

January 12, 2026

Posting Information:

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The Crete Board of Education met on -Date- at 6:00 PM at the Cardinal Welcome Center for their Regular Meeting. Board members present were Justin Kuntz, President; Greg Hollman, Vice President; Vince Krejci, Secretary; Greg Mach, Scott Piening, and Michaela Conway. Also in attendance were Josh McDowell, Superintendent; Meagan Kershner, Chief Financial Officer; Brittany Hajek, Chief Academic Officer; Jenny Beck, Chief of Staff; Katie Bevins, Director of Student Services; Joel Bramhall, Director of Federal Programs; Jodi Erickson Director of Nutrition Services; Melissa Frans, Director of Instructional Programs; Ryan Hinz, Director of Adult & Family Education; Justin Nickel, Director of Maintenance; Josh Littrell, Director of Transportation; Ross Louch, Director of Information Technology; Sarah Sell, Interim Elementary Principal; Janet Carriker, Interim Elementary Assistant Principal; Shannon Cole, Intermediate Principal; Brent Cain, Intermediate Assistant Principal; Perla Jaimes, Middle School Principal; Randy Newmyer, Middle School Assistant Principal; BT Kracl, Community Schools Coordinator; Cory Bohling, High School Principal; Marcy Harriheld, High School Assistant Principal; Matt Martin, Director of Activities; Stan Croft President of CEA; Jennifer Banos, Executive Assistant; and interested members of the community.

The meeting, having been duly preceded by advance notice and conducted in accordance with the posted open meetings law, was called to order by President Kuntz at 6:00 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by everyone in the room.

The Mission Statement was read by Dr. McDowell.

There was no public comment at this meeting.

Motion #1-26 Justin Kuntz moved to approve the I recommend the adjournment sine die of the current Crete Public Schools Board of Education and the Board turn the chairmanship over to the Superintendent.. Seconded Mr Greg Hollman. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Mr. Greg Hollman nominated Mr. Justin Kuntz for President of the Board, Mr. Vince Krejci seconded nomination. No other nominations were made. Mr. Greg Hollman motioned to cease nominations, Mr. Vincent Krejci seconded. All members were in favor. Motion #2-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the cast of a unanimous ballot for Kuntz, having no other nominations Hollman for Kuntz, Second Krejci Cease Hollman, Krejci. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Abstain (With Conflict), Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

The Board of Education Convened at 6:05 PM under President Justin Kuntz.

Motion #3-26 Greg Mach moved to approve the cast of a unanimous ballot for \_\_\_ as Board Vice President, having no other nominations Mach for Hollman, Krejci Cease Nominations Krejci, Conway. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Abstain (With Conflict), Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Motion #4-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the cast of a unanimous ballot for \_\_\_ as Secretary of the Board, having no other nominations Hollman for Krejci, second Conway Cease Hollman, Krejci. Seconded Michaela Conway. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Abstain (With Conflict), Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Dr. McDowell highlighted claims of interest as well as the out of state requests.

Kuntz 6c abstains from any vote this item remainder is approved; daughter is listed as sub para Motion #5-26

Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the Approve the consent agenda as published.. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

No Special Recognition this evening.

Jessica Daly, from KSO CPAs, joined the Board Meeting via Zoom to provide a brief overview of the audit conducted in the fall.

Dr. McDowell opened the floor for the Board to discuss further what a partnership with High Level Promotions would entail. The Board discussed at length during the working meeting on January 7th. Mr Kuntz would like to continue close contact with constituents. At this time, the Board is working toward being fiscally responsible. Miss Conway spoke to the commission structure, Mr. Krejci agreed. The Board discussed the contrast of corporate contacts and local.

Dr. Hajek CAO Report included:

School Calendar Process

Nebraska Reading Improvement Act - students well below the benchmark will have an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan; certain IEP and EL students do not qualify

Mrs. Jenny Beck, Chief of Staff Report included

Early Resignation Incentive - most positions this month were not reflective of the district rather of life circumstances/changes

Posted positions

Staffing Celebration all para positions have been filled

Mr. Ryan Hinz, CFO Report:

Comparison of December Revenue

Overtime Cost Comparison

Revenue & Expenditure Comparison Charts for fiscal year

Certified Salaries & Benefits

Retirement Contribution

In Progress & Upcoming Events in the Business Offices

Department Budgets Update

District Budget Timeline

Superintendent Report:

Construction Update - Thursday should be end date for the Mammoth Construction Project

Legislative Update - Session has started, CPS belongs to STANCE & GNSA, meetings with Senator Brandt

Thank you to Senator Brandt

Mr. Kuntz reiterated that the process was smooth and healthy this year. The CEA's priority is to keep Health Insurance which is currently covered at 100%. All is done in an effort to respectfully spend tax payer money.

Motion #6-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the the Negotiated Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year as presented including an \$1100 increase to base, changes to sick leave cap, and extra duty pay changes to reflect minimum wage. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

The Board asked clarifying questions about the calendar. Mr. Kuntz would like to review Parent Teacher Conferences; Dr. McDowell acknowledged the need for a review Motion #7-26 Mr Vince Krejci moved to approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar as presented. Seconded Michaela Conway. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion #8-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the Chromebook bid from Sterling as presented. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

van purchases will support the law change on passenger capacity Motion #9-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the the purchase of three passenger vans and a suburban as attached. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

The next BOE meeting will be on February 9 2026

Motion #10-26 Mr Greg Hollman moved to approve the adjournment of the regular board meeting at 7:17 PM. Seconded Mr Vince Krejci. On roll call: Motion Carried  
Michaela Conway: Yea, Mr Greg Hollman: Yea, Mr Vince Krejci: Yea, Justin Kuntz: Yea, Greg Mach: Yea, Mr Scott Piening: Absent  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary) (President)