

**NIOBRARA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 8TH, 2024**

Chair Ashurst called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the District Office. Members present were: Lund, Smith, Ashurst, Manning, Miller, Nelson and Kruse. Members present via zoom were Hammer and Heth. A moment of silence was observed in honor of the student that was lost.

**Visitors:** Jacob Gordon with the Lusk Police Department spoke regarding an SLO/SRO partnership between the district and the Lusk Police Department. He explained the difference between the SLO and the SRO. He also passed out an example MOU for both positions.

**INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS**

**District Presentations:** Aalyiah Pavone was present as the December middle school student of the month. Taci Bartschi was present as the December high school student of the month. Accounting 3 & 4 students as well as Mr. Lyons spoke regarding receiving their Quick Books Certification. Middle School Cross Country students spoke regarding their experience with Middle School Cross Country. It was their first year for them to have the opportunity to participate in the sport and they shared the different meets they attended this season. Mr. Lyons thanked the board, Mr. Mirich and Mr. Nelson for allowing them the opportunity to participate. He also thanked Mrs. Fish for providing the team with plenty of water and snacks. There is some interest from some high school students as well in the future.

**LEMS:** Principal Assmen spoke about the great Christmas programs they had in both Lusk and Lance Creek. Toys for Tots came and gave toys to the students as well. Last Friday there was curriculum work with staff. They are working on assessments for students.

**HIGH School:** Principal Kruse spoke regarding second semester starting. The winter interim portal opens tomorrow. Writing will be in March through April. She thanked Ms. Rodrigues for the winter concerts. They hosted a great basketball tournament. Principal Kruse thanked all who helped with it. Also they need more mentors for Team Mates.

**SPED:** SPED Director Wagstaff and Associate SPED Director Bilbrey spoke regarding their updates. They have some students that will be taking the WYAlt test for WYTOPP. They are working with staff on getting them trained for testing. They have interviewed and extend a position to fill the brick SPED teacher vacancy that we currently have. They will speak regarding that during the action items. WYVA enrollment is currently open and due to this they are seeing a lot of fluctuation in numbers.

**WYVA:** Principal Williams stated students are happy to be back in school. They are working with middle school elective and getting the elementary rolling. They are working on getting students in clubs and are working on Start 360 Testing. Principal Copelund stated with enrollment still being open their numbers are growing. They are working with elective placement and club enrollment. Dr. Heywood presented a Mid-Year Data Snapshot. This went over the number of students enrolled in CTE, course passing, online learning system/attendance, and onboarding training course completion. Some other points covered were the number of bricks students taking WYVA classes, concurrent enrollment courses in WYVA, Passing Attendance Rate Breakdown, WYVA Graduation Rates/High School Counseling Highlights, WYVA CTE 2023 fall programs, and High School Clubs.

**Business Manager:** Ms. Caffee spoke in regards to Revised Audit Report that was sent out to the board and the adjustments that were made. She also spoke regarding the budget and some upcoming amendments that may need to be made prior to the end of the fiscal year.

**Superintendent:** Superintendent Mirich spoke regarding the proposed school calendar for the 24-25 and 25-26 school year. The recommendation was to continue with the four day school year. They are working on getting the calendar approved with the state. It was suggested to take some time to look at it and vote on it in the February meeting. He also spoke regarding ESSER Grant expenditures.

**Board members:** Trustee Hammer asked regarding substitute teaching. Chair Ashurst reminded the board of the regional legislative meeting in Douglas on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> is the date for meeting WSBA and Brian Farmer for the Superintendent search. There are also upcoming meeting in Cheyenne in February for school boards, WSBA and legislators. Vice Chair Smith received checks from the Fire Department Chilly Cook Off. They donated their proceeds to be split between High School Girls Basketball and High School Girls Volleyball.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Nelson moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Vice Chair Smith seconded the motion. Trustee Nelson abstained from check# 82816 and 82834. Motion carried.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

A – Minutes from last meeting.

B – Expenditures

- Detail Check Register:
  - General .....\$1,126,505.74
  - Activity .....\$3,887.42

## ACTION ITEMS

### APPROVE RECOMMENDATION OF FOR COACHES AID FOR MS BOYS BASKETBALL

Trustee Kruse moved to approve Aaron Whitten as a Coaches Aide for MS Boys Basketball. Clerk Lund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### APPROVE VOLUNTEER REQUEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Trustee Miller moved to approve TJ Hodge for HS Wrestling volunteer for the 2023-2024 SY. Seconded by Trustee Nelson. Motion carried.

### APPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2023/2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Trustee Kruse moved to approve hiring Brenda Livermont as a bricks SPED teacher for the remainder of the 2023-2024 SY. Clerk Lund seconded the motion. Motion was amended to state subject to state certification. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Work Session Debrief:** Trustee Manning spoke regarding some of the recommendations made during the work session. Discussion was held regarding the recommendations, what those recommendations mean to the board and how to implement those moving forward as well as board norms.

**Banking Institutions:** At the December meeting it was tabled regarding the banking institutes for the district. Currently the discussion is still being had. Superintendent Mirich asked for direction on what the board would like to see moving forward. Business Manager Caffee would like to see what all can offered from BMO as well so that we can choose the best bank that would benefit our district the most.

**Substitutes:** Superintendent Mirich directed anyone who has applied as a substitute to contact the district office.

**SLO/SRO:** Reviewing the SLO/SRO contracts at a future date was discussed.

The Board Evaluation was done.

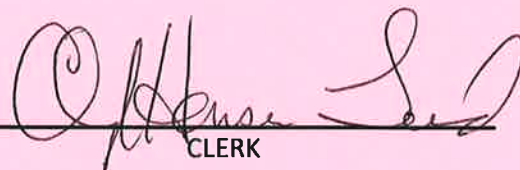
Trustee Kruse moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel under statue {16-4-405(a)}. Trustee Manning seconded. Trustee Hammer left the meeting at 7:19pm. The regular meeting was moved into executive session at 7:19pm. Executive session was exited at 7:27pm. Trustee Manning moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel under statue [16-4-405(a)]. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. The meeting move into

executive session at 7:28pm. Executive session was exited at 7:53pm. Chair Ashurt returned the meeting to regular session at 7:54pm.

Trustee Kruse moved to adjourn meeting. Trustee Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm by Chair Ashurt.



CHAIRPERSON



CLERK