

Notice of the March 9, 2017, Work Session/Community 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 Dr. Leann Smith, Ann Fonseca Peters, Charles Fullam, Charlie Singleton, Hollie Gilbert, Bret Jeffries, Brittany Serres, Laura Singleton, Martin Olsen, Tod Wenger, Steve Lease, Marlene Jones, Linda Barrett, Lacy Krakow, Kelsey Loutzenhiser, Brittany Cook, Brandi Tallmage, Bobbi Parmenter, Marie Parker, Kelly Rundell, Ayden Cross, Chris Cooper, Ashley Knaub, Grace Wyatt, Priscilla Bastian, Kelley Lerwick, and Dan Barrett.

Dr. Leann Smith, Albin Elementary School Principal, shared information about the 4-day school week and calendar. She stated that some Colorado schools started the 4-day school week to recruit and retain quality teachers. The schools in Laramie County School District #2 went to 4-day weeks to increase the quality of education and reduce the days that students had substitute teachers. She addressed the main questions that arose in her school district about changing to a 4-day week, such as savings to the school, effects on student learning, student homework, transportation, and Friday childcare.

Patrons were asked to share thoughtful comments and discussion on the pros and cons of a 4-day school week. Parents, patrons, school staff, and a student shared their positives, their questions, and their concerns. The pros and cons included the length of the school day, Friday games with no school, making up snow days, savings to the school, wages of school staff, moving sports to the end of the week, more time for homework on Fridays, better student and staff attendance, possible increase in student enrollment, and student participation in school activities.

**Next Meeting:** Regular Meeting: March 13, 2017, 7:00 PM

**Motion Passed:** Adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM, passed with a motion by Grant Lerwick and a second by Barbara Cross.

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