

Pierce High School District #2

Monday, July 15, 2026- Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Pierce Public School Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting at 6:30 pm in the board room of Pierce High School. Members present were Ryan Collison, Lisa Freeman, Stefanie Dvorak, Adam Venteicher and Todd Wragge. Also, present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, Elementary Principal Trent Suehl, and nine guests. Freeman moved to excuse Dan Unseld from the meeting, Dvorak seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Notice of the meeting was printed in the Pierce County Leader and posted on Pierce Public Schools website.

A welcome was extended to the public, the open meetings act pointed out.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Communication and correspondence from the Public

To being the communication with the public. High school senior Jenna Schwede was presented with her high school diploma due to missing graduation this year. There was no further communication or correspondence from the public.

Consent Agenda

Wragge moved and Venteicher seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the approval of minutes from the previous meeting, approval of claims and payment of bills, and financial reports. No further discussion. Voting unanimous, motion carried 5-0-1 absent.

Reports and Information

Written reports were given to the board from the high school and elementary principal. Highlights from the elementary report include the current enrollment at the Pierce Elementary as well as the number of children registered for Pre-K and Kindergarten. Class lists for 2026-2027 school year have been completed and sent out to the teachers. Letters notifying students and parents of the students' teachers are also being sent out. The elementary teachers that will be teaching i-Ready Math will receive training on August 7th. Plans are being developed for the teacher in-service that is on August 6th, 7th, and 10th. The back to school open house will be held on Monday, August 10th from 6pm-7pm. Changes have been made to the 2026-2027 handbook to align with State statute and Board policy.

Information for the high school included updates to the student handbook. There were a few adjustments to the handbook this year to include an adjustment to the academic dishonesty

policy and discipline regulations. Class schedule pick up will occur on Monday, August 3rd and Tuesday, August 4th from 9am-3pm. 7th grade/new student orientation and fall activities information parent-sponsor-coach meetings are going to be held on August 6th. The start of the school year is August 11th with the start of Fall practices on Monday, August 10th. For the Junior High students, the school will continue what they did last year and not have the students take home their laptops. The laptops will be assigned during the school day. There were numerous, positive comments from parents last year regarding this as its hope is to simplify and guard these younger students from dangers and distractions of the online world.

Superintendent Steffensen included updates on the summer maintenance that has been occurring within the school (gymnasium floor finishing, shampooing carpets, stripping and waxing of floors, painting, and general building maintenance). The end of year reports have been submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education and Steffensen has begun gathering information for the 2026-2027 budget. Hausmann Construction stated that window replacement is to begin on July 27th with the possibility of July 23rd or 24th depending on material delivery. The delay in this project starting is due to glass delivery. The goal is for all windows to be completed by the start of the school year. The doors will be replaced during the Fall. Some of the doors may be replaced during school hours if possible, otherwise will be done on the weekend. There are continued meetings with contractors to discuss pieces of the elementary projects. The sale of bonds are anticipated to occur Tuesday, July 14th. The goal is to have these bonds sold at the lowest interest rate possible. The plan is to sell all the bonds now. There is a retreat scheduled for Monday, July 20th at 7pm at the Elementary library. Discussion was had on starting the discussion of the budget during this meeting as well, but the primary focus will be to meet with CWP Architects to discuss the elementary project.

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

Action Items

The first action item, Dvorak moved to approve the handbooks for the 2025-2026 school year. Wragge seconded. Voting unanimous 5-0-1 absent, motion passed.

For the second action item, Freeman moved and Venteicher seconded to accept the milk bids from Hiland Dairy of 48.5 cents per carton and to keep the price of an additional carton of milk at \$.40. Voting unanimous, 5-0-1 absent, motion passed.

For the third action item, Wragge moved and Freeman seconded to keep the meal prices the same for the 2026-27 school year. The prices are as follows: K-6 breakfast at \$2.75, lunch at \$3.20. Grades 7-12 breakfast at \$2.90, lunch at \$3.40. Voting unanimous, 5-0-1 absent, motion passed.

For the fourth action item, Dvorak moved and Wragge seconded to accept the yearly policy review and update from KSB School Law as presented in the memorandum and as discussed. Voting unanimous, 5-0-1 absent, motion passed.

Board of Education Professional Development

Steffensen relayed Board of Education development opportunities.

Topics for next month's agenda

Steffensen provided topics for next month's agenda to include: Review of Board of Education policy sections 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000; select a date for the budget retreat, select a date for the budget and tax request hearings, preliminary budget presentation, and consider LB243 base growth increase.

Adjournment

Wragge moved and Venteicher seconded to adjourn. Voting unanimous, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Stefanie Dvorak, Secretary

Pierce Public Schools

Board of Education, District 2;Pierce, NE 68767