

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District – 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338  
Monday, January 18, 2021**

**Regular January 18, 2021 Meeting – 6:00 P.M.**

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on January 18, 2021, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Vorderstrasse-present, Scheer-present, Sobotka-present, Rut-present, Niederklein-present virtually, and Bartels-present. Also present were Superintendent Kort, Principal Scott-virtually, and Lance Johnson.

Newly elected Board member Rut took the Oath of Office.

Superintendent Kort was appointed to preside over the process to elect a president.

Sobotka nominated and Vorderstrasse seconded to elect Bartels as Board President.

Scheer moved and Niederklein seconded to cease nominations and elect Bartels as President. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – abstain. Motion carried 5-0. Bartels was elected President.

Superintendent Kort turned the meeting over to President Bartels.

Vorderstrasse nominated and Scheer seconded to elect Sobotka as Board Vice-President.

Scheer moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to cease nominations and elect Sobotka Board Vice-President. Vote taken: Sobotka - abstain, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion carried 5-0. Sobotka was elected Vice-President.

Sobotka nominated and Scheer seconded to elect Niederklein as Board Secretary.

Vorderstrasse moved and Rut seconded to cease nominations and elect Niederklein Board Secretary. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - abstain, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion carried 5-0. Niederklein was elected as Board Secretary.

Rut nominated and Niederklein seconded to elect Scheer as Board Treasurer.

Rut moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to cease nominations and elect Scheer as Board Treasurer. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - abstain, and Bartels – aye. Motion carried 5-0. Scheer was elected as Board Treasurer.

Open Public Comment: Lance Johnson, attorney for the Heidemann Family, requested a 75-foot perpetual easement on the south side of the School property for access to farm ground south of the recently sold Heidemann farmstead. Mr. Johnson stated that liability would not be an issue as both the Heidemann family and tenants would carry their own liability insurance. If gates or culverts would need to be installed the family would work with the school. Mr. Johnson also stated the School's east property line fence established in 1975 was approximately eight foot too far east, but that the family after all these years, was not going to dispute the location.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

Scheer moved and Rut seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A: Minutes of Monday, December 21, 2020 Regular Meeting
- B: District Financial Report
- C: Activity Fund Report
- D: Hot Lunch Fund Report
- G: Bills

Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Curriculum report: Principal Scott stated that due to interest in Spanish 1 that another section was added.

Discussion was held on the 2021-2022 calendar which is still being finalized.

Sobotka stated he had a very cordial conversation with Michael Heidemann after last month's Board Meeting about the family's request for an easement across the school property. The concerns of the Board discussed at the December meeting were discussed with Mr. Heidemann. The Board discussed the possible future use of the property in conjunction with the FFA program, liability concerns, and that the Heidemann family can provide access to the property through property they currently own.

Policy 8000s will be emailed for review and voted on at the February meeting.

Sobotka moved and Vorderstrasse seconded to approve the addition of an Activity Account for the Beef Program. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

Principal's Report:

1. Student Count as of January 14, 2021: 106 Elementary Students; 96 Junior High and High School Students
2. Mask mandates continue. As an incentive for the students wearing their masks and continuing with in-person learning, administration is looking at January 29<sup>th</sup>, as another earned no school day.
3. Congratulations to Brynn Holtmeier for winning Varsity Persuasive at the Fairbury Speech Invite. This meet was the first asynchronistic (pre-recorded) meet. Additional competitions will use the same format and CRC is discussing it.
4. Congratulations to Lane Barton as he is approaching his 100<sup>th</sup> win. Wrestlers continue to see success. CRC wrestling – January 26, Sub-district wrestling – February 5.
5. CRC basketball begins Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
6. District Speech will be at Falls City Sacred Heart on March 9.

Superintendent Kort reported:

- Congratulations to the Jr High Girls Basketball for winning the south division of CRC. They will play Cross County in the CRC championship game at 10:30 January 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Cross County.
- CRC basketball brackets have been posted with the Varsity Girls Playing at 1:00 and Varsity Boys at 3:00 on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, also at Cross County. There are no restrictions for fans attending these three games, but masks must be worn.
- Legislative Update

A Board retreat to discuss future goals and objectives for the school will be held this spring or summer.

Next Regular Meeting was set for Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Sobotka moved and Scheer seconded to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. Vote taken: Sobotka - aye, Vorderstrasse - aye, Niederklein - aye, Rut - aye, Scheer - aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 6-0.

*Jamie Niederklein*, Secretary Meridian District #48-030