

Proceedings of the Bridgeport Public Schools Morrill County School District #63
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Media Center

President Justin Corman called the school board meeting to order at 7:01 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 Thursday, December 4, 2025.

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

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

Communications received were read by Norman: Drew A.S. Leisy, UNO Student Regent, thanked the Donald Clarke Scholarship Committee for their continued support by awarding him this scholarship. He has been able to focus on his studies while serving his student body as Student Body President and Student Regent. He also thanked the community of Bridgeport for the continued support, as he "wouldn't be where I am if it wasn't for my amazing hometown." Kimi Kramer, Special Education Teacher, thanked Mr. Schlothauer for giving the staff of BPS the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off. It was greatly appreciated. Three (3) letters for thanks were received regarding the Veteran's Day Program. These letters were received from Rick & Mary Hessler, Ray & JoAnn Callan, and Lew & Joyce Russell (rural Bayard). They thanked the schools for the amazing lunch and program, as well as the Patriotic artwork and wonderful entertainment provided by the students and "Yes Ma'am" singers. The cross/flag pens given to each one were also special. Thank you was also noted to the students who were nicely dressed, kind and polite as they served the meals.

Visitors were recognized.

Business Meeting:

It was moved by Anderson and seconded by Pohl to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: minutes from November 10, 2025, regular board meeting; financial reports and payables ending November 30, 2025; November 2025 expenditures; and December 2025 payroll. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Bills were paid as follows:

Vendor	Amount
Amazon eCommerce	\$3,977.20
April Halverson	\$1,109.66
Benzel Pest Control	\$181.50
Black Hills Energy	\$3,844.64
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NE	\$5,536.88
Bluum of Texas, LLC.	\$25,157.50
Bomgaars	\$370.05
BPS Press	\$44.00

Bridgeport News Blade	\$175.49
Bridgeport Schools Bond	\$8,880.73
Carla McGrath	\$30.00
Cash-Wa Distributing	\$21,903.87
City of Bridgeport	\$11,909.13
Crossroads Music	\$168.52
Culligan of Scottsbluff	\$270.00
Dennis Supply Co	\$267.46
Embassy Suites/Lincoln	\$884.00
Emmily Jeffries	\$154.00
Engineered Controls	\$630.00
ESU #13	\$23,293.54
Gail Beyer	\$406.80
Grace Dubs	\$743.73
Heggerty	\$154.56
Hiland Dairy	\$1,831.41
HomeTown Leasing	\$4,804.28
Jackson's Garage LLC	\$417.67
Jessica Ann Martin	\$3,976.60
Jill Bartling	\$26.20
John Cordes	\$271.32
Joshua MacDonald	\$756.30
Josie Freiburger	\$2,374.05
Jostens, Inc.	\$84.59
Koke's Auto Farm Truck	\$251.13
KSB School Law	\$167.50
Kylee Bowman	\$223.44
Lee's Service	\$6,191.22
Legacy Cooperative	\$1,078.09
Matheson-Linweld	\$373.60
Menard's	\$147.56
Naomi Loomis	\$1,424.43
Nebraska Choral	\$1,114.00
Nebraska Safety Center	\$250.00
Bridgeport Activity Fund	\$382.40
Pitney Bowes Bank INC. Purchase Power	\$45.07
Plummer Insurance Inc.	\$5,362.90
Prestige Group Inc	\$8,200.00
Quill	\$1,000.68
Shaggy Buffalo	\$60.00
Simply Clean	\$443.01
Sonny's Super Foods	\$3,809.20
Tamika Landrum	\$271.32
Trading Post	\$107.82
Turf Tank Billing	\$1,500.00
Underground Printing	\$396.47
Wells Fargo Card Services, Inc.	\$12,923.53
Western Nebraska Community College	\$330.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$170,689.05

The floor was opened for public comment: There was no public comment.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business to conduct.

New Business

LB452: Financial Literacy Act, passed in 2021, made a personal finance/financial literacy course a mandatory graduation requirement for Nebraska high school students, requiring at least a half-credit course among other requirements. It also mandated school districts to report to their boards by December 31st each year, starting in 2024, detailing student progress in personal finance education as part of their curriculum. Mr. Schlothauer reported that 15 students are currently enrolled in Personal Finance this year, while 2 students are taking the course online. The course is offered different years throughout the student's high school career depending on their schedule needs. There is a possibility of making 1 section a dual credit course next year. This was a report only, no action needed.

