

**BOONE COUNTY DISTRICT No. 17**  
**(aka ST. EDWARD PUBLIC SCHOOL)**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET HEARING, TAX REQUEST HEARING, AND REGULAR MEETING**  
**St. Edward School Science Room – St. Edward, Nebraska**  
**Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.**

The St. Edward Public School Board of Education conducted a budget hearing on Monday, September 9, 2024 at the schoolhouse. Advance notice of the meeting was published in The Albion News & Boone County Tribune on September 4, 2024, and posted in the school's main office on September 4, 2024 along with the agenda for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget. The budget details were available at the office of the Superintendent during regular business hours.

1. Opening Procedures:

- a. The budget hearing was called to order by President Roberts at 6:30 p.m. with members Christman, Merrell, Reardon, Cumming and Cruise, present. Also in attendance were Steve Osborn and Lindsay Tenski
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. President Roberts stated the hearing will follow the Open Meetings Act, which is located in the meeting room.
- d. Mr. Osborn presented the proposed budget to the board of education and patrons. The proposed operating budget sets the General Fund at \$5,114,642.00, Depreciation Fund at \$117,328.00, Activity Fund at \$240,000.00, School Nutrition Fund at \$220,000.00, and the Special Building Fund at \$308,389.00. Of these funds, the two that are supported by tax asking requests are the General Fund and the Special Building Fund. This is an increase in the General Fund Budget of 4.4%. The main increase in General Fund expenditures is for increase in salaries and benefits, curriculum adoption, vehicle acquisition, and cost to maintain the building. The increase in the Special Building Fund balance is due to the board's success in the effort to minimally grow the fund each year for necessary site improvements as well as the possibility of addressing unexpected expenses.
- e. The budget hearing adjourned at 6:35p.m. by executive order.

The St. Edward Public School Board of Education conducted a special hearing on Monday, September 9, 2024, at the schoolhouse. Advance notice of the meeting was published in The Albion News & Boone County Tribune on September 4, 2024, and posted in the school's main office on September 4, 2024 along with the agenda. The purpose of hearing was to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request.

2. Opening Procedures:

- a. The special hearing was called to order by President Roberts at 6:35 p.m. with members Christman, Merrell, Reardon, Cumming and Cruise, present. Also in attendance were Steve Osborn and Lindsay Tenski.
- b. President Roberts stated the hearing will follow the Open Meetings Act, which is in the meeting room.
- c. Mr. Osborn presented the information to the board on setting the final tax asking at \$3,199,374. This is an increase in the General fund tax request of 3.14% while decreasing the Special Building Fund request by (54.22%). The decrease in the building fund asking is to allow more of the total tax request to go toward general fund expenditures. The final tax rate would be set at \$0.563125 per \$100 of valuation, which is down 0.100446 from the previous year. This total tax request is an increase of \$67,631.00 from the 2024-2025. This tax request is \$69,510.00 below the total amount of the district's tax asking authority. The tax asking amount is well within the current budget limits set forth by the Department of Education of Nebraska.
- d. The special hearing adjourned at 6:36 p.m. by executive order

The St. Edward Public School Board of Education conducted a regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024. Advance notice of the meeting agenda was published in The Albion News/Boone County Tribune on September 4, 2024.

### 3. **Opening Procedures - Regular Meeting**

- a. The meeting was called to order by President Roberts at 6:36 p.m. with members Christman, Merrell, Reardon, Cumming and Cruise, present. Also in attendance were Steve Osborn, Lindsay Tenski, and Tyler Gray joined at 6:52
- b. Open Meeting Law Posted
- c. Pledge of Allegiance
- d. President Roberts set the next board meetings, hearings: date and times:

1. Regular Monthly Meeting date: October 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

### 2. **Visitor/Patron recognition:** Visitor/Patron recognition – Speaker request:

- a. none

### 3. Reports

#### a. **Mr. Gray's Activity Director Report**

Fall Sports Games Have Started

- High School Football next game is Friday at Winside
  - JV Football Tonight against Central Valley
- High School Volleyball next game is Tuesday at Burwell
  - We will be hosting a HS Volleyball Tournament starting at 9:00 AM on Saturday
- JH/HS Cross Country next meet is at Laurel
- JH Football played today at Newman Grove against Howells-Dodge
- JH Volleyball next game is at Newman Grove against Immanuel Lutheran Homecoming is Next Week
- Pep Rally at 9:45 AM on Monday to kick off the week
- Activities/Dress Up Days throughout the week
- Homecoming Football game is next Friday against David City at 3:00 PM.

