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(Neb.)- Safety Concerns A Hot Topic At Chadron School Board Meeting [Listen](#)

By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 05/14/2013 10:33 AM

(Chadron)- The Chadron School Board met at their regularly scheduled meeting Monday night to tackle a long agenda. The board reviewed proposals for roof work that will soon be taking place. CPS Superintendent Caroline Winchester voiced concerns of leaking roofs that merit fixing the roofs. A proposal was offered from Fisher Roofing totaling \$35, 750 and a proposal from Weathercraft for \$93, 583.

The board discussed increasing the ESL FTE at Monday evening's board meeting. Chadron Superintendent Dr. Caroline Winchester explains what the ESL program is.

Sound In Story

Currently Chadron Public Schools has 40 students that use the ESL program compared to two years ago when there were only four. Chadron High School Principal Jerry Mack says that the purpose of ESL is to attain a mastery of the English language.

Safety was another large concern brought up for discussion in committee reports Monday night. Chadron Middle School currently has an open campus policy that allows students to leave CMS during their provided lunch period. The board will consider closing the campus for the middle school, or possibly for the 5th and 6th graders. Dr. Winchester talks about the need of a closed campus.

Sound In Story

The board is hoping to develop a policy over the summer to have in place by the 2013-14 school year.

Public Safety Officer Aaron Chrisman was in attendance to discuss possible protocols for plans of action when it comes to handling catastrophic events at the schools. One idea presented was an alarm system that would use the current city of Chadron sirens used for fire and rescue calls. The siren would give off a unique tone indicating that CSC, CPS, and daycare providers need to go into a lockdown. A highly regarded protocol presented by Officer Chrisman was the Standard Response Protocol which features four actions, Lockout, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter. The protocol was developed by a family in Colorado after their daughter was killed in a school shooting in Colorado in 2006. Officer Chrisman felt regardless of what is implemented as a plan of action that it be some that both CSC and CPS can use, as CSC does not currently has a response protocol. Officer Chrisman said discussion is taking place in the near future to narrow down the list of options.

The board approved funding for students traveling to Washington D.C. for National History Day. The coverage will offer \$500 for each sponsor on the trip along with \$100 for each student making the trip. The Wanderlust Cardinals request for transportation was also accepted by the board as it was pointed out that CSC will fund some of the expenses to help cover some of their own bussing needs.

It was officially announced that the last day of school for the students will be May 22nd, and teachers will have their last day on May 24th.

The school board will next meet at a special meeting on June 3rd at 5:30 p.m. regarding proposals for the boiler system.