

Board of Education Regular Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 7:30 PM

Board Meeting Room, Silver Lake Elementary
615 North Webster
Bladen, Nebraska 68928

1. Opening the Meeting

President Lutkemeier opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. The meeting notice was advertised in the July 23rd publication of the Webster County Sun. "The Open Meetings Act" poster was displayed in the meeting room.

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

1.3. District Mission Statement

1.4. Nebraska Open Meetings Law

1.5. Publication of the Meeting

1.6. Board Member Roll Call

1.7. Excuse Absent Board Members

2. Approval of the Agenda

Approve the agenda as presented. passed with a motion by Eric Parr and a second by Ryan Sorensen.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

3. Celebration of Excellence

4. Public Comment

Guests in attendance were: Arlo Thayer, Michelle Magarin, & Jennifer Karr. Public comment was not utilized.

5. Information Items

5.1. Superintendent

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bauer plans to make transfers this month to activities (\$50,000), nutrition (\$50,000) and depreciation (\$150,000).

Mr. Drake, Mr. Lovin and myself attended administrator days.

Waiting on valuations to finish putting the budget and tax requests completely. We will obviously be diving deep into a few things during the budget presentation later. I have been working diligently on two different paths that we can take. There is a world where both of them may require a pink post card meeting. I am going to lean heavily on our 9 member board to

choose the appropriate path.

Vans are still in conversion at mobility works. I think they may have overshot the amount of vehicles they could get transitioned and the time it was going to take. Looking at other options for the next wave. I have mobility works scouting for a van for replacement of our handicap van. Looking at the numbers it will benefit us to make that purchase in the next budget cycle to help us with our maintenance of effort.

We need to be sure to set a date for the tax request and budget hearings. In the event that we do a pink postcard meeting. I'm looking at September 23rd in Roseland.

The Pink post card meeting is scheduled for September 16th at 6:01 p.m. in Hastings at the HPS Auditorium. I will need at least one of you to represent the district and we will need to have at least one person sitting at the table out front handing out information on our districts behalf. I did have September 16th down as our monthly meeting so we will need to find an alternate date for the September meeting or consider going in the morning on the same date.

5.2. Elementary Principal

Elementary Principal Report

Enrollment:

PreK ½ Day: 12

PreK All Day: 11

Kindergarten: 15

1st Grade: 19

2nd Grade: 8

3rd Grade: 17

4th Grade: 15

5th Grade: 15

6th Grade: 23

Completed Events:

Jump Start/PreK Summer School - July 27-August 7

August 10th - Math Curriculum Training

August 11th - ESU 9 In-Service

Elementary Back to School Night/Open House - August 11th

Upcoming Events:

Jump Start/PreK Summer School - July 27-August 7

Elementary Back to School Night/Open House - August 11th

Teacher In-Service - August 12

First Day of School - August 13

Drills, Drills, Drills - August 14th

First Day of Preschool - August 20th

Information: October 27th: We will be presenting on our STEAM class at the Nebraska Fall Ed Tech Conference.

PD/Meetings: June 29-31: Administrator Days

Staffing: We'll discuss later in the agenda.

5.3. Secondary Principal

Mr. Lovin talked about
Administrator Days
New Teacher Training
Back to School Night and how they can make improvements/changes for next year
First Two Days of Teacher InService
Getting Ready for Students on Thursday

Up to 94 Students in the High School this year

6. Consent Agenda

Approve the consent agenda items as presented. passed with a motion by Alan Bonifas and a second by Brian Karr.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

6.1. Minutes

6.2. Bills/Transfers/Treasurer's Report

6.3. Acceptance/Emergency Modifications of the Agenda

7. Action Items

7.1. Increase Base Growth Percentage (Upon an affirmative vote of 70% of the board of education)

Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to adopt resolution increasing the school district's base growth percentage used to determine the school district's property tax request authority by up to seven percent (7%).

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-3405(2), the Board hereby increases the base growth percentage used to determine its property tax request authority for the 2026-2027 budget in an amount of 7%. passed with a motion by Brant Karr and a second by Alan Bonifas.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.2. Expenses from the Depreciation Account

Hi-Line Motors - \$21,957.98

Woodhouse - \$126,330. (If we have them)

Approve the use of \$148,287.98 out of the depreciation fund as presented. passed with a motion by Daren Niemeyer and a second by Jocelyn Serna.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.3. Expenses From the Special Building Fund

Big Al's Bins - \$70,136.11

Kerford Limestone - \$954.28

Johnson Trenching - \$200

Johnson Trenching - \$1,444.73

E&S Trucking - \$459.20

Go Turf Nebraska - \$30,308.55

Go Turf Nebraska - \$30,308.55

Intellicom - \$4,158

Webster County Treasurer - \$925.18

JVJ Construction - \$3,600

Intellicom - \$13,357.28

Big Al's Bins - \$25,000

Holmes Asphalts Millings - \$4,000

Big Al's Bins - \$70,000

Smitty's Electric - \$50,000

JVJ Construction - \$5,759.38

JVJ Construction - \$9,631.52

Egan Supply - \$30,848.08

Approve the Special Building purchases in the amount of \$351,090.86. passed with a motion by Ryan Sorensen and a second by Brant Karr.

Alan Bonifas: Abstain (With Conflict), Eric Parr: Abstain (With Conflict), Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.4. Alicap Insurance Contribution - \$86,125

24-25 \$92,383

25-26 \$90,200

26-27 \$86,125

Approve Payment to NASB Alicap in the amount of \$86,125 for the 26-27 policy year. passed with a motion by Eric Parr and a second by Brian Karr.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.5. Add Brittany McMahon and Michelle Magarin as ACH Signatories with Pinnacle Bank and South Central State Bank

As Gail moves into retirement, we need to make sure that we have signers updated with both banks.

I would like to add Brittany McMahon and Michelle Magarin as signers.

Add Brittany McMahon and Michelle Magarin as ACH Signatories with Pinnacle Bank and South Central State Bank passed with a motion by Alan Bonifas and a second by Daren Niemeyer.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.6. Repay the Bond Fund Loan from the General Fund from December \$255,000

We borrowed from the Bond fund to the General fund in December, we need to move that money back over to the Bond Fund account.

Transfer \$255,000 from the General Fund to the Bond Fund. passed with a motion by Jocelyn Serna and a second by Adam Klein.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.7. Employ Angie Karr - part time preschool para

We needed to fill the void left by Michelle Magarin

Employ Angie Karr as a preschool para-educator. passed with a motion by Brian Karr and a second by Ryan Sorensen.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.8. Employ Jaden Lewis - part time school nurse (both sites)

Rule 10 requires that we have a part time school nurse available. Jaden Lewis has accepted the position.

Employ Jaden Lewis as a part time school nurse. passed with a motion by Brant Karr and a second by Daren Niemeyer.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.9. Employ Bridgette Melroy - one on one sped para educator (Roseland)

We have a new student moving into the district at the 7-12 facility that will require a one on one para.

Employ Bridgette Melroy as a one on one para. passed with a motion by Adam Klein and a second by Brian Karr.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.10. Employ Hanah Alberti - elementary para educator

We need to increase our para availability at the elementary. We have some classes with growing numbers who happen to have some kids with higher needs.

Hire Hanah Alberti as a para educator. passed with a motion by Alan Bonifas and a second by Eric Parr.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

7.11. Employ Shirley Pederson - night custodian (Bladen)

Last year we filled in with some staff members. Shirley reached out looking for potential employment cleaning again. Mr. Drake interviewed and made the recommendation that we welcome her back.

Hire Shirley Pederson as a night custodian. passed with a motion by Eric Parr and a second by Jocelyn Serna.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

8. Budget Discussion

Mr. Bauer will have a couple of budget handouts for the 2026-2027 budget for the Silver Lake Board of Education and any guests present. Mr. Bauer will discuss the process of preparing the budget and the different funds. We will also need to discuss the property tax request authority as

well as the budget authority.

* Note - All budget items are subject to change based on conversations at the meeting as well as fluctuations with evaluations, real growth. Evaluations do not come out until August 20th.

9. Discussion/Information Items

9.1. School Bus information

Last meeting I told you I would gather some information regarding the pricing on new buses from Blue Bird.

59 passenger propane bus (AC, air ride driver seat, overhead storage racks)

- \$165,000-\$172,500

59 passenger gas bus (AC, air ride driver seat, overhead storage racks)

- \$156,000-\$163,000

Micro 14 passenger gas bus (CEW Activity Seating, AC, Cruise Control)

- \$110,000-\$120,000

65 passenger propane bus (AC, air ride driver seat, under bus cargo storage)

- \$166,000-\$173,000

65 passenger gas bus. (AC, air ride driver seat, under bus cargo storage)

- \$157,000-\$164,000

10. Future Agenda Items

September 16th at 7:00 AM in Roseland, NE passed with a motion by Brant Karr and a second by Eric Parr.

Alan Bonifas: Yea, Brant Karr: Yea, Brian Karr: Yea, Adam Klein: Yea, Leon Lutkemeier: Yea, Daren Niemeyer: Yea, Eric Parr: Yea, Jocelyn Serna: Yea, Ryan Sorensen: Yea

11. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:44 PM