MINUTES OF THE GIBBON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COW
REGULAR MEETING
Nov 12, 2026
1030 Court Street, Gibbon NE
High School Media Center

Present:

Scott Baker	Mike Bennett	Brian Kroll
Jodi Bendfeldt	Kim Wadkins	Brandon Kee

Dr. Vern Fisher, Superintendent
Tina Godfrey, Elementary Principal
Josh Miller, High School Principal

Call to Order

During the Committee of the Whole, Deb Stroh presented the Computer Science and Personal Finance Annual reports. Dr Fisher reviewed section 300 of Board Policy. Following the COW, President Kroll led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Reports

Superintendent Fisher shared celebrations for our CTE department including students attending the Kearney Chamber of Commerce Exploration Day. Keely Biegler has qualified for All-State Choir and additional students were selected into Midland Honor Choir. Accolades from the marching band season included a Superior rating at Minden Bandfest. FBLA held an Alzheimer's Awareness Fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association where the chapter raised $635.

The annual audit was presented by Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway and Luth. Highlights included revenues $510,000 more than expenses, operational costs increased 5.5% and Average Daily Membership decreased 37 students from the prior year.

The 2026-2027 State Aid Recalculation shows a decrease of $5,148 than what was originally allocated to the district. Per Pupil costs for the district were compared to the LouPlatte Conference. Gibbon had the second lowest CPP in General Fund operating cost per student in 2024-2025. The NEP profile per pupil calculation includes building and contents as well as federal monies spent, which then shows a higher per pupil cost.

The finance committee met for routine business prior to the board meeting as well as discussed moving $2,000,000 of the Cash on Hand funds to a CD with Exchange Bank at a rate of 4.25% for 12 months. The current LOC with Exchange Bank needs an association resolution to be signed by members of the board and Dr Fisher, that LOC will term in February 2027.

Dr Fisher gave a Fall update with the program review committee including feedback from coaches on what is going well and what needs improvement moving forward.

Discussion Items

Deanna Stall, Leon Stall and Joan Warner have all given their letters of resignation/retirement at the end of their contract for the 2026-2027 school year. Employment moves within the District for 2027-2028 include: Taylor Gellerman will replace Deanna Stall, Josh Williams will replace Leon Stall and Amy Danielson will replace Joan Warner. Available FTE positions currently available for the 2027-2028 school year include, an elementary teacher, elementary music, Business, CTE and an Assistant Varsity Football Coach.

Dr Fisher shared with the board the interview process that took place for the Assistant Principal/Activities Director position. The interview team of 13 including teachers, administrators, students and parents interviewed 5 candidates. Following all of the interviews, a recommendation for Zach Duffy was presented to the board.

To fulfill Section 2 of the Superintendents Contract, Dr Fisher reminded the board of the January 15th date, the renewal period of one year and that the renewal shall be an agenda item for the regular December board meeting.

Patron Participation

10 patrons addressed the board and expressed support for a candidate who applied for the Assistant Principal/Activities Director.

Moved by Kee, seconded by Wadkins to approve the Consent Agenda Action Items as Presented.
Voting for: Baker, Bendfeldt, Wadkins, Kee, Bennett, Kroll
Motion carried 6-0

Moved by Baker seconded by Bendfeldt, to accept the FY 2025-2026 audit as presented by Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway and Luth.
Voting for: Wadkins, Kroll, Baker, Bendfeldt, Bennett, Kee
Motion carried 6-0

Moved by Kee, seconded by Wadkins to approve a contract for Zach Duffy, Assistant Principal/Activities Director.
Voting for: Wadkins, Bendfeldt, Bennett, Kee
Voting against: Baker
Motion carried 5-1

Motion made by Kee, seconded by Bennett, to accept the resignation/retirement of Deanna Stall Instructional Technology Integrationist and Data Steward.
Voting for: Baker, Bendfeldt, Bennett, Kee, Wadkins, Kroll
Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Bendfeldt, seconded by Bennett to accept the resignation/retirement of Leon Stall, Data Steward-DAC-ISS Supervisor.
Voting for: Wadkins, Bendfeldt, Baker, Kroll, Bennett, Kee
Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Bendfeldt, seconded by Wadkins to accept the resignation/retirement of Joan Warner, Title I Instructor.
Voting for: Baker, Wadkins, Bennett, Kroll, Kee Bendfeldt
Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Kee, seconded by Wadkins to move into closed session for a strategy session with respect to negotiations/collective bargaining clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.
Voting for: Wadkins, Bennett, Bendfeldt, Kroll, Kee, Baker
Motion carried 6-0

The board moved into closed session at 8:26 p.m.for a strategy session with respect to negotiations/collective bargaining clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

The board returned to open session at 8:43 p.m. following a closed session for a strategy session with respect to negotiations/collective bargaining clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:57 p.m.