

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular	North Bend Central – Media Center	7:30 P.M.	May 11, 2026
Kind of Meeting	Meeting Place	Time	Date

	PRESENT	ABSENT
President.....	Doug Hoops	
Vice Pres.....	Bob Feurer	
Secretary.....	Andy Swanson	
Treasurer.....	Justin Taylor	
Member.....	Nick Emanuel	
Member.....	Amy Williams	
Superintendent.....	Patrick Ningen	
Recording Secretary.....	Kyrsten Mottl	

OPENING:

A. CALL TO ORDER: President Hoops called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL: Present: Bob Feurer, Amy Williams, Nick Emanuel, Doug Hoops, Andy Swanson and Justin Taylor

D. EXCUSE ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS: none

E. ACKNOWLEDGE POSTED OPEN MEETING ACT: President Hoops announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the meeting room and directed the public to its location.

REVIEW OF THE AGENDA:

A. PUBLICATION NOTICE: Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education and published in the May 5, 2026 edition of the "North Bend Eagle". The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A.a. Changes to the agenda:

A.b. Notes regarding agenda:

3. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE: Mr. Ningen would like to celebrate the excellence of our graduating class and our retirees this month.

The Class of 2026 occupies a unique place in history, defined by a resilience forged long before they reached high school. As elementary students, they witnessed the devastating Flood of 2019, seeing their North Bend community rally together to rebuild from the water and ice that reshaped their landscape. That early lesson in local grit served as a precursor to their secondary journey, where they navigated a global pandemic that redefined the classroom and demanded a mastery of digital adaptability. From sandbags and sirens to the isolation of remote screens, these seniors have spent their formative years turning disruption into a foundation of strength. They graduate not just as students, but as a cohort that has proven it can weather any storm, emerging with a perspective and a perseverance that is uniquely North Bend Central.

Our retirees, Suzy and Robin, have a combined 33 years serving NBCPS. Their commitment to students is apparent each and every day, and they are rarely seen without a smile on their faces. North Bend Central has been fortunate to have both of these educators work with our students and staff over the years. Thanks Suzy and Robin!

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5. BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from the April board meeting. The Board approved meeting minutes from April 13, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion Carried. 6-0.

B. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The Board reviewed the financial statements and the Activity Fund statements.

C. APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion (Emanuel) Second (Feurer) to approve the bills for May. General Fund \$220,793.01, Building Fund - \$102,985.53, Depreciation Fund - \$12,895.00, Bond Fund - \$337,460. Motion Carried 6-0.

6. REPORTS:

A. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Mr. Ningen reported:

- The board work session meeting date and time have been set.....Monday, May 18th, at 6 pm at the city library. Our agenda will include review of your board self-assessment results, setting goals based on the results, and reviewing our progress on addressing needs from the community needs assessment (strategic planning).
- In continuing our quest to put in place a Portrait of a Graduate program, the input provided by members of our staff, along with some help from Gemini, has produced a working document.
- UPDATE - Elementary School Addition:
 - Important upcoming dates:
 - May 4th - release documents for bid
 - May 12th @ 3:30 pm - pre-bid meeting (elementary school)
 - June 2nd @ 2 pm - bid deadline (high school)
 - June 8th - board meeting to approve winning bid
 - August 4, 2027 - substantial completion date
 - Draft Bid Packet
- UPDATE - RR/Concession Stand:
 - The structure is currently being erected. Once finished, interior work will begin.
- Staff lunch plans for Friday-board will serve chicken sandwiches and sides.
- Staff climate survey for next year, Mr. Ningen is looking into setting it up for next year.
- Jason Saalfeld and I will be attending a board candidate workshop in Omaha in August, to help prepare him, should he be elected in November.
- Whitney has placed a post on our social media that includes an update on our RR/Concession Stand Project, and some information on the proposed elementary school addition. It is also on our school website.

B. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT: Mrs. Petersen reported:

Mrs. Wess has provided the following information about the senior class:

When reviewing the state FAFSA completion requirement for graduation, 31 out of our 38 seniors met the requirement, while 7 students signed the opt-out waiver. This results in an overall completion rate of 80%.

As of the most recent data, our school ranks 57th in FAFSA completion among Nebraska high schools. Notably, of the schools with a higher completion rate, only five have a larger senior cohort. This context is important, as an 80% completion rate represents a different level of impact compared to much smaller graduating classes, such as D-2 schools with around 10 seniors. It is also worth noting that two of the students who submitted opt-out waivers did so due to technical issues with the FAFSA and plan to complete it prior to enrolling in college this fall.

