

**MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17**

**a/k/a
Millard Public School District
NOTICE OF MEETING**

Notice is hereby given of a Board of Education meeting of School District No. 17, in the County of Douglas, which will be held at 6:00 p.m. on **Monday, April 6, 2020**. Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order No. 20 - 03 and for public health purposes associated with COVID-19, this meeting will be held by videoconference through "ZOOM" with access available to the public and media. The Zoom link for the meeting can be found at www.mpsomaha.org.

Information on how the meeting will be held and how the public and media may access the meeting, as well as the agenda and materials for the meeting, will be posted on the District's website at www.mpsomaha.org. Agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection on our website at www.mpsomaha.org.

Stacy Jolley
Secretary

4-3-20

**THE DAILY RECORD
OF OMAHA**

**JASON W. HUFF, Publisher
PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
The State of Nebraska,
District of Nebraska,
County of Douglas,
City of Omaha, } **ss.**

J. BOYD

being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is

LEGAL EDITOR

of **THE DAILY RECORD**, of Omaha, a legal newspaper, printed and published daily in the English language, having a bona fide paid circulation in Douglas County in excess of 300 copies, printed in Omaha, in said County of Douglas, for more than fifty-two weeks last past; that the printed notice hereto attached was published in **THE**

DAILY RECORD, of Omaha, on _____

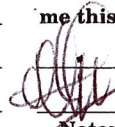
April 3, 2020

That said Newspaper during that time was regularly published and in general circulation in the County of Douglas, and State of Nebraska.

 GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska
ELLEN FREEMAN
My Comm. Exp. December 11, 2021

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before

Publisher's Fee \$ 22.10 me this 3rd day of
Additional Copies \$ _____ April 20
Total \$ 22.10


Notary Public in and for Douglas County,
State of Nebraska



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**



April 6, 2020

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEETING
APRIL 6, 2020
6:00 P.M.

DON STROH ADMINISTRATION CENTER
5606 SOUTH 147TH STREET

AGENDA

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order No. 20 – 03 and for public health purposes associated with COVID-19, this meeting will be held by videoconference through "ZOOM" with access available to the public and media.

The Zoom link is <https://zoom.us/j/928787310> and can also be found at www.mpsomaha.org/board.

A. **Call to Order**

The Public Meeting Act is posted on the Millard Public School website and available for public inspection.

B. **Pledge of Allegiance**

C. **Roll Call**

D. **Public Comments on agenda items** – There will be no public comments taken on this first Board Zoom meeting. Public comments will return on April 13.

E. **Routine Matters**

1. [*Approval of Board of Education Minutes - March 2, 2020](#)

F. **Information Items**

1. Superintendent's Comments
2. Board Comments/Announcements

G. **Unfinished Business** - None

H. **New Business**

1. [Emergency Response Resolution of the Board of Education of Douglas County School District No. 17 A/K/A Millard Public School District Regarding CoronaVirus](#)

I. **Reports**

1. Legislative Report

J. **Future Agenda Items/ Board Calendar**

1. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
2. Board of Education Meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
3. Board of Education Meeting on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
4. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

K. **Public Comments** - There will be no public comments taken on this first Board Zoom meeting. Public comments will return on April 13.

L. **Adjournment**

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEETING
APRIL 6, 2020
6:00 P.M.

DON STROH ADMINISTRATION CENTER
5606 SOUTH 147TH STREET

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM

A. Call to Order

The Public Meeting Act is posted on the [Millard Public School website](#) and available for public inspection.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

D. Public Comments on agenda items – There will be no public comments taken on this first Board Zoom meeting. Public comments will return on April 13.