Reports and Discussion

Student Council did not have a report this meeting as they were hosting their Penny Carnival tonight.

Mrs. Reynolds, Principal of Instruction, reported on the 2024 AQuESTT State Classification results which showed all three buildings performed near the threshold for "Excellent," but fell short by narrow margins-which leads to a "Great" ranking as a district. The elementary school scored a 72.53% with a 75% being "Excellent"; middle school scored 69.49% with a 73% being "Excellent"; and high school scored 53.33% with a 61% being "Excellent." Some discussion took place as to what needs to be done to get the ranking up to "Excellent" for next year's results. Proportionate Share Worksheet for Non-Public Schools (Homeschool) shows there were 4 SPED students as of October 1, 2025, bringing the estimated proportionate share for the 2026/2027 school year to \$6,042. Finally, she reported the evaluations and walkthroughs are ongoing and will be completed by Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Mr. Simmons, Elementary Principal, reported on the National ESEA paperwork that is required for the Category 1 Distinguished School award Bridgeport Elementary will be receiving at the national convention in Denver on February 10-12, 2026. The MTSS team will travel to the convention to receive the award and attend the conference. The district will receive \$7,500 to attend as part of the award. Teachers attending will complete their parent/teacher conferences prior to leaving for the convention. The Ultimate Fieldtrip is scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2025, but it is a secret on where they will be going (the trampoline park in Cheyenne).

Mr. Blanco, Secondary Principal, reported winter activities have had a busy start to their season. This season is heavy with home games for the boys' and girls' basketball teams. Boys' and girls' wrestling teams have already had several tournaments already and are competing well. Both teams have some open weight classes; however, some of those spots should fill in after Christmas break. Our One-Acts production is the C1-6 District Runner-Up with Coote Mulloy, Emily Hunter, Aaron Cooper, and Claire Eckhardt all receiving awards, while Aaron Cooper received Best Actor award. Speech season has started with practices and competitions starting after Christmas break. The Freshman will be taking the Pre-ACT test on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, in the old gym, which is a different set up than in years past where it was in classrooms.

Mr. Schlothauer, Superintendent, reported to the board that both charter buses are running well; however, both will need windshields replaced. We still do not have a date to certify the Bulldog van in Kansas City. There are 2 vans we can no longer use, so we may need to think about purchasing another SUV and look at a possible trade in. Marie has been keeping an eye on the weather and temperatures to keep Howe's treatment and mixing #1 fuel to avoid issues with buses gelling up. He met with Greg Dart, President of WNCC, with discussions centered around the possibility of the

college building a new CTE building and how they can serve high school students around the area. The district's general insurance package renewed on December 1st with an overall increase of \$23,994.39 in premiums. Ideas of expanding the storage behind the stage area in the auditorium are being explored as there is a lot of unused space that could be turned into something functional. He will present a rough draft of the 2026-2027 calendar at the January 2026 meeting. He ended by mentioning several upcoming activities including USA wrestling meeting, Chadron basketball tournament, Federation Wrestling tournament, the countywide Spelling Bee (which will require an early dismissal on January 14th) and Chad Cargill for the ACT Prep.

Board member Anderson reported she helped with concessions and compliments she heard and received were numerous.

It was moved by Pohl to move into executive session at 7:52 p.m. for the purpose of the superintendent's job performance evaluation and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and such person has not requested a public meeting, second by Amateis. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

President Corman stated, "It has been approved to move into executive session for the superintendent job performance evaluation and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and such person has not requested a public meeting. Consideration of matters is restricted to the reason for the closed session."

At 11:01 p.m. Amateis moved to come out of executive session with no action taken and return to the regular open meeting, Anderson second the motion. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none. The public was invited back into the meeting in progress.

It was moved by Pohl and seconded by Lapaseotes to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:02 p.m. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Kriha
Recording Secretary

Approved by: 
George Schlothauer, Superintendent