Proceedings of the Bridgeport Public Schools Morrill County School District #63
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Media Center

President Jeff Pohl called the school board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

President Pohl informed the public of the Open Meetings Act posted by the library door.

Notice of this meeting was provided to the public through postings at the United States Post Office, Sonny's Super Foods, and the Prairie Winds Community Center on Friday, October 9, 2026. Additionally, the notice was published on October 1, 2026, in the *Bridgeport News-Blade*, a local legal newspaper of general circulation.

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

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

Communications included a "thank you" from Dana Morgan, Kindergarten teacher thanking Mr. Schlothauer and the board for providing supper for the staff during parent/teacher conferences on Wednesday night. She appreciates knowing she doesn't have to worry about dinner during parent/teacher conferences.

Visitors were recognized.

Business Meeting:

It was moved by Amateis and seconded by Anderson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda includes the minutes of September 14, 2026, regular board meeting; financial reports and payables ending September 30, 2026; September & October 2026 Expenditures; and October 2026 payroll. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

Bills were paid as follows:

Vendor	Amount
Adams Family	$160.00
AED Authority	$636.87
Allo Communications	$828.90
Amazon eCommerce	$3,624.91
BEF Farms	$238.00
Benzel Pest Control	$181.50
Black Hills Energy	$640.81
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NE	$3,617.66
Bluffs Facility Solutions	$12,501.06
Bomgaars	$282.32
Bridgeport News Blade	$201.69
Cash-Wa Distributing	$17,847.78
Charter Communications	$239.96
City of Bridgeport	$18,213.11
CORNERSTONE of Care/BIST	$224.40
Culligan of Scottsbluff	$272.00

Dick Blick Art Materials	$49.89
E-470 Public Highway Authority	$4.20
Eakes Office Solutions	$1,834.36
EBSCO Information Services	$717.54
Emmily Jeffries	$228.00
Engineered Controls	$465.00
Equifax Workforce Solutions	$259.55
ESU #13	$22,930.01
ESU Coordinating Council	$2,984.70
Floyd's Truck Center, Inc.	$2,344.13
Garretson's Sport Center	$842.40
Gladeo, Inc.	$720.00
Hampton Inn/Kearney	$655.04
Hiland Dairy	$2,303.77
HomeTown Leasing	$5,282.53
Jackson's Garage LLC	$552.04
Jessica Ann Martin	$3,725.44
Joshua MacDonald	$1,014.34
Josie Freiberger	$1,592.01
Koke's Auto Farm Truck	$134.94
KSB School Law	$565.50
Learning Without Tears	$634.08
Legacy Cooperative	$2,542.77
Menard's	$26.31
Mid-American Research Chemical Corp	$1,415.84
Naomi Loomis	$2,001.38
Nebraska Safety Center	$250.00
Nebraska State Fire Marshal	$240.00
Nippon Sanso Matheson Inc.	$683.04
North of the Rock Designs	$558.00
Panhandle Geotechnical & Environmental Inc.	$1,515.00
Quick Care	$125.00
Rapid Fire Protection	$1,807.80
Scholastic Inc	$234.07
School Specialty LLC	$2,044.44
Shaggy Buffalo	$80.00
Simple Company & Floral Shop, The	$100.00
Simply Clean	$428.21
Soar Pediatric Therapy, LLC	$13,780.98
Sonny's Super Foods	$5,406.28
Stacey Watts	$30.79
Sysco USA I, Inc.	$8,998.92
Tamika Landrum	$635.36
Teaching Strategies, LLC	$183.95
Trading Post	$9,333.35
Turf Tank Billing	$2,125.00
Value Up Inc.	$5,500.00
VIAERO	$505.11
W.P.C.I.	$250.00
Wells Fargo Card Services, Inc.	$10,762.91
William H. Sadlier, Inc.	$571.68
Grand Total	**$181,686.63**

The floor was opened for public comment. Mr. Josh Freiberger addressed the board about having a championship mindset to keep a great culture while educating our students at BPS.