E.1 Motion by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the Board of Education Minutes from March 2, 2020. (See enclosure)

F.1 Superintendent's Comments

F.2 Board Comments/Announcements

G.1 Unfinished Business - None

H.1 Motion by _____, seconded by _____, Motion by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the Emergency Response Resolution of the Board of Education of Douglas County School District No.17 A/K/A Millard Public School District Regarding CoronaVirus. (See enclosure)

I. Reports

1. Legislative Report

J. Future Agenda Items/ Board Calendar

1. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
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4. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

K. Public Comments - There will be no public comments taken on this first Board Zoom meeting. Public comments will return on April 13.

L. Adjournment

MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17

A meeting of the Board of Education of the School District No. 17, in the county of Douglas in the state of Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 2, 2020, at the Don Stroh Administration Center, 5606 South 147th Street.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Daily Record on Friday, February 28, 2020 a copy of the publication is being attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to all members of the Board of Education and a copy of their Acknowledgment of Receipt of Notice and the agenda are attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice of the Board of Education of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

President Linda Poole announced that the open meeting laws are posted and available for public inspection and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken. Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Pools, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, and Mr. Pate were present. Mrs. McGill Johnson arrived a few minutes late.

Mrs. Poole asked if there were any objections to moving the superintendent's comments up in the meeting. There were none.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Sutfin shared that last week was National School Board Appreciation Week. He thanked our Board members for all they do for Millard Public Schools. Dr. Sutfin presented each Board member with a book that was made to honor them. Dr. Sutfin's administration team read several comments that were shared by staff about the Board's hard work.

Student Showcase highlighted cheer from Millard West and Millard South as well as Dance from Millard West and Millard North.

Awards were presented to Employees of the Month Dr. Janet Cook, Leadership & Learning Facilitator and Malcom Chai, Telecommunications.

Mrs. Poole announced this is the proper time for public questions and comments on agenda items only. There were no requests to speak on agenda items.

Motion was made by Mike Kennedy, seconded by Dave Anderson, to approve the Board of Education minutes for February 4, 2020, approve the bills and receive the treasurer's report and place on file. Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, and Mrs. Anderson. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Anderson provided a summary of the Committee of the Whole from February 10, 2020.

Board Comments:

Mike Kennedy:

Mr. Kennedy thanked the administration for reading the comments and he was very touched. He said we have engaged parents and educators who work hard to support our district.

Amanda McGill Johnson:

Mrs. McGill Johnson apologized for being late and said she was sorry she missed the comments from the staff.

Dave Anderson:

Mr. Anderson thanked everyone for the nice comments.

Stacy Jolley:

Mrs. Jolley also thanked everyone for the nice comments. She enjoys serving and is looking forward to reading tomorrow at Neihardt.

Mike Pate:

Mr. Pate shared his concerns with LB974. He also thanked everyone for the board recognition.

Linda Poole:

Mrs. Poole thanked everyone for the nice comments and all that they do for the Millard students. She said she has served on the board for a long time and enjoys it.

Elaine Whestine, student representative from Millard North High School had to leave early so Dr. Sutfin read her report on her behalf. Sophie Hill, student representative from Millard West High School and George Abalekpor, student representative from Millard South High School, reported on the academic and athletic happenings at their respective schools.