Post-Graduation Plans:

When surveyed about their future plans, students reported the following: 6 will attend a 2-year community college or technical school, 26 will attend a 4-year college or university, 5 will enter the workforce full-time and 1 remains undecided.

Postsecondary Enrollment Details: Among students pursuing postsecondary education, plans include: 2-Year / Technical Programs:1 – Central Community College, 1– College of Hair Design, 2– Northeast Community College, 2– Southeast Community College. 4-Year Colleges & Universities:1 – Undecided (planning to attend a 4-year institution), 1– Briar Cliff University, 1– College of Saint Mary, 2– Doane University, 1– Indian River State College (FL), 3 – Midland University, 1 – University of Nebraska–Kearney, 9 – University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1– University of Nebraska–Omaha, 6– Wayne State College.

Adoption of Spanish and PE Curriculum for 7-Year Cycle: This year is the curriculum adoption year for both PE and Spanish. Curriculum adoption is on a seven-year rotation. The two curricular area requests totals roughly \$70,000 dollars.

End of May student activities: Youth camps hosted by NBC high school coaches, sponsors, and athletes, Drivers Education, Summer School, Weightlifting and High School camps start at the end of May.

C. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT: Mr. LaChapelle reported: Activities and Events May 1- Preschool to Columbus Children's Museum, 1st grade to the Lincoln Zoo, Kindergarten to Dairy Farm, 5th grade Upshift, May 5- Senior Graduation Walk, 5th grade band to Pender May 6-2nd grade to the Omaha Zoo, 5th grade to Lake Wanahoo, May 7- 4th grade Oregon Trail, 5th grade Stellar Teller, May 11- K-4th UpShift, K-2 Field Day at high school, May 12- 3-5 Field Day at high school, Foamaha with Field Day at high school May 13- 4th grade to the Omaha Zoo, Last Day of Preschool and Preschool Graduation, May 14, Last Day of School

Preschool Graduation: Mrs. Siroky and Mrs. Healy will hold Preschool Graduation on Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00pm. This will take place in the old gym at the high school this year. The students have grown so much and are ready to come full days as a kindergarten student next year!

Foamaha: Our PTA has reserved Foamaha for our students. It will take place at the high school on May 12. They have told us it will NOT ruin the grass.

Up Shift: Current 5th grade students went to the middle school for Up Shift on Friday, May 1st at 9:55 am to meet the middle school teachers. Current Kindergarten through 4th grade students will have Up Shift on Monday, May 11th at 8:15 am. Notes went home on May 8th to let families know who their child's teacher will be for next year. 4th & 5th

Grade Choir and Band Concert: Our 4th and 5th grade choir and band students performed for their peers and families on April 30th in the afternoon at the elementary. We had a great crowd attending.

D. ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR REPORT: Mr. Baehr reported:

Sports Banquet & Fine Arts Night: Would like to thank our Booster Club and also our Music Boosters as well as the Fine Arts Teachers and Coaches for their time and effort to put together our Fine Arts night. The night had many public performances and some great deserts to have while watching and viewing our students' work and performances. Thanks to everyone for making that night possible. It is really a great opportunity to show all the sides of our school.

I would like to thank Roy Wright and Rod Rolenc as well as our Track staff for their work on the track and surrounding areas as we hosted the West side of Junior High Conference Track. The day had beautiful weather but thanks to our staff we were able to use our track and its areas to their full capabilities. Thanks to everyone for helping.

We hosted Honors night also recently. Huge thank you to Mrs. Petersen and Whitney Armstrong for their time and efforts to give our kids a chance to be recognized for all they do in the classroom. They did a great job of working with our staff to get the kids their recognition and a chance to be honored. We have both District Golf and District Track coming up and I would like to wish those individuals who are either coaching or the athletes competing the best of luck. These seasons seem to sprint by and it's amazing we are at this time of year but best of luck to all participants. As we wrap up the 2025 – 2026 which has been filled with a lot of exciting times and experiences for our students here, which was just encapsulated with our Graduation Ceremony on Sunday. I would like to thank all the members of our staff, administration, and the board for all that each has given to make this year a success. Sometimes the saying "the days go slow, but the years go fast" is so true. It is amazing we are completing another school year, but it is all the people in our buildings and all those that support us that make it special.

E. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS: Safety committee meeting had staff, fire dept., SRO, dispatch and board member Justin Taylor in attendance. During the meeting they planned drills, communication systems and how to make them better. They all talked about the emergency operation plan, which they will work on over the summer. The next meeting will be in the fall. Justin shared that the radios for first responders may need to be updated to work better in the building. The board discussed they will look into the update needed and talk more at the next meeting.

