services that are mandated by state and federal law and these services will cost \$250,000 this upcoming school year. In addition, the district needs to replace a chiller at the Jr./Sr. High School, and 2 condensers at the elementary school, which will cost the district around \$350,000 this school year.

Dr. Prosocki noted the valuation in Gage County was \$489,589,626 and the valuation in Pawnee County was \$1,550,940. The district's overall valuation was \$491,140,566, and Southern saw an increase 12.80% or a \$55,748,161 increase between Gage and Pawnee Counties from the prior year. Dr. Prosocki noted that 85% of the district expenditures are in personnel and the other 15% of expenditures are fixed costs that cannot change.

Tax Year	Gage County Valuation	% Change (Prior Year)	Pawnee County Valuation	% Change (Prior Year)	Overall Valuation	% Change (Prior Year)	\$ Change (Prior Year)
2020	\$378,656,597	(0.93%)	\$1,374,630	(0.10%)	\$380,031,227	(0.92%)	(\$3,533,577)
2021	\$387,897,024	2.44%	\$1,391,515	1.23%	\$389,288,539	2.43%	\$9,257,312
2022	\$399,748,194	3.05%	\$1,442,600	3.67%	\$401,190,794	3.05%	\$11,902,255
2023	\$433,936,240	8.55%	\$1,456,165	0.94%	\$435,392,405	8.52%	\$34,201,611
2024	\$489,589,626	12.82%	\$1,550,940	6.05%	\$491,140,566	12.80%	\$55,748,161

II. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. This motion, made by Jared McKeever and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.
 yes: 5, no: 0, Absent: 1

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., September 9, 2024, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY
 President of the Board of Education
 Of this School District

ATTEST
 Secretary of the Board of Education
 of this School District

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 9, 2024
7:30 PM

I. Call Meeting to Order

President Dave Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the following members were present: Betsy Frerichs, Dana Dorn, Dave Zimmerman, Debra Schlake, Jared McKeever, & Jeff Argo. The following administrators were present: Kane Hookstra, Jeff Murphy, & Christopher Proski.

Reasonable advance publicized notice of the meeting was given according to law by publishing, a designated method for giving notice of the school district. Posted Location:

- Fairbury Journal-News

Posted Date: 9/4/2024

Reasonable advance notice was simultaneously given to board members and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I.A. Roll Call

I.B. Notice of Nebraska Open Meetings Act Posted

President Dave Zimmerman announced that a complete copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted on the back of the board of education meeting room.

II. Approval of Minutes from the August 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

Motion to approve minutes from the August 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting. This motion, made by Debra Schlake and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.
yes: 6, no: 0

III. Communications, Audiences, and Recognitions

III.A. Public comments will not be received after this period of time. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes overall.

IV. Financial Statement: Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

IV.A. Approval of Bills

IV.A.1. General Fund, Special Building Fund, Depreciation Fund, and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Claims

Motion to approve the general fund, special building fund, depreciation fund, and qualified capitol purpose undertaking fund claims. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Jared

McKeever, passed.
yes: 6, no: 0

IV.A.2. Lunch & Activity Claims

V. Support Service

V.A. Facility Update

John Eisenhower provided the school board with a written report about having bus issues with 2 buses, installing security film on the Jr./Sr. High School vestibule, the speaker system going out at the football field, needing to upgrade some HVAC equipment, and the need to replace the Jr./Sr. High School fire panel.

Dr. Prosocki noted that we need to replace the chiller at the Jr./Sr. High School and 2 air-cooled condensing units at the Elementary School. He noted that the 3 units are 20–30 years old, and it will cost the district around \$350,000 to replace all 3 units. In addition, Dr. Prosocki went over the second-floor remodel renderings that will take place this spring, and the district will look at completing this project internally. With all of the service providers and outside staff that comes in, we are in dire need of more classroom space. Dr. Prosocki said with any remodel project, he did not want to cut corners and he wanted to do the project right the first time so there are not construction issues down the road that future staff will have to deal with.

V.B. Personnel Items

V.C. Technology Update

Dr. Prosocki thanked Cody Sabey and the technology committee for all of their hard work during the first few weeks of school to ensure all of the technology items were up and running.