Unfinished Business: None**New Business:**

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Mike Kennedy, to approve Rule 2100.14: Administration - Director of Student Services. Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate and Mr. Kennedy. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Stacy Jolley, seconded by Dave Anderson, to approve the Resolution for Construction Manager at Risk: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education (Board) of the Douglas County School District #17, a/k/a Millard Public School District, in the State of Nebraska (District): Section One: The Board hereby finds and determines that it would be in the best interest of the District to utilize a Construction Manager at Risk Project Delivery System for the construction of selected projects for the District. Section Two: Pursuant to the provisions of the Political Subdivision's Construction Alternatives Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-2901 through § 13-2914) the Board hereby selects the Construction Manager at Risk Project Delivery System for the construction of those projects as are determined to be appropriate for the utilization of this Project Delivery System pursuant to the policies to be adopted by the Board. Section Three: The Superintendent of the District is directed to prepare and present to the Board for review and appropriate action proposed policies and rules as required by § 13-2905 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier explained that this resolution is required before we can propose changes to our policy and rule regarding the addition of a Construction Manager at Risk. The first reading of the policy is next up on the agenda. Mr. Meisgeier said by adding a Construction Manager at Risk will be provided another tool in our toolbox to use if needed. The plan is to use a Construction Manager at Risk for our large projects and have smaller projects managed in house. Mr. Meisgeier believes this will save money and be more efficient.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, and Mrs. Poole. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Mike Pate gave the First Reading of Policy 3641: Support Services - Construction Procedures - Delivery System.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Stacy Jolley, to reaffirm Rule 5300.3: Student Services - Bullying and Rule 5300.4: Student Services: Dating Violence. *Director of Student Services Bill Jelkin reminded the board that we use the Safe 2 Help, anonymous reporting system that is managed by Boys Town. He shared that the program has been heavily advertised in our schools. He also mentioned a free parent presentation taking place tomorrow night at Millard West. A national expert from SMART, will be presenting on how to manage your child's technology use.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley and Mr. Pate. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Mike Pate, that the District adopt the attached resolution(s) calling certain of the District's outstanding bonds for redemption and authorizing the issuance by the District of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2020, in one or more series and in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed one

hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), for the purpose of advance refunding and defeasing certain outstanding bonds of the District; prescribing the form and details of such bonds; authorizing certain officials to determine the final aggregate principal amount, maturities, rates, redemption provisions, terms and other details of such bonds; imposing an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the district to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and the interest on such bonds; designating the bonds as taxable obligations of the district; authorizing the sale and delivery of the bonds to the purchaser thereof; repealing certain prior resolutions of the District; and prescribing other matters relating thereto. It is further recommended that the District authorize the Chief Financial Officer to execute any and all necessary documents related to said refunding and defeasance. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Cody Wickham from DA Davidson and Josh Meyer from Kutak Rock LLC was available to address questions and concerns from the Board. Chad Meisgeier said the rates have continued to drop and that is why he is bringing this request back to the board so soon. The goal is to refinance the debt to a lower rate which results in less taxes. The refinancing of these bonds has a potential saving of four million dollars.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, and Mrs. Anderson. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Stacy Jolley, that the contract for the Multiple Site Door and Frame Replacement be awarded to Rife Construction in the amount of \$128,365 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Pat Carson from BCDM Architects was available to address questions and concerns from the Board. Mr. Meisgeier said 2013 bond funds will be used to fund this project.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate and Mr. Kennedy. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Pate, seconded by Dave Anderson, that the contract for the Buell Stadium Field Lighting Replacement be awarded to ProTech Electric Services in the amount of \$550,450 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Eric Kamin from DLR Architects was available to address questions and concerns from the Board. Mr. Pate asked when this project will be completed. Mr. Meisgeier said it will be completed in the summer of 2020. Mr. Meisgeier also said the current bulbs are no longer available.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, and Mrs. Poole. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amanda McGill Johnson, seconded by Dave Anderson, that the contract for the Central Middle School Running Track Replacement be awarded to ME Collins Contracting Company in the amount of \$474,611 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Caleb Snyder from Lamp Rynearson was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, and Mrs. Jolley. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Stacy Jolley, seconded by Dave Anderson, that the contract for the Millard North High School Field Replacement be awarded to Nemaha Landscape and Construction in the amount of \$681,203.43 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Caleb Snyder from Lamp Rynearson was available to address questions and concerns from the Board. Mr. Meisgeier said depreciation funds will be used for this project.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, and Mrs. McGill Johnson. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Stacy Jolley, that the contract for the Abbott Elementary School Chiller Replacement be awarded to MMC Contractors in the amount of \$155,400 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Andrew Lang from Morrissey Engineering was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley and Mr. Pate. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Stacy Jolley, seconded by Dave Anderson, that the contract for the Abbott Elementary School Intercom Replacement be awarded to Computer Cable Connection in the amount of \$143,839 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Jeff Hemje from Morrissey Engineering was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, and Mrs. Anderson. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by Amanda McGill Johnson, that the contract for the Millard South High School Auditorium Lighting Replacement be awarded to Downs Electric in the amount of \$114,590 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Jeff Hemje from Morrissey Engineering was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate and Mr. Kennedy. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Anderson, seconded by, Mike Kennedy that the contract for the Neihardt Elementary School Electrical Switchgear and Generator Replacement be awarded to Miller Electric in the amount of \$213,475 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Jeff Hemje from Morrissey Engineering was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley and Mr. Pate. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Amanda McGill Johnson, seconded by Mike Kennedy, that the contract for the Black Elk Elementary School Fire Detection System Replacement be awarded to Omaha Electric Service in the amount of \$107,550 and that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute any and all documents related to such project. *Chief Financial Officer Chad Meisgeier said Jeff Hemje from Morrissey Engineering was available to address questions and concerns from the Board.* Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, Mr. Anderson, and Mrs. Jolley. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Pate, seconded by Stacy Jolley, to approve Amber E. Ripa as the new Assistant Principal at Millard North High School. Voting in favor of said motion was: Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, and Mrs. Poole. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Pate, seconded by Stacy Jolley, to approve Personnel Actions: Recommendation to Hire: Amanda A. Koziol, Kelsey M. Lang, Stephanie D. Jarecke, Sarah C. Swain, Kayla N. Calvert, Casey S. Ketterer, Lindsay N. Murphy, Niki L. Caughey, Amy R. Thornton, Hally A. Sartori, Bailey A. Timmons, Allyson L. Olsen, Chloe C. Staley, Carlene M. McCulloch, Jackson W. Fischer, Megan M. Brown, Shalene C. Baratta, Dillon A. Goltl, Sarah M. Kocharov, Shayla H. Andersen; Resignation Agenda: Jennifer M. Schneider, Nicholas R. Kaiser, Jennifer N. Stec, Lisa R. Lanagan, Heather L. Bruntz, Jonathan D. Olson, Nicholas S. Friedrichsen, Leah C. Zohner, Alissa B. Kuhl, Mila E. O'Brien, Andrea J. Feltz, Brooke R. Henderson, Jennifer L. Metcalf, Joseph P. Mlnarik, Pamela L. Fleury, Allison C. Andersen; Voluntary Separation Program (VSP): Lisa L. Henggeler, Carol L. Charvat, James M. Bayless, Alice M. Freeman; Leave of Absence Agenda: Kathryn L. McGee. Voting in favor of said motion was: Mrs. Jolley, Mr. Pate, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. McGill Johnson, Mrs. Poole, and Mrs. Anderson. Voting against were: None. Motion carried.

Reports:

Food Service Report

Director of Food Service Justin Wiley provided the board with a report that covered the first semester of the 2019-20 school year. He said overall participation was up one percent over last year. This past fall we hosted a Healthy High School Challenge. Nationwide 224 high schools participated. Millard South placed 1st, Millard West placed 2nd and Millard North placed 8th. They are on track to exceed their guarantee.

Facilities Report

Director of Facilities Maintenance Operations Kurt Sopcich provided a follow up regarding the initiatives started last year to focus on the staff evaluation process and the onboarding process. Mr. Sopcich provided details on these changes. He also shared that they are currently fully staffed.

Munroe-Meyer Institute and MPS Partnership Update

Director of Special Education Dr. Terry Houlton provided the board with an update on the Munroe-Meyer Institute partnership. He shared a brief update on the five projects which are:

- Social and Recreational Skills Training
- Behavior Coaching Development
- Middle School Mental Health Support
- Physician Education - Autism
- Young Adult Transition

Legislative Report

Executive Director of Activities, Athletics & External Affairs Nolan Beyer said tomorrow will be day thirty three of the sixty day session. Mr. Beyer told the board that he placed a list of priority bills in the folders. Priority bills are designated as follows; one from each Senator, two from each committee and the Speaker can designate twenty five priority bills. This priority list helps to narrow our focus.

