

Notice of the April 3, 2017, Regular Meeting of the Banner County Board of Education was published in the *Star-Herald* and posted at the Harrisburg U.S. Post Office, the Banner Capital Bank, the Banner County Courthouse, and Banner County School.

Present Board Members: Wittni Boettcher, Barbara Cross, Ron Johnson, Grant Lerwick, Charity May, and Douglas Olsen. Superintendent Lana Sides and Principal Charles Jones were present.

President Charity May called the Board Work Session/Community Meeting to order for the purpose of receiving community input regarding a 4-day school week/annual school calendar at 7:00 PM and stated that the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted.

Board President Charity May stated the following: Welcome guests. According to BOE Regulation 204.04, the board may, as needed or desired, schedule work sessions in order to provide the opportunity to conduct planning, research, and thoughtful discussion without taking immediate action. Topics for discussion and study will be announced publicly, and work sessions will be conducted in open session. However, no board action will take place at the work session. Visitors will be required to identify themselves if they speak at this meeting. A time limit of five minutes per speaker will be allowed (per agenda item), as per BOE Regulation 204.12R1. Does anyone need special accommodations to hear the proceedings?

Guests who addressed the BOE were Kinsey Groves reading a letter from Kelsey Loutzenhiser, Holly Reichenberg, Annette Knaub, Charles Singleton, Kelley Lerwick, Ryan Olsen, Kinsey Groves, Jessica Harvie, Curtis Grubbs, Shavonne Singleton, Marlene Jones, Laura Baker, Michael Clement, Priscilla Bastian, Martin Olsen, and Tiffany Jeffries.

Superintendent Lana Sides shared information about the 4-day school week and calendar. The purpose for exploring a 4-day school week is to do "What is best for students." Positive results, from research, of a 4-day school week are improved student attendance, increased enrollment, more time for teachers to collaborate and participate in professional development for academic improvement, more time for students carrying a full load, and better recruitment and retention of teachers. Superintendent Sides stated the projected financial savings with bus fuel, bus driver salary, and substitute teachers with a 4-day school week. She addressed other areas of consideration such as staff and students in the building on Fridays, staff work days and hours, families and students utilizing the day that school is not in session, childcare on Fridays, scheduling when a holiday falls on Monday, and snow days.

Principal Charles Jones shared statistics on student absences and substitute teachers. The day of the week with the most student absences in elementary is Friday followed by Monday. The day of the week with the most high school student absences is Friday followed by Wednesday. The day of the week with the most substitute teachers is Friday, mainly due to coaching and student activities.

Parents, patrons, and staff were asked to share thoughtful comments and discussion on the possibility of a 4-day school week. Discussion included possible increase in student enrollment, student focus with a shorter week, continued rigorous curriculum, more family time, daycare, school hours, and snow days.

Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: April 10, 2017, 7:00 PM

Motion Passed: Adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM, passed with a motion by Barbara Cross and a second by Ron Johnson.

Wittni Boettcher	Yes
Barbara Cross	Yes
Ron Johnson	Yes
Grant Lerwick	Yes
Charity May	Yes
Douglas Olsen	Yes