

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - AGENDA

Alma Public Schools

Monday, March 23, 2020

A. Call to Order and announce location of Open Meetings Act Poster

1. Verification of Receipt of Notice, was posted in three prominent places.
2. Roll of Board Members.

* Excuse absent Board members.

B. Action Items - Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action

1.

- Authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designed, to grant a paid leave of absence for a specified number of duty days with full current wages and benefits to exempt and non-exempt employees who are experiencing certain conditions regard to the COVID 19 virus.
- **Motion regarding Paid COVID 19 Leave of Absence:**
Motion by _____ and second by _____ that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to grant a paid leave of absence for duty days that occur during fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days with full current wages and benefits to exempt and non-exempt employees who are experiencing the following conditions or circumstances related to the COVID 19 virus: (1) have traveled from China, South Korea, Japan, Italy, or Iran within the last 14 days, or lives or has had close contact with someone who has been in those countries, or other regions that may be identified; (2) has been asked to self-quarantine by any health care provider or public health official; (3) has been diagnosed with, or has had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 virus; (4) is presently exhibiting the symptoms of an infectious respiratory illness, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath; and/or, (5) has to leave their job duties to take care of a family member who has coronavirus; all subject to any required adjustment thereto required to comply with any state or federal law now existing or subsequently enacted.

2.

3.

- Authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to take all necessary action to (1) work with state and local health department officials for advice on functions that may involve large gatherings of people.
- **Motion regarding Large Groups [Prom and Graduation]:**
Motion by _____ and second by _____ that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to take all necessary action to work with state and local health department officials for advice and direction on functions that may involve large gatherings of people.

4.

5.

- Authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to take all necessary action to prepare for the Board of Education to declare the COVID 19 virus situation as a "emergency" under the Nebraska Emergency Management Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 through 81-829.75.
- **Motion regarding to Emergency Management Act:**
Motion by _____ and second by _____ that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to take all necessary action to prepare for the Board of Education to declare the COVID 19 virus situation as a "emergency" under the Nebraska Emergency Management Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-829.36 through 81-829.75, including preparation of any required resolution determining that an emergency exists and preparation for filing such resolution with the clerk of local governments and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

6.

7.

- Authorize the Superintendent of Schools to monitor the COVID 19 virus conditions in the State of Nebraska and the Educational Service Unit No. 11 area, and based upon the directives of the Commissioner of Education and community spread of the disease in the Alma Public School District to determine and decide all issue related to the close of attendance centers, adjust the school year calendar, take measures to continue educational services assign certificated and non-certificated staff as needed, and extra-curricular activities.
- **Motion regarding closure or alternative delivery of educational services and staff continued employment:**
Motion by _____ and second by _____ that the Board of Education, should and does hereby, authorize the Superintendent of

Schools to monitor the COVID 19 virus conditions in the State of Nebraska and the Educational Service Unit No. 11 area, and based upon the directives of the Commissioner of Education and community spread of the disease in the Alma Public School District, Nebraska area (1) close the Alma Public Schools and suspend delivery of educational services, both regular education and special education the U.S. Department of Education has ruled that is schools that are "closed" SPED services are to be provided by the best means and as safely as possible, while continuing to maintain critical programs that support the health and well-being of certain student populations and continue to provide a meal program; (2) close the Alma Public School's buildings to student attendance and continue delivery of educational service, including special education services, and/or the development and planning of alternative educational services for this and ensuing school years and assign administrative, instructional and support staff to carry out such duties in person or remotely; (3) employment and assign certificated and non-certificated staff as needed and in a manner that provides for such employees continued service to the school district; and, (4) manage access to building and manage and extra-curricular activity programs. (5) approve the classified staff reduced hour work agreement.

8.

9. Approve the Resolution of the Board of Education concerning the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Global Pandemic and Epidemic Sickness.

C. Superintendent & Principal Report. The Coronavirus Plan - Education, meals, cancelations, work staff, office hours, building access, other.

D. Next Regular Meeting: Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

E. Adjourn

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARLAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2, A/K/A ALMA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING COVID-19 (ALSO KNOWN AS THE
CORONAVIRUS) GLOBAL PANDEMIC AND EPIDEMIC SICKNESS**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 (also known as the coronavirus) global pandemic and epidemic sickness has already had a substantial disruptive effect on Nebraska school districts; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness will likely continue to substantially disrupt Nebraska school districts; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency because of the COVID-19 epidemic; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Ricketts declared a state emergency because of the COVID-19 epidemic; and,

WHEREAS, the Harlan County Board of Commissioners have issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency in Harlan County, Nebraska as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness for a duration that is undermined, and,

WHEREAS, Harlan County Emergency Management Director, Chris Becker has issued a proclamation to Harlan County School District #2, a/k/a Alma School District under the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-829.51 finding and determining that a state of emergency exists as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness for an undetermined period; and,

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Commissioner of Education and the Nebraska State Board of Education has the legal authority to waive, suspend, delay, alter or otherwise forego implementing, enforcing and interpreting certain statutory and regulatory requirements for school districts in Nebraska; and,

WHEREAS, the Alma School District will by law be required to provide educational services to the children residing or electing education in such school district for the balance of 2019-2020 school year; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-529.51, and other applicable laws, before any expenditures, contract, or obligation is undertaken it shall be approved by a vote of the governing body of such local government, here the Board of Education of the Alma School District, and,

NOW, THEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing facts, the Board of Education of Harlan County School District # 2, a/k/a Alma School District, should and does hereby declare that an emergency exists due to the COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness to continue in effect until the state and federal government determines that a state of emergency no longer exists due to the COVID 19 pandemic, and the Board of Education further should and does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to:

1. Make emergency expenditures, enter into contracts, and incur obligations for emergency management purposes regardless of existing statutory limitations and requirements pertaining to appropriation, budgeting, levies, or the manner of entering into contracts in excess of or in violation of existing statutory limitations or requirements.
2. Make adjustments to the school calendar for the 2019-2020 school year to meet statutory requirements for hours of instruction in the elementary and secondary grades due to the loss of instructional days; and,
3. Make adjustments to work schedules and related compensation and benefits for full-time and part time certificated employees under the 183 day contract year, and educational support personnel, both nine (9) month and 12 month employees, due to the emergency conditions engendered by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness, including but not limited to assignment that provide for non-exempt education support employees to be on call during all work regular hours and be paid hourly wages and benefits therefore, and determines and directs that non-exempt educational support staff (clerical staff, custodial staff, bus drivers, para-educators, food services personnel and the like) that are paid on an hourly basis, and lose work hours as result of school closure or other disruption of the regular work schedule for such employees as a result of the

COVID-19 pandemic and epidemic sickness shall be paid their wages and benefits for their regularly scheduled work hours for such days; such hours to be shown on each educational support staff member's time card as "COVID 19 Virus Leave" for a period not to exceed sixty (60) work days.

The above Resolution having been read in its entirety, Member _____ moved for its passage and adoption, Member _____ seconded the same. After discussion and on roll call vote, the following members voted in favor of the passage and adoption of the above Resolution:

The following members voted against the same: _____

The following members were absent or not voting: _____

The above Resolution having been consented to by more than a majority of the members of the School Board of this School District was declared as passed and adopted by the President at a duly held and lawfully convened meeting in full compliance with the Nebraska open meetings law.

DATED this 23rd day of March, 2020.

HARLAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #2, A/K/A ALMA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

BY: _____
President

ATTEST: _____
Secretary