Mr. Beyer provided the board with an update on LB974, which is the tax bill. LB974 was voted out of committee six to two. Mr. Beyer said the Speaker made a motion to make LB974 a major proposal, which did not pass. Mr. Beyer said at that time they had nineteen senators on board to filibuster the bill. The bill came to the floor and the majority of the first two and half hours was used by senators who supported the bill. The Speaker stopped thirty minutes shy of the end of the floor limit, likely to give time for a compromise. The group was unable to reach a compromise and returned the following day. Senator DeBoer filed a motion to bracket the bill until the end of the sessions. Time expired and the Speaker moved on without a vote.

Senator Linehan said she had the votes needed to move the bill to select file but wanted to work with the opposing districts. Senator Linehan reached out to 16 rural school districts, Westside and Lincoln Public Schools. Mr. Beyer said GNSA and the entire education coalition wrote a letter opposing LB974 that was sent to all senators. Mr. Beyer expects LB974 to be back on the floor next week.

Pandemic Plan

Dr. Sutfin said the district is preparing for the worst and planning for the best. Dr. Sutfin said they are working to update our Pandemic Plan. We will use a three part communication plan which consists of a three tiers of response; green, yellow and red. Currently we are at green, which means normal operating procedures. Dr. Sutfin said the definitions of each tier are still being determined. Dr. Sutfin said if the pandemic forced the closure of schools he feels that we have a good structure that has been built to assist. This is the eLearning option which is used for inclement weather day. Director of Student Services Bill Jelkin reminded the board that we have had a pandemic plan in place for many years. Mr. Jelkin also said we are working with state and local health officials to monitor the situation.

Mrs. Poole reminded the Board of future agenda items and said this is the proper time for public questions and comments. There were no requests to speak.

Future Agenda Items/ Board Calendar:

1. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center
2. Spring Break – No School March 16 - 20, 2020

3. Annual Luncheon for Retired Certified Staff on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 12:00 noon at Millard South High School Cafeteria
4. District Office Closed on Friday, March 20, 2020
5. NSBA Annual Conference April 3 - April 6, 2020 in Chicago, IL
6. Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center
7. Board of Education Meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center
8. Board of Education Meeting on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center
9. Employee Recognition Dinner on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at Embassy Suites – Social at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Secretary, Stacy Jolley

AGENDA SUMMARY SHEET

Agenda Item: Emergency Response Resolution of the Board of Education of Douglas County School District No.17 A/K/A Millard Public School District Regarding CoronaVirus

Meeting Date: April 6, 2020

Background/**Description:**

The CoronaVirus Pandemic has forced the physical closing of our buildings. This action item gives authority to the superintendent to make decisions while remaining in this state of emergency.

Action Desired: Approval

Policy /**Strategic Plan****Reference:**

Responsible Person(s): Jim Sutfin

Superintendent's Signature:

MPS Board Resolution Information

Introduction

On Friday, March 13, 2020 school was cancelled because of the increasing dialogue and presence of COVID-19 Virus. Since that time we have been busy responding to an ever changing situation. This has been a significant undertaking by MPS employees. We are grateful for their contributions. They have made educational and response to basic needs plans come to life very quickly.

Please see the following actions that we have taken as a District.

External Support and Connections

- Started a twice a week Douglas/Sarpy Counties/ESU 3 Superintendent Zoom Meeting.
- Attended many remote zoom meetings with Douglas County Health, Education Commissioner and superintendents.
- Worked with philanthropy groups for basic need supports.

