

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

January 15, 2024

Blair Central Office

1326 Park Street, Blair NE 68008

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Information concerning the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 84, Article 14 of Nebraska State Statutes, is posted in the room at a location accessible to members of the public and attached to the online agenda. The meeting notice was published in the Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise on Friday, January 12, 2024.

This meeting was rescheduled from Monday January 8, 2024 due to a winter storm warning issued by the National Weather Service.

## 1. Call to Order

Mrs. Kari Loseke, President, called the Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## 2. Roll Call

Present Board Members: Kari Loseke, Brandi Petersen, Denise Cada, Steve Callaghan, Deb Parks, Ginger Fredericksen, and Courtney Tabor

### 2.1 Approval of Absent Board Member(s)

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the absence of Board Member(s) Tim Welch passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Gilson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 4. Organization of the Board of Education

The following board leadership positions were voted upon:

President: Steve Callaghan nominated Kari Loseke as Board of Education President and Denise Cada seconded the nomination. Kari Loseke accepted the nomination and the Board of Education re-elected Kari Loseke as President of the Board of Education on a vote of 6-1-1.

Vice President: Denise Cada nominated Courtney Tabor as Board of Education Vice President and Brandi Petersen seconded the nomination. Courtney Tabor accepted the nomination and the Board of Education elected Courtney Tabor as Vice President of the Board of Education on a vote of 6-1-1.

Approval of Offices and Appointments:

- Secretary – Angie Conety
- Treasurer – Leslie Watts

- School Attorney – Edmond Talbot, III
- Official Newspaper – Blair Enterprise
- Bank Depository – Washington County Bank and RVR Bank
- Truant Officer – Blair Police Department and Washington County Sheriff

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the current offices and appointments as presented passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Brandi Petersen.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**5. Approval of Emergency Additions to the Agenda – None**

**6. Call for Removal of Consent Agenda Items - None**

**7. Consent Agenda**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**7.1. Waiver of reading minutes from previous meeting**

**7.2. Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting as published**

**7.3. Receipt of Communications**

**7.4. Treasurer's Report**

**7.5. Audit of Claims**

**8. Business**

**8.1. Items removed from Consent Agenda - None**

**8.2. Recognitions**

**8.3. Acceptance of Gifts**

**8.3.1. CF Industries Minigrants**

A check was received from CF Industries for Minigrant awards totaling \$2,289.00 for the following teachers:

1. Morgan Casper
2. Tood Wick, Angie Boyd, Heather Dreibus

3. Tracy Bye
4. Callie Ward, Hollie Booth, Anne Chrans, Sheryl Krueger
5. Peggy Rutcosky, Julia Vogel, Krissy Anderson

The goal of the CF Industries Classroom Minigrant Program is to support local education and improve agricultural and environmental literacy. We thank them for their continued support for the students at Blair Community Schools.

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the CF Industries Minigrant awards totaling \$2,289 passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Deb Parks.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

### 8.3.2. Omaha Community Foundation

Morgan Casper, High School Agriculture Teacher, and Beth Clarke, High School Special Education Teacher, were awarded a total of \$2,527 from the Omaha Community Foundation on behalf of the Cox Charities Education grant.

- \$2,077 For Mrs. Casper and the Hydroponic Strawberries project at Blair High School.
- \$450 for Mrs. Clarke and the Group Read for Students with Disabilities project at Blair High School.

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the grant funds in the amount of \$2,527 from Omaha Community Foundation on behalf of the Cox Charities Education passed with a motion by Deb Parks and a second by Courtney Tabor.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

### 8.3.3. Sid Dillion Chevrolet – Blair

Sid Dillon Chevrolet - Blair would like to donate a used vehicle to the Blair High School bodywork class. It is a 2010 Chevrolet Impala (232,917 miles) and if repaired, retail value is \$4,955.

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the donation from Sid Dillion Chevrolet – Blair for a 2010 Chevrolet Impala with a retail value of \$4,955 passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Brandi Petersen.