VI. Administrative and Committee Reports

VI.A. Student Board Member Report

VI.B. Elementary Principal's Report

The elementary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (PK-6 = 191 students), a 79% attendance rate at Open House, upcoming state and federal testing requirements (e.g., DIBELS, STAR, & NSCAS), data team meetings, PBIS meetings on student expectations and behaviors, and 2 foster grandparents at the elementary school.

VI.C. Secondary Principal's Report

The secondary principal reported on the following items: current enrollment figures (Grades 7-12 = 162 students), upcoming NSCAS testing, all alternative education spots being full at ESU 5, upcoming homecoming, upcoming parent-teacher conferences, ten students enrolled in twelve college classes, Apply to College Day on September 30, 2024.

VI.D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Prososki noted that he transferred \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Depreciation Fund to help cover the cost of the new K-12 ELA curriculum, 2 air-cooled condensing units, and a chiller. Next, Dr. Prososki went over the ESU 5 Special Education costs, and he noted they will be up by 17% or by \$41,350. Dr. Prososki then went over the final legislative report for the 108th legislature, 1st Special Session. Dr. Prososki said he just completed a High Ability Learner (HAL) Grant and the district will receive \$4,951 from this grant. Dr. Prososki gave the school board an overview of the upcoming Joint Public Hearing or pink postcard meeting that will take place on September 19 at 6:15 p.m. at the Gage County Courthouse. Next, Dr. Prososki gave the school board an update on negotiations for the 2025-2026 school year. From here, Dr. Prososki went over the October 14, 2024, in-service agenda and, he reminded the school board about the upcoming American Civics Education committee meeting at 7:15 p.m. on October 14, 2024. Lastly, Dr. Prososki went over the annual safety and security Rule 10 meeting, and he went over the special enrollment numbers for the 2024-2025 school year.

VII. Items for Discussion, Consideration, and/or Action

VII.A. Option Enrollment Applications

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. This motion, made by Jeff Argo and seconded by Dana Dorn, passed.
yes: 6, no: 0

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., October 14, 2024, at Southern Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom in Wymore. The Board of Education will usually adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to amend the agenda as deemed necessary.

BY

President of the Board of Education
Of this School District

ATTEST

Secretary of the Board of Education
of this School District

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK:
This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board about matters of public concern.

- **Getting Started:** When you have been recognized, please identify yourself, including an address and the name of any organization you represent. The board may waive the address requirement to protect the security of the individual.
- **Time Limit:** The board will generally allow a total of 30 minutes for the presentation of all public comments. Individuals may speak only one time, and must limit comments to around 5 minutes. If there are more than 6 individuals who wish to address the board, the 30 minutes will be divided equally between the number of speakers. These time limits may be changed by a majority vote of the board members in attendance to extend the time for a specific item or speaker.
- **Personnel or Student Topic:** If you are planning to speak about a personnel or a student matter involving an individual, please understand that the district has a complaint policy and/or procedures to resolve such complaints and concerns. The Board requests that you follow the policy and procedures before addressing these matters with the Board. Board members will generally not respond to any questions you ask or comments about individual staff members or students.
- **General Rules:** This is a public meeting for the conduct of business. Comments from the audience while others are speaking will not be tolerated. Lewd, obscene, profane, slanderous, threatening and hostile conduct or statements and fighting words (words whose mere utterance entails a call to violence) will not be tolerated.
- **No Action by the Board:** The board will not act on any matter unless it is on the published agenda.

6043 Sharing Mapping Data

This policy shall provide for the sharing of information to public safety agencies in order to implement effective emergency response protocols.

Definition. Mapping data means maps relating to the school buildings or school property with data for an efficient emergency response.

Sharing of Mapping Data. Mapping data shall be shared in an electronic or printable format with public safety agencies that provide emergency services to district property to assist those agencies in responding to an emergency on district property.

