MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ARAPAHOE-HOLBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A meeting of the Board of Education of Arapahoe-Holbrook Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 8:30 AM in the Distance Learning Room, 610 Walnut Street, Arapahoe, NE 68922. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent: Chad Carpenter: Present, Logan Dettmann: Present, Erick Lee: Present, Nancy Schutz: Present, Dan Warner: Present, Leigh Zodrow: Absent.
Also present was Cassie Hilker, Board Secretary. Visitors were present.
Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Opening the Meeting:

Call to Order: President Carpenter called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Carpenter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act: At the beginning of the meeting, President Carpenter announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall of the meeting room and directed the public to its location.

Publication of Meeting/Sign Acknowledgement of Receipt of Meeting Notice:

Roll Call:

Excuse Board Member Absences:
Motion was made by Erick Lee and seconded by Logan Dettmann to excuse the absence of Board Member Leigh Zodrow.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Welcome Visitors - No public comment:

Discussion Item(s):

Review Candidate Background Checks: The Board chose to discuss this after the interviews and committee feedback.

Pre-Interview Items: NRCSA Representatives reviewed the schedule, interview questions, interview procedures, NRCSA Evaluation form, and candidate credentials with the Board.

Applicant, Dr. Damon McDonald: The Board interviewed applicant, Dr. Damon McDonald.

Applicant, Mr. Chris Lecher: The Board interviewed applicant, Mr. Chris Lecher.

Applicant, Dr. Jonathan Doll: The Board interviewed applicant, Dr. Jonathan Doll.

Applicant, Mr. Drew Carlton: The Board interviewed applicant, Mr. Drew Carlton.

Community Committee: Dalton Helms and Molly Wendland, representatives of the Community Committee, provided feedback to the Board on the applicants.

Staff Committee: John Strand and Lisa Schutz, representatives of the Staff Committee, provided feedback to the Board on the applicants.

Administrative Committee: Aaron McCoy and Cassie Hilker, representatives of the Administrative Committee, provided feedback to the Board on the applicants.

Board deliberation on candidates interviewed:
Motion was made by Erick Lee and seconded by Dan Warner to enter into executive session at 2:30 pm for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and if the individual has not requested a public meeting.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Motion was made by Erick Lee and seconded by Dan Warner to exit executive session at 2:33 pm.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Motion was made by Erick Lee and seconded by Logan Dettmann to enter into executive session at 2:44 pm for the purpose of

negotiations.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Motion was made by Dan Warner and seconded by Erick Lee to exit executive session at 3:26 pm.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Action Item(s):

Superintendent Contract:
Motion was made by Dan Warner and seconded by Erick Lee to offer a 3 year contract to Dr. Damon McDonald with a base salary of $175,000 along with a cell phone stipend of $900 for 2027-2028.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Future Meetings: The Board will hold a special meeting at 7:00 am on Friday, October 30th, 2026, to approve the Superintendent contract; Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm; Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

Adjourn:
Motion was made by Dan Warner and seconded by Logan Dettmann to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 pm.
The motion Carried.
Carpenter: Yea, Dettmann: Yea, Lee: Yea, Schutz: Yea, Warner: Yea, Zodrow: Absent
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

The meeting was duly adjourned.

DATED this Saturday, October 24, 2026

ARAPHAOE-HOLBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BY: _____
Chad Carpenter, President

ATTEST:
_____
Cassie Hilker, Secretary