Communications

- Communication with community - text, emails and video to families.
- Communication with students - Video to seniors.
- Communication with Staff - text, emails, video to all employees.
- Communication and connection through district and school social media outlets - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.
- Principals communication with teachers via zoom and email.
- Teacher communication with parents and students via Google classroom, email, zoom.
- District website - front page communication.
- Developed/Maintained MPS COVID-19 Informational Web page.
- Response to multiple media requests.
- Developed new board meeting structure for on-line meetings.

Human Resource

- Finalized plans for public hours for schools, teachers and staff.
- Employment information letters to all employee groups.
- Reviewed changes in federal requirements related to paid leave, FMLA leave, and unemployment benefits with impact to payroll.

- Approved new work schedules for all employee groups making sure that we continue wage and benefits so when we get the word to reopen we are ready.
- Worked with STA on bus contract to keep employees ready to return to work.
- Developing plan for substitute teachers.

Educational Services

- Developed a Temporary Remote Learning Plan for all levels: PK, elementary, middle, and high school.
- Developed a Special Education Temporary Remote Learning Plan.
- Designed a communication plan for daily gathering of remote learning and technology questions, issues, and sharing of information and resources.
- Hosting ongoing information sessions for administrators on the plans and resources, so they are equipped to share with staff.
- Gathering feedback and collaborating to revise the plan should remote learning continue for an extended period of time to address issues such as grading, graduation requirements, dual enrollment, etc.

Basic Needs

- Dinner program during week of spring break - 3000 meals served.
- 10 food distribution sites started on Monday, March 23 - breakfast and lunch.
- 175 bags of food from school pantries distributed.
- Distributed list of community resources and social worker contact information.
- Worked with Foundation to start a crisis family fund 'fundraiser' with ongoing evaluation of priority needs.

General Administration

- Redeployed custodial resources to address emergency cleaning needs (e.g. calling in custodians on weekends as needed.)
- Revised community use of facilities to remain in compliance with state and federal recommendations.
- Revised facility and outdoor field maintenance schedules.
- Developed guidance for responding to requests to help.
- Worked with details around the upcoming bond.
- Coordination with Douglas and Sarpy County Election offices regarding primary election.

Professional Development

- Designed virtual professional development for Google Classroom, Google Meet, Zoom, WeVideo, Screencastify, and QuickTime.

- Hosted Zoom sessions for each of the above tools.
- Developing Staff Development opportunities remotely for all employee groups including substitute teachers moving forward.

Technology

Investigated and deployed tools to support remote learning: Google Meet, Google Hangout/Chat, Zoom Enterprise for administrators.

- Deployed solutions to identified staff so that they could work securely and remotely on MPS systems (e.g., VPN, Telecom- Jabber, CK.)
- Identified K-2 families living in poverty in need of a device, purchased in partnership with the District, Foundation and a private donor, and deployed.
- Identified and deployed charging cords for K-5 families who needed one.
- Communicated options for families without internet (Cox/Hotspot/Family Fund.)
- Providing ongoing technology support in a remote learning environment.

Summary

The results of this work has enable us to:

- 1) Start remote learning with our students on March 24 so that we could maintain the continuity of learning.
- 2) Provide basic need supports for our community in the area of food insecurity, internet support, and mental health.
- 3) Maintain staffing so that we can re-open quickly and efficiently.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17
A/K/A MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING
CORONAVIRUS**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 (also known as the coronavirus) global pandemic and epidemic sickness as declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) has already had a substantial disruptive effect on Nebraska school districts and will likely continue to substantially disrupt Nebraska school districts; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency because of the COVID-19 epidemic and on the same date retroactive to March 6, 2020, Governor Ricketts issued a Proclamation and declared a state emergency because of the COVID-19 epidemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Omaha, Nebraska, issued a Proclamation regarding the COVID-19 emergency to protect the residents of the City of Omaha from the health threat arising out of the spread of COVID-19 and on March 18, 2020, the Douglas County Board of Health also issued an emergency order under the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-829.50 which by virtue of § 81-829.51(2) includes Douglas County School District No. 17, a/k/a the Millard Public School District (the "District"), among others, as part of Neb. Rev. Stat. § § 81-829.36 to 81-829.75, known as the Emergency Management Act (the "Act") or other laws, and includes in full, all the powers and authority as granted by the Act or other laws upon issuance of same and such powers and authority of necessity include that the Board of Education, along with the District Administration to make emergency expenditures, enter into contracts, and incur obligations for emergency management purposes notwithstanding existing statutory limitations and requirements pertaining to appropriation, budgeting, levies, or entering into contracts in excess of or in violation of existing statutory limitations or bidding or other requirements; and