Unfinished Business

New Business

It was moved by Amateis to approve the purchase of a new route bus for up to $135,000 and seconded by Corman. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

It was moved by Amateis and seconded by Lapaseotes to approve the sale of a 16-foot Cotterman ladder via social media and website advertisements and accepting sealed bids submitted to the superintendent. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

It was moved by Amateis and seconded by Corman to approve the sale of a large retractable movie screen via social media and website advertisements and accepting sealed bids submitted to the superintendent. Yes votes: Pohl, Amateis, Anderson, Corman, Lapaseotes, and Norman. No votes: none.

Reports and Discussion

The representative for Student Council was not present; therefore, there was not report presented to the board.

Mrs. Reynolds, Principal of Instruction, updated the board on the district's 1st quarter fidelity checks for the Target Improvement plans being completed. The instructional focus remains on the Science of Reading, specifically implementation of the IMSE Three-Part Drill in grades K-3. The SPEDFRS report for 2025-2026 is due October 30, 2026. She reported that the 9th and 10th grade students are scheduled to take the PreACT on October 28th & 21st, respectively. Some sophomores will be taking it on the 21st with the freshman due to their attending Scholastic Days at CSC on the 21st. Drafts of the districtwide SAT (Student Assistant Team) referral process, procedures, and problem-solving form have been developed. This team helps to put interventions in place to help students excel. These documents are ready for the team to review and discuss at the next in-service meeting, with a focus on establishing consistent procedures and expectations across the district. Parents are involved in the process as well.

Mr. Simmons, Elementary Principal, was absent from the meeting, so Mrs. Reynolds gave his report to the board by stating the elementary had a 95% parent attendance at the recent parent/teacher conferences. The PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) provided child sitting services with activities in the multi-purpose rooms for parents so they could attend conferences without an expense. They also provided soup on Tuesday for the staff. The Scholastic Bookfair was a success as it grossed approximately $7,000.

Mr. Blanco, Secondary Principal, was absent from the meeting, so Mrs. Reynolds gave his report to the board. She stated we have several fall sports events and activities still taking place including Cross Country districts in Ogallala, Girls Golf districts in North Platte and SPVA conference volleyball tournament coming up. VALTS will have graduation at noon on Thursday, October 15th in which 2 Bridgeport students will graduate.

Linda Norman also presented information on behalf of Mr. Blanco regarding the possible move to a 5.0 grade point scale (GPA) with a 10-point grading scale (ex: 90-100 would be an A instead of 94-100 being a A) with different levels of the letter grade (A-, A, A+, etc.). Work is continuing to move forward in figuring out the process of possibly changing over. There are still several decisions needing to be made, but it is not unreasonable to think a possible vote by the board could take place at the November 2026 meeting. She also presented a possible change to how finals are conducted. They are looking at scheduled final days during the last week of the semester with certain classes

(periods) being on one day, while other classes would be on the second scheduled day. This will also be on the November 2026 meeting agenda for the board to vote on.

Mr. Schlothauer, Superintendent, reported the yearbook page has been corrected and will be sent back to the publishers. A couple of changes to the school calendar include a home JV football game being added on October 19th, which is the same night at the music concert, which has now been moved to 7:00 p.m. A Digital Citizenship speaker from KSB Law will be here on Oct. 22nd to present 7th-12th grade students. Mr. Schlothauer has met with Jack Baker from JEO regarding the potential wrestling room/locker room addition that was discussed at the September 2026 meeting. He also met with Jeff Metz about the fairground building in which they are still framing and plan to have the HVAC system installed by November. Jeff will get back regarding the cost to rent the space. As of right now, State Cheer will not be attending state due to low participants being able to attend the competition. Mr. Schlothauer also talked about the moving "Going for Two" which our junior high choir sang "Hail Varsity" for last year. He also has a meeting set up regarding the possibility of a JAG teacher next year. He will update at November's meeting about the wrestling building and JAG situations.

The board reported the teacher negotiations committee will start meetings the week of October 29th for the 2027-2028 school year contracts.

It was moved by Corman and seconded by Amateis to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:02 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