

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District – 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338  
Monday, November 16, 2020**

**Regular November 16, 2020 Meeting - 7:08 P.M.**

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on November 16, 2020, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Vorderstrasse-present, Sobotka-present, VanWesten-present, Niederklein-present-virtually, and Bartels-present. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Principal Scott, Ms. Drees, Brian Rut, Bailey Holtmeier, and Kymber Schwisow.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

VanWesten moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to excuse Scheer from the meeting. Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

No comments were heard from the public.

VanWesten moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A: Minutes of Monday, October 12, 2020 Regular Meeting
- B: District Financial Report
- C: Activity Fund Report
- D: Hot Lunch Fund Report
- G: Bills

Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

An Americanism Committee meeting was held on November 16, 2020, at 6:30 pm. Staff participated in a PBIS in-service that focused on Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies. Staff also was trained in CPR and First Aid. The junior high students will have the option to take their Chromebooks home to allow them to complete class work and participate in class by the Thanksgiving break. The students will have to enter into the same agreement as the high school students and participate in the insurance program already in place.

Sobotka reported on the first round of meetings to review the District's Hazard Mitigation Plan Profile as part of the Nine-County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Participating plan entities are eligible for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds for a wide

variety of projects listed in the plan. Second round meetings are scheduled for early next year with the plan being adopted in the fall of 2021.

Superintendent Kort summarized the 2019-2020 Audit completed by Dana Cole.

Sobotka moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the Annual Audit Report. Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Vorderstrasse moved and VanWesten seconded to approve the Multicultural Report. Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Policy 7000s were reviewed. The vote to approve will be in December.

Superintendent Kort gave the Principal's Report.

1. Student count as of October 18, 2020: 109 Elementary Students; 96 Junior High and High School Students.
2. As an incentive for wearing masks students earned a "no school day" on November 6<sup>th</sup>.
3. Teachers and students of families who are required to quarantine are participating in virtual teaching and learning through Zoom and Google Classroom. Superintendent Kort is delivering materials that are not available over the internet.
4. JH basketball and wrestling have begun practicing with some contests already occurring.
5. HS basketball and wrestling practice started today. The basketball jamboree games scheduled for November 24<sup>th</sup> have been cancelled by NSAA.
6. Play production will participate in the CRC Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at Shickley. Pawnee City Invitational is Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, and Districts are at Pawnee City, Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. With COVID restrictions these contests will be the same format of perform, critique and leave.

Superintendent Kort reported:

1. Bus Update: The District will apply for NDEE funding for the replacement of the 2008 school bus next fiscal year.
2. NASB Conference has been Changed to a Virtual Only
3. Keeping School Open: Students and staff continue to practice social distancing and wearing masks.
  - \* JV Games and Times: Schedules and times of games may change due to COVID scheduling.
  - \* Separate Days: Discussion of having JV and Varsity events on separate days does not improve social distancing at a small school where only a few athletes would not be attending both events. Scheduling and times may change.
  - \* Water saver fountains have been installed.
  - \* Basketball tournament for 2021 Christmas Break: Meridian, Dresher, Diller/Odell and Tri-County are scheduling JV and Varsity basketball tournaments starting next year. This will allow the JV to participate and not have a long break with no games.
  - \* Ms. Drees is continuing to take classes for her administration degree and is providing additional training for staff.
  - \* Mrs. Schropfer will be the girls track coach.

Sobotka moved and VanWesten seconded to go into executive session to discuss the 2020-2021 teachers' negotiations.

Bartels stated that it was moved and seconded to go into executive session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss the 2020-2021 teachers' negotiations. Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0. Brain Rut was asked to participate in the closed session discussion as a newly elected 2021 Meridian School Board member.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:54 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting was set for Monday, December 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

VanWesten moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Vote taken: Sobotka-aye, VanWesten-aye, Vorderstrasse-aye, Niederklein-aye, Bartels-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

*Jamie Niederklein*, Secretary Meridian District #48-0303