WHEREAS, with students, staff and families having returned from various locations during spring break coupled with the above declared emergencies and the guidance, recommendations and advice provided as to the potential viral spread and clinical characteristics of this virus from countless local, state and national health care professionals, departments and organizations, along with the numerous curtailing or cancellation of events and facility closures at local, state and national levels, the Board of Education of the District, in the interest of public health and safety also hereby finds, determines and declares retroactive to Monday, the 13th day of March, 2020 that an epidemic sickness, disaster and emergency conditions prevail and exist within the boundaries of the District as defined in Nebraska laws; and

WHEREAS, these conditions are continually emerging and constitute a rapidly evolving situation which are a danger to the public health and safety, and to District students, staff, families, and our community partners and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, it has been and will continue to be necessary for the District to react to the evolving situation and take significant actions that may impact students, staff, our community partners, the community as a whole, and the programs operated out of District buildings and facilities or elsewhere, on little notice in order to provide or implement plans for safety, continued operations, work and educational services so as to not prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions in coping with the emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education hereby approves and adopts the above stated facts, findings and determinations and further approves and adopts the following actions:

- A. The Superintendent of the District has provided a detailed report of those actions taken by the District at his direction in order to continue and protect the education efforts of the District, protect and secure all District facilities and property, retain the employees essential and necessary to the District and the educational activities of the students, and to protect the public health of the students and community.
- B. That all closure and emergency response actions of the District Administration as taken to date are hereby ratified and approved.
- C. That all District policies and regulations or other District documents inconsistent with this Resolution or which would otherwise prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions in coping with the emergency are hereby waived and suspended.
- D. That the Superintendent, Dr. James Sutfin, or his designees, in order to facilitate the ability to implement response action plans and prompt reactions to the evolving COVID-19 virus emergency and thereby avoid unnecessary delays in the implementation of needed actions to address the emergency, is hereby delegated the full power and authority by this Board of Education to close or limit access to programs, buildings, schools or the District as needed or deemed appropriate by the District Administration; implement emergency preparedness and response action plans and necessary transportation plans; modify collective bargaining agreements; implement staff payment plans; contract with or provide facilities maintenance and cleaning services as deemed appropriate; carry out nutrition services and food programs as deemed appropriate; undertake and continue special education measures as deemed appropriate or required by law; implement health services, early intervention, distance learning, telework or other instructional delivery or work plans or programs; undertake or carry out any other services or programs that may be required by local, state or federal law; and to take or cause to be taken all other actions and sign or cause to be signed all contracts or agreements in order to make emergency expenditures determined to be in the best interests of the District in this emergency situation.
- E. That this delegation of authority is to continue in effect until the emergency has been dealt with as determined by the Superintendent to the extent that the conditions no longer exist, or until modified or terminated by action of the Board of Education, Governor of Nebraska, Douglas County Board of Health, or Mayor of the City of Omaha.

- F. In exercising the above authority, the Superintendent or his designee shall maintain close contact with the Board President and regularly inform the members of the Board of actions taken pursuant to the foregoing authority.

The above Resolution having been discussed and consented to by a majority of the members of the Board of Education of this School District, was declared passed and adopted by the President at a duly held and lawfully convened meeting in full compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2020.

President, Millard Public School District
Board of Education