7. BUSINESS ITEMS:

- A. APPROVE CHANGES TO THE BUS ROUTES, INCLUDING SHORTENING DODGE ROUTE:** Motion (Taylor) Second (Emanuel) to accept the bus route proposal with the exception of talking to Harms to make sure it's ok to use their property to turn around. Carried 6-0.
- B. APPROVE REPLACEMENT OF SCHOOL VEHICLES, INCLUDING THE CAR, THE MINIVAN, AND THE MAINTENANCE PICKUP:** Motion (Swanson) Second (Feurer) to approve purchase of the Escape, Explorer and F-250 to replace the car, the minivan and the Chevy pickup. Motion Carried 6-0.
- C. APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPANISH CURRICULUMS FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR:** Motion (Williams) Second (Swanson) to approve the purchase of physical education and spanish curriculums for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion Carried 6-0.
- D. APPROVE CHANGE TO THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR TO REFLECT MOVING THE END OF THE YEAR UP ONE DAY:** Motion (Emanuel) Second (Williams) to approve change to the 2025-2026 school calendar to reflect moving the end of the year up one day. Motion Carried 6-0.
- E. APPROVE CHANGES TO THE OPTION ENROLLMENT POLICY, NUMBER 5004:** Motion (Swanson) Second (Emanuel) to approve all changes recommended by KSB law to the option enrollment policy, number 5004. with G stating employees that are under a contract of employment. Motion Carried 4-2.
- F. DISCUSS POLICY 6040, PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM:** The board discussed Board policy 6040, Prekindergarten program. Mr. Ningen asked to table this to the next board meeting.
- G. DISCUSS STUDENT BOARD MEMBER POLICY AND SELECTION PROCESS:** There were 4 students interested in being a student board member. Mr. Ningen asked the board what they would like to have as qualifications for the student board member. Mr. Ningen will outline some expectations and bring them back to the board.

- H. REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY, POLICY NUMBERS 6029-6043.** The board reviewed board policies 6029-6043.
 - I. DISCUSS STAGE LIGHTING IN THE OLD GYM:** This semester, Charity and Dan Wright have been working to replace the stage lighting in the old gym. They have submitted a grant request to the North Bend Area Community Foundation, asking for help. As you may or may not know, the lighting system is quite old. The current system is essentially running on "antique" technology. We are still utilizing Microplex, a low-voltage protocol that was actually phased out by the industry standard, DMX, way back in 1992. Because this system is so obsolete, we can't even integrate a modern lighting console into our current setup. To make matters worse, many of our lighting circuits are completely inoperable because our two existing dimmer packs just aren't big enough to handle the loads we need. I have attached two quotes they have rec'd and presented to the area community foundation as part of the grant request. I wanted to take this time to discuss this possibility and what the school would need to kick in to make this happen, if the grant is approved.
Motion (Feurer) Second (Taylor) to take any action necessary to support the proposal of updating state lighting.
Motion approved 6-0.
- 8. PERSONNEL:**
- A. APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF MACI WEGNER, ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, AT THE END OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR:** Motion (Emanuel) Second (Feurer) to approve the resignation of Maci Wegner, Special Education Teacher, at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Motion Carried 6-0.
 - B. APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF ROY WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE, AT THE END OF HIS CONTRACT FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR:** Motion (Feurer) Second (Taylor) to approve the resignation of Roy Wright, Director of Maintenance, at the end of his contract for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion Carried 6-0.
 - C. APPROVE HIRING TESSIE BEAVER, ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR.**
Motion (Taylor), Second (Emanuel) to approve hiring Tessie Beaver, Special Education Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
 - D. APPROVE HIRING JACKIE POULAS, ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR.**
Motion (Emanuel), Second (Feurer) to approve hiring Jackie Poulas, Elementary Special Education Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. Tabled until next month
 - E. DISCUSS EXTENDED CONTRACT FOR ACTIVITY DIRECTOR POSITION.**
Motion (Emanuel) Second (Swanson) to extend his contract from 5-10 days, 195 day contract. Motion Carried 6-0.
- 9. REMINDERS AND DATES:**
- A. BOARD WORK SESSION: MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026 AT 6:00PM AT NORTH BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY.**
REGULAR BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026 AT 7:30PM. The next regular board meeting will be Monday, June 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm in Tiger Den.
- 10. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion (Williams), Second (Feurer) to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 pm. Motion Carried 6-0..

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Hoops, President

Andy Swanson, Secretary