The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met May 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the Hitchcock County Jr/Sr High School in Trenton. Present were board members Scott, Marks, Kolbet, Hagan, Rippen, and O’Byrne. Also present were Superintendent Sattler, Principal Tines, Assistant Principal/School Counselor McCarter, D. Bohochik, D. Wimer, and Peggy Fyn.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board’s adherence to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law posted on the north wall of the meeting room was given. The meeting was properly advertised in the Hitchcock County News on May 6, 2021.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by O’Byrne to approve the May 2021 regular meeting agenda as presented. Aye votes Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

President Scott welcomed visitors. There were no comments.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Marks to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Rippen; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following items: (1) Minutes of the April 2021 regular board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill rosters with general fund bills totaling $357,474.71 and lunch fund bills totaling $18,118.00. (4) Other funds.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with a review of school finance and budgeting. Mr. Sattler gave an explanation of levies and valuations, and the funds that rely on the levies. Cash reserves are limited to 45% of the budget. He also showed the board a history of Hitchcock County Schools’ state aid payments. Mr. Sattler will start working on the 2021-2022 budget soon and the budget committee will meet in July.

Superintendent Sattler and the board members reviewed the following discussion items:

1. Personnel needs – Hitchcock County Schools currently has 27.5 certificated staff. The elementary may have to split the incoming kindergarten class. There has been three new teachers hired for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. Curriculum instruction and learning – each subject is on a five year rotation to be evaluated for resources and standards met. Math was last school year, with English Language Arts purchased for the 2021-2022 school year. Next year science and social studies will be updated.
3. Building and grounds – HVAC system; need for a larger wrestling room; concessions & restrooms at the football field; parking lots; painting projects; lawns; track; underground sprinklers at the football field.
4. Technology needs – purchase of Clear Touch Interactive panels for the Jr/Sr High. 135 Chromebook have been purchased for the next school year using REAP and ESSER monies. The entire WiFi system will be updated with a new server at the elementary and switch replacements.
5. Transportation – the fleet is in good shape; start looking to purchase a new bus for the McCook route and back up for the old coach bus.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to accept the resignation of Joni Bowman at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, and Hagan; nay votes none.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Kolbet to approve the hiring of Lacy Caddick for an elementary teacher position for the 2021-2022 school year. Aye votes Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, Hagan, and Kolbet; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Rippen to approve the hiring of Shaelin Stiver for an elementary teacher position for the 2021-2022 school year. Aye votes Scott, O’Byrne, Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, and Marks; nay votes none.

Moved by Scott; seconded by Kolbet to charge 45 cents for extra milks starting with the 2021-2022 school year. Aye votes O’Byrne, Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to adopt changes as presented and approve the Student-Parent Handbook, the Certificated Handbook, and the Classified Handbook for the 2021-2022 school year. Aye votes Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Moved by Marks; seconded by Kolbet to declare the old smart board projectors and boards from both the elementary and high schools as surplus property, and to authorize Superintendent Sattler to sell or dispose of said property as deemed appropriate. Aye votes Rippen, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Principal Tines’ report as follows: (1) April 21st, Mr. Poppert and class delivered a shed for the playground equipment. (2) April 22nd, Mr. Porter had a pizza party for Hoops for Heart. (3) April 29th, Mrs. Farr and the One Act students presented to the K through 6 grades. (4) April 30th, Mr. Acton brought the band to the elementary to play Pep Band music at the PBiS Pep Rally. (5) May 4th, 6th grade orientation at the high school. (6) May 7th, Kindergarten through 6th grades participated in Mini-courses; the 3rd through 6th grades had a water fight and K through 2nd grades had a picnic in the park. (7) May 10th, Kindergarten graduation at the elementary. (8) NSCAS State testing for 3rd through 8th grades has been completed. (9) K through 2nd grades are finishing up testing. (10) May 14th, 2nd and 4th grade field trips to the Hitchcock County Museum in Trenton with a stop at the monument for lunch. 3rd and 6th grades will have a picnic at the park. (11) May 17th, elementary field day in Trenton. (12) May 18th, Pre-school BBQ at Culbertson Hillside Park. (13) May 19th, last day of school, elementary buses leave at 11 AM.

