

**Proceedings of the Bridgeport Public Schools Morrill County School District #63  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Monday, January 12, 2026 – 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, January 8, 2026.

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

Communications received: None

Visitors were recognized.

Mr. Schlothauer swore in all board members with the Oath of Office. The signed Oath of Office will be kept with the official school board packet for this meeting.

***Business Meeting:***

It was moved by Lapaseotes and seconded by Pohl to approve the Consent Agenda which included the following: minutes from December 8, 2025, regular board meeting; financial reports and payables ending December 31, 2025; December 2025 expenditures; and January 2026 payroll. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Bills were paid as follows:

Vendor	Amount
ACT Finance	\$570.50
Amazon eCommerce	\$2,213.15
American Recycling	\$200.00
Benzel Pest Control	\$181.50
Black Hills Energy	\$6,573.11
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NE	\$5,536.88
Bluffs Facility Solutions	\$6,442.17
Bluum of Texas, LLC.	\$1,684.55
Bomgaars	\$275.50
BPS Press	\$36.00
Bridgeport News Blade	\$137.89
Cash-Wa Distributing	\$11,694.64
Christina Deines	\$838.16
City of Bridgeport	\$11,850.40
Crescent Electric Supply Company	\$1,125.72
Culligan of Scottsbluff	\$270.00

DAS State Acctg-Central Finance/OCIO	\$317.87
Doane University	\$120.00
Eakes Office Solutions	\$245.07
Emmily Jeffries	\$112.00
Engineered Controls	\$140.00
ESU #13	\$27,535.49
Grace Dubs	\$697.25
Hiland Dairy	\$1,566.38
Holiday Inn/Chadron	\$1,935.00
Home2 Suites Kearney	\$199.29
HomeTown Leasing	\$4,804.28
Inman Service	\$85.00
Jackson's Garage LLC	\$3,327.34
Jessica Ann Martin	\$2,797.20
Jill Bartling	\$54.88
Joshua MacDonald	\$667.32
Josie Freiburger	\$2,094.75
Koke's Auto Farm Truck	\$205.71
KSB School Law	\$736.00
Kylee Bowman	\$478.80
Lee's Service	\$303.01
Matheson-Linweld	\$640.69
Melissa Hedin	\$24.18
Mid-American Research Chemical Corp	\$813.74
Musician's Choice, LLC, The	\$74.40
Naomi Loomis	\$1,256.85
Nebraska Food Distribution Program	\$15.29
Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of Alliance Inc.	\$573.60
Plummer Insurance Inc.	\$3,491.50
PowerSchool Group LLC	\$6,906.71
Prestige Group Inc	\$2,600.00
Quill	\$1,011.53
Riverstone Bank	\$30,559.56
Simply Clean	\$250.00
Soar Pediatric Therapy, LLC	\$7,199.86
Sonny's Super Foods	\$3,324.82
Stacey Watts	\$400.00
Trading Post	\$120.80
Turf Tank Billing	\$1,500.00
VIAERO	\$246.91
Wells Fargo Card Services, Inc.	\$12,581.61
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$171,644.86</b>

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

**Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business to conduct.

**New Business**

Kevin Sylvester of Dana F Cole & Company LLP, the auditors for 2024-2025 school year, brought copies of the final audit report and spoke to the board explaining the different sections of the audit booklet. Mr. Sylvester went through the audit report with the board, which included five findings which the district has addressed by starting the process of implementing procedures to correct and prevent

them in the future. He stated Dana Cole & Company finds Bridgeport Public Schools to be in compliance with the requirement in the *OMB Compliance Supplement*.

Mr. Schlothauer, Superintendent, took control of the meeting for the election of officers:

Jeff Pohl was nominated for President by Corman and seconded by Lapaseotes, nominations ceased. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Ryan Amateis was nominated for Vice President by Lapaseotes and seconded by Norman, nominations ceased. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Linda Norman was nominated for Secretary by Corman and seconded by Pohl, nominations ceased. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Kay Anderson was nominated as Treasurer by Norman and seconded by Corman, nominations ceased. Yes votes: Corman, Amateis, Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman, and Pohl. No votes: none.

Newly elected President Pohl took control of the meeting.

