

**Board of Education  
Meridian Public Schools  
District – 48-0303  
Daykin, Nebraska, 68338  
Monday, March 18, 2024**

**Regular March 18, 2024 Meeting**

Meridian Public School Board of Education met on March 18, 2024, as per notice in the Fairbury Journal-News.

President Bartels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The open meeting law information was presented.

Roll call was taken: Barton – present, Niederklein – present, Rut – present, Sobotka – present, and Bartels – present. Also present were Superintendent Kort and Principal Hull.

Niederklein moved and Barton seconded to excuse Scheer from the meeting. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Nothing new was added to the agenda.

No comments were heard from the public.

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

- A. Minutes of the Monday, February 19, 2024 Regular Meeting
- B. District Financial Report
- C. Activity Fund Report
- D. Hot Lunch Fund Report
- E. Bills

Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Principal Hull presented the Curriculum Report to the Board.

Sobotka moved and Rut seconded to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Ms. Leslie Drees. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Niederklein moved and Barton seconded to approve the hire of Julie Homolka as a music department teacher. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Sobotka moved and Rut seconded to approve the hire of Lara Celesky as a music department teacher. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Kort presented to the Board the information he received from Nate Elting with Brad Elting and Company about an acre of land in Thayer County that was conveyed to School District No. 36. No action was taken on the request for a quit claim deed. The Board is requesting more information before a decision can be made. Item Number: 24-03-09 will be tabled until the April 2024 Board Meeting.

Superintendent Kort gave the final update on the ESSER Funds and the purchases made by the school with the funds.

Superintendent Kort gave the Board an update on the Nebraska Association of Schools upcoming events. The State School Board Conference will be held November 20 – 22, 2024 in Omaha. The ALICAP report has not been received and will be reviewed at the April 2024 meeting.

Principal Kort presented the Elementary Principal's Report and Principal Hull presented the Secondary Principal's Report to the Board.

Superintendent Kort presented the Superintendent's Report to the Board.

Sobotka moved and Barton seconded to go into executive session at 7:43 p.m. to discuss administrator contracts. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

President Bartels stated that the Board was going into executive session to discuss administrator contracts.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:03 p.m.

Sobotka moved and Barton seconded to approve the 2024-2025 contract for Principal Alex Hull with a 3% increase to \$95,000. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Sobotka moved and Niederklein seconded to approve the 2024-2025 contract for Principal Matthew Asche at \$95,000. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Rut moved and Barton seconded to approve a three-year contract for Superintendent Randy Kort with an increase for the 2024-2025 school year of 3% to \$147,540. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

The Americanism Committee will meet at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024. The Regular Board Meeting was set for Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Rut moved and Barton seconded to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Vote taken: Barton – aye, Niederklein – aye, Rut – aye, Sobotka – aye, and Bartels – aye. Motion passed 5-0.

*Jamie Niederklein*, Secretary Meridian District #48-0303