Diagonal Community School District
Board of Education Board Meeting

The Diagonal Community School Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. in the District Office. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Board President, Kelly Allee. Board members present included Whittington (arrived at 12:05 p.m.), Allee, Stamps, Grace, and Parrott.

The vision of the Diagonal Community School District is to empower students in achieving their educational and personal goals leading to a fulfilling future in the greater community. The mission is to foster successful, cooperative relationships between students, staff, parents, and community members to prepare responsible citizens to navigate all life settings through a quality comprehensive education.

A motion was made by Stamps and seconded by Parrott to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Darrel from Diagonal Progress was in attendance. He had no comments or items to share.

Consent Agenda
The board reviewed and approved the Consent Agenda which included the minutes from the May 21, 2025, meeting, financial reports, invoices, staff resignation from Ashten Adams (Daycare Associate), the hiring of Cheryl Rusco as a custodian at a rate of $18/hour, one open enrollment IN request from Mount Ayr, approval of out-of-state/overnight trips, fundraisers, and contracts.
Motion by Stamps, seconded by Parrott. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Board Reports
Superintendent McNutt reported in Principal Johnson's absence. Johnson had planned to attend to introduce himself to the board. Superintendent McNutt shared that the full $21,798 funding goal had been met for the digital board, with the goal of installation by Labor Day weekend. Updates were provided on summer sports, noting positive participation and outcomes. Junior High Baseball has been a topic of community discussion regarding its continuation for next year. Legislative updates were shared, including changes to sports sharing agreements. The district's school registration will be held Monday, August 4, at the Community Center. Superintendent McNutt also shared that the PTO Carnival held on the last day of school was well attended, and he provided updates on building improvements and summer maintenance projects.

The board held the first reading of policies 503.09 – *Use of Personal Electronic Devices by Students* and 505.05 – *Graduation Requirements*.
A motion was made by Parrott and seconded by Whittington to approve the first reading of both policies. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

The board discussed teacher Taylor Bentley's salary. Bentley has served 11½ years in the district and will complete her 12th year at the end of the first semester in the 2025-26 school year. State policy does not recognize half-years for salary adjustments. The superintendent recommended adjusting her salary to $56,250, which is halfway between the current $50,000 and the $62,500 minimum set for teachers with 12 years of experience. The board engaged in discussion and agreed to grant Bentley credit for the half-year with the expectation that she will be at $62,500 the following year.
Motion by Parrott, seconded by Whittington. Motion passed 4-1 with Grace abstaining.

The board reviewed and approved a recommendation to enter into an operational sharing agreement with the City of Diagonal for maintenance services.
Motion by Whittington, seconded by Stamps. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

There were no additional communications or public comments at this time other than School Business Official Rhiannon Tessum reminded the board of the VPPEL that is due for reelection and will be bringing a resolution to the board in July.

The board confirmed the following upcoming regular board meetings:
- Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office
- Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office

A motion to adjourn was made by Parrott and seconded by Whittington. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Pending approval
President Kelly Allee

Rhiannon Tessum
School Business Official