Following discussion, Norman made a motion and seconded by Anderson to continue the current committee appointments as follows: Americanism/ Curriculum/ Instruction Committee-Anderson, Lapaseotes, Norman; Facilities, Grounds, & Transportation Committee-Corman, Amateis, Pohl; Business Committee-Lapaseotes, Pohl, & Anderson; Negotiations Committee-Amaties, 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 votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

It was moved by Corman to renew the line of credit with Nebraska Bank with the maximum of \$2.0 million for another year, seconded by Amateis. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

It was moved by Amateis to name Platte Valley Bank as the depository institution for Bridgeport Public Schools for another year, seconded by Anderson. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

It was moved by Norman to contract with Dana F. Cole & Company LLP for the 2025-2026 fiscal year school audit, seconded by Corman. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

### ***Reports and Discussion***

Colton Carrier, President of Student Council, reported to the board on the Penny Carnival that was held on December 8<sup>th</sup>. It was very successful event and brought in more than \$1,800 as a fundraiser for them. They plan to continue this as a yearly fundraiser. They are discussion how to spend the funds now and one idea is possibly on new "senior" lockers, which are the tall yellow lockers. One goal the council set at the beginning of the year was for community outreach and they feel they have done very well at attaining this goal so far.

Mrs. Reynolds, Principal of Instruction, reported the district is currently in compliance with SPED Indicator 13 (Transition Compliance) for the 2024-2025 school year. We have 3 new Part C student referrals in January, which brings the district's total to five. The non-exempt student count has changed from 4 as two students moved out of district, 1 no longer qualifies, and 1 new referral has

been received. January 5th was a professional development day conducted by ESU #13 for Teach Like A Champion.

Mr. Simmons, Elementary Principal, reported to the board there were 79 students who deposited into the Bulldog Branch during the fall semester. There was also a total of \$3,343 in community contributions to help the student deposits. He also reported there were 13 students with perfect attendance in the fall semester, while only 2 "10-day" letters were sent, which he said was good considering how hard December was due to the amount of illness. There will be an early release because we will be hosting the Spelling Bee on Wednesday, January 14th with the rules meeting starting at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Blanco, Secondary Principal, reported winter activities are back in full swing since the Christmas break with the SPVA basketball tournament starting on 20th in Kimball. The brackets came out earlier today and the girls team is the #1 seed and will play at 5:30 p.m. while the boys team is seeded #2 and will play at 4:00 p.m. Bridgeport will be hosting the MAC basketball tournament again on Thursday, January 22nd and Saturday, January 24th. Boys and girls wrestling teams continue to have a couple of meets/tournaments a week. We will also host the speech meet on Saturday, January 24th. He also talked about the Penny Carnival Student Council held in December and what a great turn out they had. They also hosted a "teacher prank" assembly which was also a success. Mike Donhue will be a guest speaker on January 27th in place of innovation day and will present all day. This will include all grades K-12. He presented last year and was well received by the students.

Mr. Schlothauer, Superintendent, presented a rough draft of the 2026-2027 school calendar and asked for feedback as the main issue is finding enough teacher days in the calendar. Discussion was had regarding the February 9th board meeting because the ESEA conference in Denver where the Elementary school will receive their award is the next morning. Staff would like to leave that evening, if possible. It was decided the board meeting would be held at 5:00 p.m. on February 9th to help accommodate staff. There have been meetings with administration and staff regarding the smaller numbers in the FFA program. Discussions will continue to try and see these numbers increase. There will be no school on Thursday, February 5th due to our hosting of the WTC/SPVA wrestling tournament; however, it will be an in-service day for teachers.

During the Board of Education Reports section, member Corman reminded members they needed to set a date and time to finish the superintendent's evaluation and goals. After some discussion it was decided to set a special meeting for this purpose on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Board member Anderson reported she attended the VALTS 2nd quarter graduation. Two (2) of the 10 graduating students were from Bridgeport. She also mentioned how nice the Oregon Trail Honor Band performance was as Bridgeport hosted it on January 5th with 6 Bridgeport students participating.

It was moved by Amateis and seconded by Norman to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Kriha  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
George Schlothauer, Superintendent

**Proceedings of the Bridgeport Public Schools Morrill County School District #63**  
**Board of Education**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 21, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Jr./Sr. High School Media Center**

President Jeff Pohl called the school board meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

President Jeff Pohl 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 Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

Roll call was taken. Members present: Jeff Pohl, Kay Anderson, Ryan Amateis, Justin Corman, Jim Lapaseotes, and Linda Norman. Also present were Superintendent, George Schlothauer; and Recording Secretary, Jennifer Kriha.

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

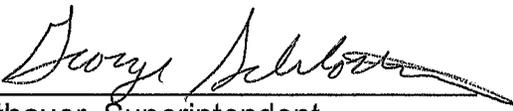
It was moved by Corman to move into executive session at 5:06 p.m. for the purpose of the superintendent's job performance evaluation and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and such person has not requested a public meeting, second by Amateis. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

President Pohl 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 7:43 p.m. Corman moved to come out of executive session with no action taken and return to the regular open meeting, Amateis second the motion. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none. The public was invited back into the meeting in progress.

It was moved by Amateis and seconded by Corman to adjourn the special meeting at 7:43 p.m. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Kriha  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:   
George Schlothauer, Superintendent