



ALMENA

NORTHERN VALLEY SCHOOLS USD 212

DISTRICT OFFICE
512 WEST BRYANT PO BOX 217
ALMENA KS 67622

PHONE (785) 669-2445



LONG ISLAND

A Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northern Valley Schools was held Monday, June 9, 2025, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Long Island Middle School, 627 Washington, Long Island, KS 67647.

Shanna Hammond: Present
Brandi Keith: Present
Christopher Rogers: Present
Laquita Smith: Present
Hilary Van Patten: Present
Rich Wenzl: Present
Steven Whitney: Present

Also in attendance were: Ken Tharman (HS Principal / Superintendent), Marvin Gebhard (PreK-8 Principal), and Amber Brown (Board Clerk).

I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Agenda

I recommend the board approve the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Laquita Smith and seconded by Shanna Hammond, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea
Brandi Keith: Yea
Christopher Rogers: Yea
Laquita Smith: Yea
Hilary Van Patten: Yea
Rich Wenzl: Yea
Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

III. Approval of Minutes

I recommend the board approve the minutes as presented. This motion, made by Shanna Hammond and seconded by Brandi Keith, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea
Brandi Keith: Yea
Christopher Rogers: Yea
Laquita Smith: Yea
Hilary Van Patten: Yea
Rich Wenzl: Yea
Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

IV. Approval of Bills

I recommend the board approve the bills as presented. This motion, made by Christopher Rogers and seconded by Steven Whitney, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea
Brandi Keith: Yea
Christopher Rogers: Yea
Laquita Smith: Yea



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Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

V. Hearing of Visitors

VI. Old Business

A. Transportation

Mr. Tharman updated the board on the status of the green pickup, Bus #10, the Husqvarna Mower, and Van #4. All are on PurpleWave and will be closing out on Tuesday, June 10th.

B. Basketball Warm-ups

I recommend the board approve the basketball warm-up quotes as presented. This motion, made by Rich Wenzl and seconded by Shanna Hammond, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. Graduation Cords

Board members discussed the pros and cons of allowing non-school organization honor cords at graduation. No decision was made at this time.

D. Norton Revitalization Program

The Norton County Revitalization Program was brought up again; the pros and cons were discussed. I recommend the board adopt the Resolution of the Norton County Neighborhood Revitalization Plan as presented. This motion, made by Steven Whitney and seconded by Christopher Rogers, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Personnel

A. Staffing

I recommend the board go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel matters to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed; retaining Mr. Gebhard and Mr. Tharman and returning to open session in this room at 7:05 PM. This motion, made by Laquita Smith and seconded by Steven Whitney, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea



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Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

At 7:05 PM the board returned to open session; no action taken.

B. Teacher PDC Transcripts

I recommend the board approve the teachers' PDC transcripts as presented. This motion, made by Laquita Smith and seconded by Brandi Keith, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. Supplemental

I recommend the board approve Dean Lewis for the Head HS Volleyball coach position. This motion, made by Steven Whitney and seconded by Shanna Hammond, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VIII. New Business

A. Negotiations

I recommend the board approve the Negotiated Agreement items ratified by the Northern Valley Education Association. This motion, made by Shanna Hammond and seconded by Christopher Rogers, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. Summer Projects

Mr. Tharman went over several of the items that are going on this summer: New carpet in HS Social Studies and FACS classroom/ Exterior concrete repairs in Long Island and in front of the HS cafeteria/ epoxy coating and flecks in bathrooms and ramp and steps at auditorium/ GS gyms scraping off plaster



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and adding sheeting to walls/ boiler updates and repairs/ Classroom cleaning/ touch up paint/ new breaker box in MS band room/ New phone system/ Cat 6 cable pulls.

C. Science Curriculum

I recommend the board approve the K-5 and JH & HS Science Curricula as presented. This motion, made by Shanna Hammond and seconded by Steven Whitney, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

D. End of the Fiscal Year Meeting

I recommend the board approve Mr. Tharman to make the necessary end-of-the-year transfers without a special board meeting. This motion, made by Laquita Smith and seconded by Rich Wenzl, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

IX. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent / 9-12 Principal Report

Mr. Tharman shared the following: Morning basketball camps/ weightlifting/ KIDS training/ Driver's Education complete (7 passing)/ working on Cardiac Emergency Response Plan - Due at the July meeting/ Budget meeting (June 18th).

B. K-8 Principal Report

Mr. Gebhard went over the following: Graduation went well (Congratulations to the 8th graders and thank you to Mrs. Lowry and Mrs. Mordecai)/ Funday was very windy but went well/ Used a different company for the book fair but it went well; Inservice had a lot of productive teacher collaboration/ Staff and bus driver check-outs finishing up.

X. Reports of Board Members

XI. Adjournment

I recommend the board adjourn. This motion, made by Shanna Hammond and seconded by Laquita Smith, Carried.

Shanna Hammond: Yea

Brandi Keith: Yea

Christopher Rogers: Yea

Laquita Smith: Yea

Hilary Van Patten: Yea

Rich Wenzl: Yea

Steven Whitney: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0



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