

**Minutes of the Board of Education of the
Oelrichs School District 23-3
Regular Board Meeting
September 16, 2025**

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Oelrichs School District 23-3 met in regular session on September 16, 2025, in the High School. The meeting was called to order by John Cope, Board President, at 5:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Members Present: John Cope, Katie Merdanian, Dave Osmotherly, Marty Schommer, and Lance Tlustos.

Administration Present: Dr. Mitchell Stone, Principal Peterson, and Business Manager Sword.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian, to approve August 19, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**All actions recorded in these minutes were by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.*

Public Participation – no participation.

Welding Shop: Welding Instructor, Koby Carson, presented a plan to increase the number of welding booths and improve the existing booths. His goal is to give the students more time to practice and increase the level of skills obtained for the students. His priority is safety.

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Schommer to approve the welding room project as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business

High School Construction: Dr. Stone gave an update and timeline to remedy the construction issues at the high school.

Board Reports: Merdanian provided an update on Communities That Care and BHSSC.

Administration Reports: Dr. Stone informed the board that they have received a letter stating the district is in compliance with the civil rights review.

The current enrollment is at 116 students, the same as last year. The sports season has kicked off and the Volleyball and Cross-Country teams are doing well.

Work on the old playground area needs to be completed before October 21, replacing the ground cover.

Stone shared an article from the Fall River County Herald Star, ASBSD recognized President Cope for his years of service on the board.

Stone is exploring financial investments to replace CD's as interest rates decrease.

Principal Peterson said that the local parade was a lot of fun, and she was proud of the number of students that attended. She gave an overview of scheduled events to include free hearing screening for all students; any students with 90% attendance will be attending a movie in Chadron on October 17; and the family engagement committee is organizing prizes to create baskets to be delivered to families by school administration.

Financials: MOTION by Osmotherly, second Tlustos, to accept the unaudited financial reports and pay all invoiced claims. Motion carried.

	<u>Beginning</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>Plus</u> <u>Receipts</u>	<u>(PY due from)</u>	<u>Less</u> <u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>
General Fund	188,974.19	109,383.82	108,001.68	142,768.48	263,391.21
Capital Outlay	392,025.88	191.21		4,661.11	387,555.98
Special Education	117,616.23	2,786.24		4,422.38	115,980.09
Impact Aid	8,864,127.33	28,270.54	24,679.90		8,917,077.77

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Food Service	33,750.18	1,829.05	31,921.13
Custodial Balance:	16,038.24	540.45	15,497.79

Camera Quote: MOTION by Merdanian, second Osmotherly to approve the quote from Golden West for \$39,853.04 to purchase and install outside security cameras. Motion carried.

Attendance Incentives: MOTION by Schommer, second Tlustos to approve the attendance incentive program to fund \$800 for the elementary school and \$800 for the middle/high school each semester (December and May). Student names will be placed in a drawing based on semester attendance; the winners will receive a certificate to spend at Home Haven in Chadron. Motion carried.

School Report Card 2024-2025: Principal Peterson reported to the board the results of the school report card from 2024-2025. Chronic absenteeism has reduced based on the information received from the report. Overall, the scores have increased, and administration will be using the data to develop goals for improvement.

South Dakota SPED Comprehensive Plan: MOTION by Tlustos, second Merdanian to approve the SPED Comprehensive Plan as presented by Dr. Stone. Motion carried.

Contracts: MOTION by Osmotherly, second Merdanian to approve the pre-buy contract to purchase 15,000 gallons of propane at \$2.10 from CBH. Motion carried.

Open Enrollment: MOTION by Schommer, second Tlustos to approved open enrollment for student 36 as presented by Principal Peterson. Motion carried.

Personal

MOTION by Schommer, second Osmotherly to accept the resignation of 4/5th grade teacher Denise Munger effective September 9, 2025. Motion carried.

MOTION by Schommer, second Tlustos to declare Courtney Malone's failure to report to work as scheduled as job abandonment. Motion carried.

MOTION by Merdanian, second Tlustos to approve the custodial employment agreement with Clayton Hamilton at \$16 per hour. Motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION by Osmotherly, second Schommer to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM. Motion carried.

Attested to by CEO/Superintendent Stone.

Pursuant to SDCL 17-2-28 the approximate cost of publishing this legal notice is \$