

## **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Monday, March 11, 2024 7:00 PM

Media Center at the Palmyra District OR-1 Public Schools

425 F Street

Palmyra, NE 68418

### **District Mission:**

**“Together we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the future.”**

**Strategic Goal 1:** District OR-1 Public Schools will provide the facilities needed to be competitive with other area schools in athletics and fine arts programs.

**Strategic Goal 2:** District OR-1 Public Schools will foster a unified community.

**Strategic Goal 3:** District OR-1 Public Schools will continuously implement (academic) programs and the curriculum needed to remain competitive with other area schools.

Attendance Taken at 6:59 PM.

Dean Busch: Present

Jaimi Calfee: Absent

Tim Cheney: Present

Brandon Desh: Present

Dee Moore: Present

Josh Penterman: Present

Attendance Update Taken at 7:04 PM.

Jaimi Calfee: Present

Attendance Update Taken at 7:24 PM.

Josh Penterman: Absent

Attendance Update Taken at 7:54 PM.

Josh Penterman: Present

This information was posted in the following public formats:

- The Voice News (weekly area newspaper)
- Farmers' Merchants Bank - Palmyra
- Palmyra Post Office
- Palmyra High School
- Bennet Post Office
- Bennet Elementary School
- District OR-1 Website - <https://www.districtor1.org/>

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Board President Desh called the meeting to order at **7:00 p.m.**
- The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted at the CMAR special board meeting earlier in the evening.

## 2. Announcement of the Open Meetings Act Posting

- Board President Desh identified the location of the Open Meetings Act Poster on the wall in the meeting room.
  - *Please note that no changes to the Open Meetings Act occurred during the last Legislative session and the current Open Meetings Act information will stay current until further notice.*

## 3. Staff and Student Presentations

### 3.1. Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) Highway # 2 Traffic Safety Proposal for Palmyra Area

- In response to community concerns regarding the high number of accidents on the stretch of Hwy # 2 between HWY 43 to the west and the Douglas "spur" to the east of Palmyra, a representative from the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) shared a "draft" traffic safety plan that could significantly reduce vehicle accidents and other traffic issues historically present in this area.
- A conceptual scope of work was discussed and additional information about the project is contained in the attached documents.
- More information and opportunities for community engagement and feedback on the proposal will be communicated in the near future.

4. Consent Agenda Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Dean Busch and seconded by Tim Cheney, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea

- No further discussion

### 4.1. Approval of Board Agenda

### 4.2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings

### 4.3. Approval of Claims/Payment of Bills and Payroll

### 4.4. Certificated/Classified Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s)

### 4.5. Financial Report

## 5. Public Comment

- Public Comment was provided by **Craig Bolz** of Palmyra.
- Public Comment was provided by **Chad Hartwick** of Palmyra
- Public Comment was provided by **Ken Malone** of Palmyra
- Public Comment was provided by **Susan Royal** of Palmyra

## 6. Administrative Reports

### 6.1. Superintendent's Report Some of the topics of tonight's report include:

- **Legislative Update**
  - *See the attached document. A summary of bill proposals impacting public education was highlighted.*
- **NDE Safety and Security Grant:**
  - Our district is in the process of submitting the Safety and Security Grant through NDE. The deadline to submit this grant is **Friday, March 15th**.
  - Notification of grant recipients will be communicated in the first week of April. More information regarding the NDE Safety and Security Grant will be discussed at the **Monday, April 8th, 2024** regular board meeting.
- **High School Grading Discussion:**
  - A committee discussion regarding grading at the high school level will be scheduled before the **Monday, April 8th, 2024** Regular Board meeting.
- **Personnel and Student Kudos:**
  - Personnel highlights included classroom plaques made by the art department and our CTE classes, a possible Palmyra School Store proposal, Mental Health First Responder Training, District Wellness Committee Policies and Meetings, MUDECAS and ECNC music contests, Peru State Business applications' competition and student awards, academic scholarship recipients, FFA, FFCLA, and examples of positive staff interactions with students (reading to students, etc.).
- **Personnel Update**
  - Highlights included an overview of the certified staff members scheduled to be approved later in the board meeting.
- **District Activities Update:**
  - Please see the attached documents in the admin report.
- **Pre-School Discussion**
  - Discussion included the potential for full-day preschool for the **2024-2025** school year.
  - More discussion on this topic will occur throughout the month, and we will discuss this topic again at the **Monday, April 8th, 2024**, regular board meeting.
- **District Facility Manager Position**
  - I am recommending hiring a Maintenance and Grounds Director to assist with building expansion projects and other facility needs.
  - A job description is attached to this agenda item. See the attached document for more information.
- **District Wellness Committee:**
  - Jami Calfee was selected to be the board member representative on this committee.
- **Elementary Principal Interview Process Update:**
  - A summary of the elementary principal survey responses is attached to this agenda item.