Requirements Related to Mapping Data. Mapping data shared with public safety agencies pursuant to this policy shall meet the following requirements:

- The mapping data shall be compatible with and able to be integrated into software platforms used by public safety that provide emergency services to the specific school for which the data is provided without requiring:
 - The purchase of additional software by such public safety agencies; or
 - The integration of third-party software to view the data;
- The mapping data shall be a finished map product in a file format easily accessible using a standard or open-source file reader, depending on the needs of the school and the public safety agency;
- The mapping data shall be provided in a printable format;
- The mapping data shall be verified for accuracy, during production and annually, through a walk-through of the school campus;
- The mapping data shall give an indication of what direction is true north;
- The mapping data shall include accurate floor plans overlaid on accurate, verified aerial imagery of the school campus;
- The mapping data shall contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of school buildings, including room labels, hallway names, external door or stairwell numbers, locations of hazards, key utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits using standard labeling rules set by the State Department of Education;
- The mapping data shall contain site-specific labeling that matches the school grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties using standard labeling rules set by the State Department of Education; and
- The mapping data shall be overlaid with a grid and coordinates.

Annual Certification or Updates. The district shall annually:

- Certify to the appropriate public safety agencies that the mapping data provided pursuant to this policy is accurate; or
- If such information has changed, provide the appropriate public safety agencies with updated mapping data.

Reimbursement. The Superintendent shall apply to the State Department of Education in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Education for a grant to cover the costs of providing payment to vendors on behalf of the school district to facilitate the implementation of mapping data in accordance with this policy. Such application shall include a copy of this school policy, an estimate from a vendor on the cost of providing such mapping data that meets the requirements of this policy, and any other information the department may require. Alternatively, the Superintendent may apply to and contract with the district's educational service unit in the manner prescribed by the educational service unit for purposes of covering the costs of facilitating mapping data in accordance with this policy.

Adopted on: 9-24-2024

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

CRITICAL RESPONSE GROUP

America's Common Operating Picture®



Building Collaboration Through Content

Critical Response Group is built on the foundation that when we all speak the same language, we work better. Through critical incident mapping, we ensure that emergency response personnel and internal teams are all operating from a unified understanding of a place: the site-specific nomenclature, the exact features of the location, and more. This common operating picture saves critical moments in an emergency, which can save lives.



Collaborative Response Graphic® (CRG®)

CRGs are simple visual communication and collaboration tools, useable under stress, to coordinate emergency response both outside and inside a building. CRGs enhance response time and improve command and control during an incident through common language and unified points of reference between internal teams and response units.

Explore CRG by visiting our site:
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America's Most Trusted Provider of Indoor Mapping Solutions

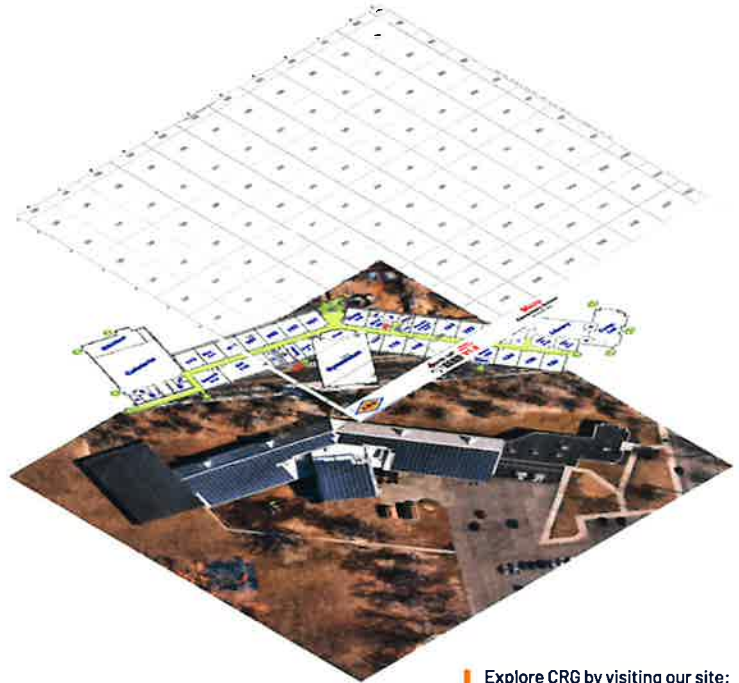
Our solutions are validated by thousands of real-world incidents under the most stressful conditions, and are deployed across the United States to protect schools, businesses, hospitals, and other critical infrastructure. Our team of former military Special Operations veterans and retired public safety executives ensure the solution is fully implemented into preexisting software platforms used by public safety.



Creating a Unified Map, Inside and Out

CRGs combine a gridded reference system, high-resolution imagery, floor plans, and critical features within a building and surrounding exterior areas to create a communication tool that is usable in a crisis and accessible by first responders through any preexisting software platform or smart device.