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Denise Cada | Yes |
|-------------|-----|

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**8.4. Consideration of Communications**

**8.4.1. Local Community Scholarship Ceremony**

A letter has been received from Christine Ross, Blair High School Counselor/Local Scholarship Chair, to request permission to host a Local Community Scholarship Ceremony at Blair High School in the Auditorium/Cafeteria on the evening of Sunday, May 5, 2024. Ms. Ross has received requests from our local community to hold a reception for all local community-affiliated organizations and feels holding it on a Sunday evening would allow for the greatest participation.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the request to hold a Local Community Scholarship Ceremony at Blair High School on Sunday, May 5, 2024 passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Denise Cada.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**8.5. Comments from The Public - None**

**8.6. Committee Reports**

**8.6.1. Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee met on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Deb Parks.

**8.6.2. BG&T Committee**

The Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Committee met on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 4:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Steve Callaghan.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve Woodhouse Ford to complete the repairs to the districts Ford F550 box truck in the amount of \$22,000 passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Brandi Petersen.

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Denise Cada         | Yes |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes |
| Deb Parks           | Yes |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes |

Courtney Tabor      Yes  
Tim Welch            Absent

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the purchase for a bag filter system from Mechanical Systems for \$10,385 for Otte Middle School passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada            Yes  
Steve Callaghan      Yes  
Ginger Fredericksen   Yes  
Kari Loseke            Yes  
Deb Parks              Yes  
Brandi Petersen        Yes  
Courtney Tabor        Yes  
Tim Welch              Absent

**Motion Failed:** I move to approve the purchase for curtains from Heartland Scenic Studio in the amount of \$16,957.13 failed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

Denise Cada            No  
Steve Callaghan      No  
Ginger Fredericksen   No  
Kari Loseke            No  
Deb Parks              No  
Brandi Petersen        No  
Courtney Tabor        No  
Tim Welch              Absent

### **8.6.3. Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 12:00pm. A report from the committee was given by Brandi Petersen.

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the district to follow the Federal Business Mileage Reimbursement rate of \$0.67 per mile to begin January 1, 2024 passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

Denise Cada            Yes  
Steve Callaghan      Yes  
Ginger Fredericksen   Yes  
Kari Loseke            Yes  
Deb Parks              Yes  
Brandi Petersen        Yes  
Courtney Tabor        Yes  
Tim Welch              Absent

### **8.7. Approval of New Teacher(s)**

Miss Claire E Everitt, Otte Middle School 8th Grade Science Teacher

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve new teacher, Claire Everitt, as presented passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**8.8. Acceptance of Resignation & Retirements**

Resignation

- Mia Lincoln, Deerfield Elementary Special Education Teacher

Retirement

- Marita Fernau, South Early Childhood Center, Preschool Teacher

**Motion Passed:** I move to accept the resignation of Mia Lincoln and the retirement of Marita Fernau upon the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year passed with a motion by Brandi Petersen and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

**8.9. Superintendent Report**

**8.10. Informational Item**

**8.11. Closed Session**

The Board of Education is authorized by state statute to hold closed sessions. Closed sessions may be held when clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Reasons that meet this standard include but are not limited to: (a) strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate matters, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body; (b) discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices; (c) investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; (d) evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting; and (e) legal advice.

**Motion Passed:** I move to enter into Closed Session at 8:05pm for the protection of public interest on the discussion of collective bargaining with an invitation to Tom Shearer, Business Manager, to attend passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Denise Cada         | Yes |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes |

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Deb Parks       | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor  | Yes    |
| Tim Welch       | Absent |

The Board came out of Closed Session at 8:14am and reconvened with the Regular Board Meeting.

### **8.12. Items From Closed Session**

**Motion Passed:** I move to approve the Negotiated Agreement between the Blair Education Association (BEA) and the Blair Community Schools Board of Education for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 contract years passed with a motion by Steve Callaghan and a second by Ginger Fredericksen.

### **9. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** I move to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm passed with a motion by Ginger Fredericksen and a second by Steve Callaghan.

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Denise Cada         | Yes    |
| Steve Callaghan     | Yes    |
| Ginger Fredericksen | Yes    |
| Kari Loseke         | Yes    |
| Deb Parks           | Yes    |
| Brandi Petersen     | Yes    |
| Courtney Tabor      | Yes    |
| Tim Welch           | Absent |

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Angie Conety  
Secretary Board of Education

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Randall Gilson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent