

**Proceedings of the
Bridgeport Public Schools
Morrill County School District #63
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2025 – 7:00 PM
Jr./Sr. High School Media Center**

President Justin Corman called the school board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

President Justin Corman informed the public of the Open Meetings Act posted by the Library door.

The public was informed of this meeting by public posting at United States Post Office, Sonny’s Super Foods, and Prairie Winds Community Center on Friday, January 10, 2024, and by publication in the Bridgeport News-Blade on January 9, 2025.

Roll call was taken. Members present: Justin Corman, Jeff Pohl, Kay Anderson, Ryan Amateis, Linda Norman, and Jim Lapaseotes. Also present were Elementary Principal James Simmons, High School Principal Jason Blanco, Principal of Instruction Erin Reynolds, Superintendent George Schlothauer, and Recording Secretary Vonnie Brown.

It was moved by Pohl and seconded by Amateis to approve the Agenda as presented. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

There was a thank you from Dana Morgan for the staff dinner prior to Christmas Break.

Visitors were recognized.

Business Meeting:

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lapaseotes to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda includes the minutes of the December 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, financial reports and payables ending December 31, 2024, January Expenditures, and January General Fund payroll and withholding of \$609,744.24 and Lunch Fund payroll and withholding of \$14,450.62. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

Bills were paid as follows:

Amazon eCommerce	\$2,267.12
Benzel Pest Control	\$165.00
Black Hills Energy	\$5,970.29
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NE	\$5,480.28
Bluffs Facility Solutions	\$3,568.37
Bomgaars	\$117.81
Box Butte County	\$100.00
Bridgeport News Blade	\$102.98
Cash-Wa Distributing	\$10,298.99
City of Bridgeport	\$11,374.94
Crossroads Music	\$150.00
Culligan of Scottsbluff	\$817.68
DAS State Acctg-Central Finance/OCIO	\$292.87

Docu-Shred	\$60.00
E-470 Public Highway Authority	\$9.60
ESU #10	\$20.00
ESU #13	\$20,928.22
Grace Dubs	\$596.14
Hampton Inn	\$1,782.00
Hampton Inn/Kearney	\$1,431.00
Hiland Dairy	\$1,431.48
HomeTown Leasing	\$4,598.18
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Co.	\$1,419.45
Jackson's Garage LLC	\$1,187.57
Jessica Ann Martin	\$2,963.34
Jill Bartling	\$39.97
John Cordes	\$213.86
Joshua MacDonald	\$596.15
Josie Freiberger	\$1,871.31
Kathy Baxter	\$45.00
KSB School Law	\$1,241.50
Kylee Bowman	\$801.99
Lee's Service	\$3,186.97
Legacy Cooperative	\$690.34
Main Street Appliance	\$1,200.00
Matheson-Linweld	\$237.26
Menard's	\$219.48
Morrill County Community Hospital	\$870.00
Naomi Loomis	\$1,122.79
National Art & School Supplies	\$282.76
Nebraska Bank	\$7,568.89
NKC Tire/McWhorter's Tire	\$955.49
OTA-PlatePay	\$12.20
ParentSquare INC	\$3,025.00
Perry Law Firm	\$300.00
Plummer Insurance Inc.	\$500.00
Prestige Group Inc	\$3,600.00
Quill	\$997.05
Screencastify LLC	\$720.00
Simply Clean	\$84.00
SNA Depository	\$60.50
Soar Pediatric Therapy, LLC	\$5,740.99
Sonny's Super Foods	\$4,256.51
TALX UCM Services, Inc.	\$244.65
Tamika Landrum	\$213.86
Tammy Covalt	\$254.53
TK ElevatorCorporation	\$531.58
Trading Post	\$2,340.87
Truck Center Companies	\$112.04
W.P.C.I.	\$38.00
Wells Fargo Card Services, Inc.	\$9,800.27
Wyebot Inc	\$700.00

The floor was opened for public comment. There being none, the floor was closed to public comment.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Kevin Sylvester of Dana F Cole & Company LLP, the auditors for 2023-2024 school year, brought copies of the final audit and spoke to the board explaining the different sections of the audit booklet. He went through the audit report with the board and concluded with the statement that Dana Cole & Company finds Bridgeport Public Schools to be in compliance with the requirement in the *OMB Compliance Supplement*.

All six board members of the board took the Oath of Office and physically signed the Oath of Office.

The superintendent took control of the meeting for election of officers.

Justin Corman was nominated for President by Pohl and seconded by Amateis. It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lapaseotes to cease nominations. Yes: Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None. Abstain: Corman. Justin Corman was named President.