- Superintendent Hart summarized the principal interview process and provided information on the selected candidate.
- Special thanks to all the staff and community members involved with the elementary principal selection process who helped organize and provide feedback regarding potential candidates.
- **Student Videos:**
  - Construction progress at Bennet and Palmyra. These videos will be uploaded to our school website in the near future.
- **Option Enrollment:**
  - Just a reminder that the option enrollment deadline was **Friday, March 15th, 2024.**
  - No current changes were made.
- **Student Enrollment Update:**
  - Superintendent Hart provided an update on student enrollment.
- **"End of School Year" Activities**
  - Superintendent Hart provided information about the various school activities scheduled for the end of the school year.

#### 6.2. Administrative Team Report Topics of Discussion:

- The third quarter ended **Thursday, March 8th.** Report cards will be sent home on **March 15th.**
- PHS Prom is **Saturday, April, 13th** at Prairie Creek Inn in Walton, NE. Post Prom will be at Camp Ashland.
- Staff Inservice day was held on **Monday, March 11th.** The main topics for the day were Mental Health First Aid, MTSS, and behavior committee follow-up.
- The Bennet Caring Project has concluded, and Bennet Students raised over **\$415.00** for the Brave Animal Rescue. Congratulations!
- Music and Band will be busy this next month with all their music competitions. They begin next week with Malcolm Music.
- NSCAS/MAPS testing will be April 22nd-May 3rd for K-10 students.
- KDG Round Up will be **Friday, April 12th** from 9-11 AM. A parents' meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, April 10th,** at 6:00 PM. at Bennet Elementary School.

#### 7. Discussion Items- Committee Reports

- No further discussion.

#### 8. Policy Review

##### 8.1. Wellness Policy Update and District Wellness Committee Meeting Information

- A District Wellness Committee meeting will be scheduled before the end of the **2023-2024** school year.

#### 9. Action Items

9.1. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve the resignation of Mrs. Cassidy Buescher. Motion to approve the resignation of Mrs. Cassidy Buescher. This motion, made by Dee Moore and seconded by Josh Penterman, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.2. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a teaching contract for Mr. Taylor Baumert Motion to approve a contract for Mr. Taylor Baumert. This motion, made by Dean Busch and seconded by Tim Cheney, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.3. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a teaching contract for Mr. Andrew (Mark) James Motion to approve the teaching contract of Mr. Andrew (Mark) James. This motion, made by Dee Moore and seconded by Josh Penterman, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea No further discussion.

9.4. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a teaching contract for Mr. Jacob Wieseler. Motion to approve a teaching contract for Mr. Jacob Wieseler. This motion, made by Jaimi Calfee and seconded by Dee Moore, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.5. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a teaching contract for Ms. Ann Woockman. Motion to approve a teaching contract for Ms. Ann Woockman. This motion, made by Jaimi Calfee and seconded by Josh Penterman, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.6. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve the selection of Mr. Jared Haag as the new elementary school principal at Bennet. Motion to approve a contract for Mr. Jared Haag. This motion, made by Jaimi Calfee and seconded by Dee Moore, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.7. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a resolution regarding a NDOT traffic safety project near the village of Palmyra on Highway 2. Motion to approve the

resolution as discussed. This motion, made by Jaimi Calfee and seconded by Dean Busch,  
Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea,  
Josh Penterman: Yea

- Brandon Desh read the attached resolution out loud to the other board members and patrons in attendance at the meeting.
- No further discussion as this was a presentation topic at the beginning of the meeting.

#### 10. Board of Education Development

- No further discussion.

#### 11. Closed Session

- No closed session occurred at the meeting.

#### 12. Topics for Next Month's Agenda

#### 13. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at: **8:34 p.m.**

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Chairperson

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Superintendent