

**Board of Education
Meridian Public Schools
District – 48-0303
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338
Monday, April 20, 2020**

Regular April 20, 2020 Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on Monday, April 20, 2020, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented. Members present were Sobotka, VanWesten, Vorderstrasse, Scheer, Niederklein, and Bartels. Also present was Superintendent Kort. Principal Scott attended via videoconferencing.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

Roll call was taken: Sobotka - present, VanWesten - present, Vorderstrasse - present, Scheer - present, Niederklein - present, and Bartels - present.

No comments were made by the public.

VanWesten moved and Sobotka seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Tuesday, March 10, 2020 Regular Meeting
- District Financial Report
- Activity Fund Report
- Hot Lunch Report
- Bills

Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Kort presented the Curriculum Report. A wider variety of classes in the Family and Consumer Science and Business areas are being looked at for next school year. The District is still working to bring Mary Ruiz back to teach at Meridian for the 2020-2021 school year. The COVID-19 Pandemic has slowed this process.

Scheer moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the retirement of Kathy Soukup, with regrets. The Board would like to thank Kathy for her many years of service to the Meridian Public School District. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Sobotka moved and VanWesten seconded to approve the resignation of Ms. Hanna Borgmann, with regrets. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Scheer moved and VanWesten seconded to approve the hiring of Jane Zabokrtsky as the 3rd grade teacher. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Niederklein moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the hiring of Holly Adam as the 1st grade teacher. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

VanWesten moved and Scheer seconded to approve the hiring of John Adam as the Business teacher. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Sobotka moved and VanWesten seconded to approve the hiring of non-certified staff with a 3% increase. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

VanWesten moved and Sobotka seconded to approve the COVID-19 Resolution: Grades, Graduation, Curriculum and Related Matters. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Vorderstrasse moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the COVID-19 Resolution: Emergency Expenditures and State or Federal Relief. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

VanWesten moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the Inter-Local Agreement with Southeast Nebraska Regional Program (SNRP). Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Principal Scott gave the Principal's Report:

- Tuesday, March 17, 2020 was the last day students and teachers met in person. Textbooks and laptops were sent home with 7th – 12th grade students. Chrome Books were sent home a week later to the 4th – 6th grade students.
- Faculty meetings are being held weekly via Zoom on Friday mornings with high school at 9:00 a.m. and elementary at 10:00 a.m. This is providing an opportunity for teachers to connect and for administration to share any pertinent update information.
- Teachers have started sharing pictures from Zoom meetings. Examples were from 'bring your pet to class' day and FCS home cooking and sewing.
- Meals are being delivered twice a week to families that requested them. Thank you to the cooks, drivers, paras, and teachers for making these deliveries happen.
- We have offered our three open teaching positions to interview candidates. The School Board is encouraged to approve these selections. We wish the best to the teachers that are retiring or have accepted other teaching assignments.
- We want to thank Cole Stark for being available for our teacher Zoom meetings last week to discuss mental health issues connected to COVID-19.

Superintendent Kort reported:

- Update on Legislative Issues
- Diode Communications – quotes were received for new cameras and fobs on several doors.
- Submitted E-Rate for 4 New Switches
- 2020-2021 Coaching Assignments
- Painting of Locker Rooms
- Plymouth Electric Work in the Welding Shop
- New Door Installed in the Woods Shop
- Grading Implementation Due to COVID-19
- Graduation Ceremony Held at Earliest Mid-July
- Discussion on Whether Prom will be Cancelled
- All-Star Games Probably Cancelled

Next Regular Meeting was set for Monday, May 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Scheer moved and Niederklein seconded to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, VanWesten - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Scheer - aye, Niederklein - aye, and Bartels - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Jamie Niederklein,
Secretary Meridian District #48-0303