- ✓ Grid & Template
- ✓ Key Landmarks & Critical Features (AED, Gas, etc)
- ✓ Site Specific Labels and Nomenclature
- ✓ Highlighted Hallways, Stairwells, Doors, Exits
- ✓ GeoRelevant Integrated Floorplans
- ✓ Best Available Aerial Imagery



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Integrating With Existing Technologies Deployed by Public Safety

CRGs seamlessly integrate **into the technology platforms public safety professionals deploy and trust**, which ensures that our maps are always there when needed.



Integrating With Existing Technologies Deployed by Schools and other Facilities

CRGs layer geo-relevance **into the existing safety platforms used at any location**, including emergency alert platforms, shot detection systems, and more.



MOTOROLA



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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Southern School District (34-0001) in Gage County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 9th day of September, 2024 at 7:15 o'clock, P.M., at Jr./Sr. High School Boardroom for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk/Secretary during regular business hours. For more information on statewide receipts and expenditures, and to compare cost per pupil and performance to other school districts, go to: <https://nep.education.ne.gov>

FUNDS	Actual Disbursements & Transfers	Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers	Necessary Cash Reserve	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes	Total Personal and Real Property Tax Requirement
	2022-2023 (1)	2023-2024 (2)	2024-2025 (3)			
General	\$ 6,616,372.00	\$ 7,302,500.00	\$ 7,711,422.00	\$ 1,057,131.00	\$ 4,217,797.00	\$ 4,596,723.00
Depreciation	\$ 244,499.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00		\$ 1,000,000.00	
Employee Benefit	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Activities	\$ 200,317.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 600,000.00	
School Nutrition	\$ 340,222.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 600,000.00	
Bond	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Building	\$ 39,113.00	\$ 526,172.00	\$ 630,545.00		\$ 265,875.00	\$ 368,354.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	\$ 119,284.00	\$ 118,000.00	\$ 312,218.00	\$ -	\$ 166,350.00	\$ 147,341.00
Cooperative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Student Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS	\$ 7,559,807.00	\$ 8,866,672.00	\$ 10,904,185.00	\$ 1,057,131.00	\$ 6,900,022.00	\$ 5,112,418.00

	Bond Purposes	Non-Bond Purposes	Total
Breakdown of Property Tax	\$ 147,341.00	\$ 4,965,077.00	\$ 5,112,418.00

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

RESOLUTION NO. 34-0001

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Southern School District passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Southern School District resolves that:

1. The 2024-2025 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	\$	4,596,723.00
Bond Fund:	\$	-
Special Building Fund:	\$	368,354.00
Qualified Capital Purpose	\$	147,341.00
Undertaking Fund:		

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 12.8 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.957412 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. Southern School District proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 1.040928 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Southern School District will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by 3.41 percent.
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.

Motion by _____, seconded by _____ to adopt Resolution #_____.

Voting yes were:

Betsy Frerichs

Dana Dorn

Dave Zimmerman

Debra Schlake

Jared McKeever

Jeff Argo

Voting no were:

Dated this 24 day of September, 2024

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

Southern School District (34-0001) in Gage County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 19th day of, September 2024 at 6:15 o'clock P.M., at Gage County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Property Valuations	435,392,405	491,140,566	13%

2023-2024 Budget Information

2024-2025 Budget Information

Fund	2023-2024 Operating Budget	2023-2024 Property Tax Request	2023 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2023-2024 Request Divided By 2023 Valuation)	2024-2025 Operating Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2024 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	7,468,682.00	4,245,076.00	0.975000	0.864330	7,711,422.00	4,596,723.00	0.935928	-4%	3%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	-	-	0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund(s) 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Bond Fund			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Special Building Fund	600,000.00	326,543.00	0.075000	0.066487	630,545.00	368,354.00	0.075000	0%	5%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12	300,000.00	130,617.00	0.030000	0.026595	312,218.00	147,341.00	0.030000	0%	4%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 8			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund 9 - 12			0.000000	0.000000			0.000000	#DIV/0!	0
Total	8,368,682.00	4,702,236.00	1.080000	0.957412	8,654,185.00	5,112,418.00	1.040928	-4%	3%