#### b. **Mrs. Tenski's Principal Report**

- All students in grades K-12 completed the FastBridge screeners for Math and ELA. the MTSS team will be meeting soon to work on an Intervention schedule for those students needing interventions in Math and ELA.
- Mrs. Meyer and the FFA officers attended Envirothon Field Day in Wahoo, NE on September 4, 2024.
- MAPS testing will begin Tuesday, September 10, 2024 for all students in grades K-11. Grades 7-11 will test on September 12th and 13th. Seniors will not have to report until 11:15 on September 12th and 13th as they are not required to complete MAPS testing.
- The FFA program has many events planned throughout the month of September, including Husker Harvest Days this Wednesday, September 11, 2024.

#### c. **Faculty/Student Recognition**

- Thank you to all staff members for making the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year successful and transitioning our students back into the school routine.
- Thank you to Dave Merrell for conducting our bus evacuation drills.

#### **d. Mr. Osborn's Report**

##### **Staffing**

- Kelsey Young began working as our preschool paraeducator. Her first day was Monday, September 9, 2024.
- I have advertised for a K-12 Vocal/Instrumental Instructor beginning with the 2025-2026 school year

##### **Other Information:**

- Our school was one of the Member Spotlight Schools in the NRCSA Member Update publication. I have included a printout of our two pages in your information.
- The new minibus spent some time over at Truck Center Companies in Columbus. It had a problem where the battery would lose its charge over time. Some wires need to be rerouted. The work was completed under warranty.

##### **Upcoming Meeting and Conferences:**

- The State Education Conference will be held at the CHI Health Center in Omaha and is scheduled for November 20-22, 2024. Registration opens September 11<sup>th</sup>. Currently, Steve Osborn, Vanessa Cumming are planning to attend.
- Mr. Osborn is scheduled to attend the Annual NCSA School Law Fall Update, September 18, 2024, Kearney.
- Mr. Osborn is scheduled to attend the Annual Labor Relations Conference, October 2-3, 2024, Lincoln.
- Mr. Osborn is scheduled to attend a Farm to School Conference in Kearney over fall break. October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

##### **Board Committee Reports**

- A Finance Committee meeting was held on August 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the 2024-2025 budget process and tax asking options.
- A BOE Planning Meeting was held at 5:30 p.m. prior to our Budget Hearing and Tax Request Hearing. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss budgeting and tax asking requests; local food source purchasing; short and long-term planning relating to future committee meeting scheduling.

#### **e. Consent Agenda**

- August 12, 2024 regular meeting minutes
- August 12, 2024 special meeting minutes
- Financial Report
- Bills and Claims payment for September 2024.

It was moved by Cumming and seconded by Roberts to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming- Yea: Motion carried 6-0.

#### **4. Discussion items**

None

#### **5. Action Items**

- a. Discussion with action on the budget for 2024-25 school year

Motion by Roberts and seconded by Reardon to adopt the budget as presented for the 2024-2025 School Year

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming – Yea.  
Motion carried 6-0

b. Discussion with action to amend the 2024-2025 School Calendar  
Motion by Christman and seconded by Roberts to amend the 2024-2025 School Calendar  
Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming – Yea.  
Motion carried 6-0

c. Discussion with action to adopt a resolution to set forth the maximum capacity limits for the 2025-2026 school year for the purpose of option enrollment Policy 5006 adopt a resolution to set forth the maximum capacity limits for the 2025-2026 school year for the purpose of option enrollment Policy 5006  
Motion by Roberts and seconded by Reardon to

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming–Yea.  
Motion carried 6-0

d. Discussion with action to approve the purchase of new science textbooks  
Motion by Roberts and seconded by Merrell to approve the purchase of new science textbooks

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming–Yea.  
Motion carried 6-0

e. Discussion with action to approve the purchase of a new NGSE wrestling mat  
Motion by Christman and seconded by Reardon to approve the purchase of a new NGSE wrestling mat

Roll call vote: Reardon-Yea, Roberts-Yea, Cruise-Yea, Merrell- Yea, Christman-Yea, Cumming–Yea.  
Motion carried 6-0

f. Discussion with action to approve the purchase of NGSE girls' basketball uniforms  
Motion by Roberts and seconded by Christman to approve the purchase of NGSE girls' basketball uniforms

6. The meeting was adjourned by Executive Authority at 7:45 p.m.  
Sherri Cruise, Secretary/Treasurer