Assistant Principal McCarter’s report as follows: (1) April 17th, Prom was a huge success. (2) April 20th, FFA Banquet. (3) April 23rd, District Music contest, HCS musicians did very well. (4) April 27th, four students were inducted into the NHS. (5) May 4th, 6th grade orientation. (6) May 5th, grades 7-11 had sports physicals at the high school. (7) May 10th, grades 8 through 11 pre-registered for the 2021-2022 school year. (8) May 12th, Seniors’ last day of school. (9) May 13th, Junior High RPAC, high school awards night, and 8th grade promotion. (10) May 14th, junior high awards at 1:15 PM. (11) May 15th, Graduation. (12) May 24th through 28th, Driver’s Education classes.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) Two students wrote a letter to the board asking for them to consider adding Girl’s Golf to Fall sports. Mr. Sattler asked for board input. (2) Mr. Sattler would like to see assistant activities director added to the pay schedule. (3) May 13th, awards night.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM. The next board meeting will be held June 14, 2021 at 7:00 PM. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

Craig Scott, President Casha O’Byrne, Secretary

General Fund bills

20/20 Technologies – contracted services 4,364.00

ACT – PreAct testing supplies 40.00

Aflac – payroll deductions 419.21

American Family Ins Co – payroll deductions 2,118.47

Arctic Glacier – ice 47.50

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 53,052.75

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 2,648.41

Bracker’s Good Earth Clays – art supplies 93.20

Cash-Wa Distribution – custodial supply 357.10

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 44,363.12

D&L Pest Control – pest control 120.00

Dans R Us – trash 165.25

Dell Marketing – laptops 11,585.95

Eakes Office Solutions – custodial/copier usage 426.13

Employee Benefit Fund – payroll deductions 669.90

ESU #15 – contracted services 19,532.89

ESU #16 – contracted services 203.68

Farmers Coop – building/bus fuels 6,651.58

Follett School Solutions – library books 627.99

Great Plains Communications – phone bills/internet 432.39

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 536.68

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,350.42

Credit Management Services – payroll deduction 6.37

Hot Lunch fund – payments 1,010.00

Ideal Laundry – custodial supplies 799.29

Johnson Controls – boiler control boards 4,258.80

JW Pepper – music supply 121.99

Legal Shield – payroll deductions 99.63

Medical Transport Solutions – payroll deductions 125.80

McCook Gazette – ads 144.00

McCook Lettering – classroom supply 289.00

MCI – long distance 61.01

Mead Lumber – building supply 113.14

Matrix Trust Co – annuities 4,246.00

Mid-American Research Chemical – custodial supply 271.58

NASSP/NASC – NHs membership 385.00

NCSA – dues 460.00

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 38,571.10

NE Child Support Payment Center – payroll deduction 516.00

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 6,293.94

New York Life Ins – payroll deduction 53.33

O’Brien Electric – ballast work 832.01

Optum – FSA fees 150.00

Paper101 – paper 1,060.40

Principal Life Ins Co – disability 929.72

Quill Corp – office/classroom supplies 411.07

Rippen Oil – bus fuel/parts/labor 2,346.36

School Specialty – classroom supplies 221.49

Scoop Media – ads/printing 299.35

Shiffler – building supply 42.48

Snell Services – thermostat replacement 1,324.21

Southwest Farm & Auto Supply – bus supply 58.46

Special Building fund – payroll deductions 445.00

Staples – classroom supplies 257.74

Trails West – bus fuel 1,336.35

UniFirst Corp – custodial supplies 114.76

U.S. Bank – credit card 863.88

US Foods – custodial supply 196.72

Vanco – transaction fees 3.50

Village of Trenton – utilities 2,363.88

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 396.13

World Book Direct Marketing – library book 55.40

Yandas Music – music supply 72.22

Younvz – building supply 72.31

Payroll – net (gross - $208,5336.55) 134,407.86

Lunch Fund bills

Aflac – payroll deductions 50.61

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/supply 4,336.48

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 1,330.97

Culligan Water Conditioning – salt 20.90

Dean Foods – milk 2,788.85

Gary’s Super Foods – food 68.39

Credit Management Services – payroll deductions 259.03

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 1,423.62

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 129.64

Jessica Teeter – reimbursement 6.00

US Foods – food/supply 1,785.68

Payroll – net (gross - $7,590.08) 5,688.33