

February 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 9, 2026 7:00 PM

as advertised in the *Washington County Enterprise* and on fortcalhounschools.org

High School Media Center

ROUTINE BUSINESS

-Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. There were 3 administrators and 4 visitors present.

-Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted

-Excused Absences: There were none, all present.

-Roll Call: Josh Christensen, Present; Tony Dowling, Present; Cassie Kelly, Present; Amanda Schrum, Present; Ryan Sevcik, Present; Ted Welchert, Present.

-Approval of Agenda: This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed.

Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

REGULAR AGENDA

-Public Participation: No one asked to address the board.

-Approval of Claims: Moved that the claims for February be approved in the amount of \$140,843.78 from the General Fund, and \$66,020.00 from Savings & Depreciation. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green explained the claims from ARBITER, Angel Guardians, Bobcat, Boys Town and Iowa School for the Deaf for tuition, CDW for Microsoft licensing, NASB's yearly dues, UNMC for our trainer, and Ralston Schools for our hearing specialist. Savings & Depreciation showed the new van.

-Claim for Abe's Trash Service: Moved that the claim for Abe's Trash Service be approved in the amount of \$1,509.50. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Dowling, Passed.

Josh Christensen: Abstain, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Consent Agenda: Moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Standing Committee Reports: American Civics-Amanda Schrum reported the committee reviewed policies, the 2026-27 calendar, administrator salaries and contracts, classified staff pay schedule/pay increases, staff updates for Vocal Music and Special Education, a bus purchase and meeting with the Foundation regarding future growth of programs.

Finance-Josh Christensen reported they discussed the same topics with the exception of policy reviews.

-Policies 4005-Communication Between the Board and District Employees; 4006-Insurance; 4007-Personnel Records; 4008-Outside Employment: Moved that the board of education waive first reading and pass on second reading Policies 4005-Communication Between the Board and District Employees; 4006-Insurance; 4007-Personnel Records; 4008-Outside Employment as

discussed and being recommended. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. The American Civics Committee continues to review policies. KSB, our policy advisor said no changes were needed on these.

-Resignation: Moved that the resignation of Jolene Lengfelder be accepted. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This was made by mutual agreement.

-Administrator Contracts:

- High School Principal: Moved that the contract for Dr. Nick Wemhoff be approved at a 3.5% increase as discussed and decided upon. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

- Elementary School Principal: Moved that the contract for Mrs. Sara Horstman be approved at a 3.5% increase as discussed and decided upon. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

- Assistant Principal/AD: Moved that the contract for Mr. Jamie Schleifer be approved at a 3.5% increase as discussed and decided upon. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Special Education Teacher: Moved that Michelle Doyle be employed as a Special Education Teacher for the remainder of the semester. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. She will complete the second semester and the position will remain open for the 26-27 school year. Michelle is continuing her degree but has completed the State requirements to become a certified teacher.

-Human Resources Position: Moved that the board of education authorize an increase in hours for the Human Resource position from 20 hours per week to 30 hours per week. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Christensen, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This recommendation comes after discussions and learning all that is required for this position. It works well for the District.

-Classified Staff Salary Schedule: Moved that the board of education approve the Classified Salary Schedule as presented. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This is a yearly review with one change for the bus route drivers.

-Classified Staff Salary: Moved that the board of education approve the Classified Staff salary compensation at an amount not to exceed 3.0%. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. The committees and administration discussed salaries, comparisons and decided on the increase from the current one.

-Approval of the 2026-27 Calendar: Moved that the calendar for 2026-27 be approved as presented and recommended. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan

Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green explained the process which included turning over from the current year, then administrators, unit leaders, and teachers had the opportunity to look at it and submit any recommendations before it is brought to the board. The only change from the current year is second semester because Easter moved up a week.

-Purchase of a Bus: Moved that the board of education approve the superintendent for the purchase of a 2027 International CE Series 59 passenger bus, in line with the District's every two-year rotation, from Cornhusker International for the final price of \$134,400. This motion, made by Sevcik and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This is in staying with the bus rotation set by the board. There were 3 bids and this is the best one for what we need. The last 3 buses were purchased from this company. They have been easy to work with and have been good to us. It should be here in 2-3 weeks after it is striped and the cameras are installed. There was a question if this was a 59-passenger vehicle and it is.

-Allow the Superintendent for "Sale or Dispose of School Property" in accordance to Policy 3019. Moved that the board of education allow the Superintendent to go ahead for "Sale or Dispose of School Property" in accordance with Policy 3019. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This motion is needed to allow for the sale of a bus and van along with anything else that may be necessary.

-Board Member Reports: There were none.

-Administrator Reports: Dr. Wemhoff reported on 4 upcoming interviews for the Vocal position; Parent-Teacher Conferences with high school teachers who are contacted to be available on Thursday for families who have a conflict; professional development through ESU #3 and seeing teachers engaged in it; Prom and Post Prom; how the school day will look when students take the PreACT and ACT with grades 10 and 11 able to leave after completing their test; the local and Washington County Spelling Bee with our students competing well; and the numerous upcoming events with a lot happening in February and March.

Mrs. Horstman reported on upcoming building events including Valentine's activities and Parent-Teacher Conferences; Read Across America Week in March and its activities including each student receiving free books during the school day this year; the UNL WORDS scheduled staff coaching for grades K-3 with UNL is extending staff tutoring and coaching for students in 4th and 5th grades for 2026-27; and attending a Principals' Support Institute at ESU #3. Elementary student spellers also did well with one reaching in the top 3 at Washington County. Mr. Schleifer was supervising an activity and his report was noted.

-Superintendent Report and Legislative Summary-Board Goals, Legislative Update: Mr. Green noted bills being discussed including LB765 which would require school bond elections to attain a majority of registered voters, not just those voting; LB1050 which calls for 3rd graders not reading at grade level to be retained which has received a lot of hesitation; LB653 requiring school districts to accept option siblings regardless of capacities; and LB1038 which proposes structural changes to schools' funding leaving questions about the source of any revenue funding differences. The legislature is about 1/3 of the way through a short 60-day session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the president declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.