Jeff Pohl was nominated for Vice President by Amateis and seconded by Norman. It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Lapaseotes to cease nominations. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None. Jeff Pohl was named Vice President.

Linda Norman was nominated for Secretary by Anderson and seconded by Amateis. It was moved by Pohl and seconded by Lapaseotes to cease nominations. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None. Linda Norman was named Secretary.

Kay Anderson was nominated for Treasurer by Norman and seconded by Pohl. It was moved by Norman and seconded by Pohl to cease nominations. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None. Kay Anderson was named Treasurer.

Control of the meeting was returned to President Corman.

Following discussion, Norman made a motion seconded by Amateis to continue committees as the previous year: Americanism/ Curriculum/ Instruction Committee - Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman; Facilities, Grounds, & Transportation Committee - Corman, Amateis, Pohl; Business Committee – Lapaseotes, Pohl, & Anderson; Negotiations Committee – Amateis, Corman, Pohl; Policy Committee – Anderson, Norman, & Lapaseotes; Safety/Health & Wellness Committee – Amateis, Anderson, & Corman; Personnel/Community Relations Committee – Corman, Norman, Amateis; Technology & Equipment Committee – Corman, Norman & Pohl. . Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Pohl and seconded by Amateis to continue/renew the Line of Credit with Nebraska Bank. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Lapaseotes and seconded by Norman to name Platte Valley Bank as the Depository Institution for Bridgeport Public Schools for 2025. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Lapaseotes and seconded by Norman to contract with Dana F Cole & Company LLP for the school audit for 2024-2025. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Amateis to increase Substitute Teacher pay to \$145/day effective January 1, 2025. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was recommended by the Negotiation Committee to approve the Negotiated Agreement with Bridgeport Education Association for a two year period (school year 2025-2026 and 2026-2027) increasing the base for 2025-2026 to \$40,500 and increasing the Cash Fringe \$500 to \$16,880 for the year (and rescinding the previously negotiated Medical Reimbursement) and setting the base for 2026-2027 to \$42,000 with Cash Fringe an additional \$250 to \$17,130 for the 2026-2027 year. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Norman to approve a revision of the Staff Handbook to include the Code of Conduct for School Food Authorities. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Norman and seconded by Pohl to approve first reading to amend Policy #2008 – Meetings and Policy #3004.1 Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Amateis to approve first reading to add Policy #6043 – Sharing Mapping Data. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

It was moved by Lapaseotes and seconded by Pohl to accept the resignation of Kim Metz effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

Reports and Discussion

Mrs. Reynolds, Principal of Instruction, reported reviewing of winter NSCAS data has been done to work toward improvement, the NeMTSS (Nebraska's Multi-tiered System of Support) School Accreditation Visit is scheduled for January 21 and 22, and preparation is on schedule, SPED PRT (Pivotal Response Treatment) for children aged birth to three will be having a Quarterly meeting in Chadron on January 16 with a file review, and she affirmed that all first semester formal observations have been completed.

Mr. Simmons, Elementary Principal, reported on Spelling Bee scheduled for January 24 in Bayard, Parent Teacher Conferences scheduled for February 10 & 11, Magnetic Reading Curriculum final selection is pending, schedules for Keyboarding, Art, and individual Paras are being reviewed for 2025-2026, status on Paraprofessional

substitutes, and he reported that 32 formal walkthroughs have been completed, as well as 7 observations on Probationary teachers.

Mr. Blanco, High School Principal, reported on winter sports, the Morrill County Sheriff's Office active shooter training that was done at the school on January 2, went well with several staff members participating. He also reported that walkthroughs and second semester observations will begin soon. He also discussed methods and strategies to enforce a realistic and effective cell phone policy for next year.

Mr. Schlothauer, Superintendent, reported on evaluations, transportation needs (2014 Expedition purchase), changes in Wrestling practices, potential summer projects including bleacher replacement in the old gym, roofing on the high school side, and replacing the rubber mulch with a rubber mat in the playground. He discussed the upcoming External Visit and that there will be a Special Board meeting held to make the board available for interviews by the committee. He reported on the data breach through PowerSchool, how it affected the school and how it is being handled, and school cancellation of school on February 6 due to WTC/SPVA Wrestling at the school and the BPS basketball teams going to Scottsbluff. He also reviewed upcoming activities on the schedule.

The board also discussed further the Donald Clark Scholarship and Concessions.

It was moved by Lapaseotes and seconded by Pohl to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.
Yes: Corman, Pohl, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Amateis. No: None.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vonnie Brown
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

George Schlothauer, Superintendent