

**Minutes for
Heartland Community Schools
Public Hearing on American Civics**

Monday, January 10, 2022 7:00 PM

Conference Room

1501 Front Street

Henderson, NE 68371-8929

Notice of the meeting was posted in the Henderson News on January 6, 2022.

MISSION STATEMENT: Heartland Community Schools - Henderson/Bradshaw is dedicated to educating all students by providing challenging opportunities to learn according to individual needs.

Mr. Kent Allen: Present
Mr. Gary Braun: Present
Lacey Gloystein: Present
Tyler Newton: Present
Tammy Ott: Present
Mr. Steve Stebbing: Present

1. Preliminary Procedures

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Public Notice of the Hearing

Notice of the hearing was published in the Henderson News on January 6, 2022.

1.3. Roll Call

2. Public Input Regarding the Teaching of American Civics

Patron Dani Siebert thanked the American Civics Committee and BOE for being here. Shared her thoughts on how parents are responding to national leaders in efforts to try and protect our local school board so we don't have to deal with controversial subjects/issues (Education Secretary) locally.

Hopes we as a committee will stay diligent in reviewing our civics curriculum in the future.

3. School Board American Civics Committee Report

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Passed with a motion by Tyler Newton and a second by Lacey Gloystein.

Mr. Kent Allen: Yea, Mr. Gary Braun: Yea, Lacey Gloystein: Yea, Tyler Newton: Yea, Tammy Ott:

Yea, Mr. Steve Stebbing: Yea

Board President

Board Secretary

Heartland Community School Board
Committee on American Civics
Summary of Annual Review
January 10, 2022

The American Civics Committee met on November 8, 2021. The board committee consisted of Steve Stebbing, Tyler Newton and Lacey Gloystein. The purpose of this meeting was to determine if there is evidence that Heartland Community School is meeting the curriculum required by Nebraska State Law. History material and textbooks were provided to the committee, for all grades. Also provided was the Nebraska State Board of Education's Social Studies Standards adopted November 8, 2019. And a summary of how the school addresses what's in the standards.

Material and textbooks included, but not limited to; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution, National History Day, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the Organization of American Historians, History Channel, history.com and many more. We also confirmed that the High School takes 2 written tests a year, in accordance with state law. A minimum of two courses to teach American Civics is also required in High School. One hour per week of instruction is taught for grade levels below sixth grade. And a set amount of time is included to teach American history for grade levels fifth to eighth grade. Heartland will conduct appropriate patriotic exercises for eight of the major holidays. We confirmed the curriculum stresses required patriotic themes. This curriculum is available for public inspection. Upon comparison of standards required and standards taught, the committee found no discrepancies. More time was needed to do a comprehensive review of the textbooks.

The committee is genuinely concerned about the direction politics have influenced teaching material. We found an abundance of excellent content in the textbooks. The board trusts the material contained therein will continue to be taught from an unbiased perspective representing our unchanging American History that our communities know and love.