

Falls City School Board votes to approve claim settlement

(KLZA)-- The Falls City Board of Education approved settlement of a claim by former South School custodial employee Brenda Flerlage on a 5-1 vote when they met Monday night.

Flerlage asserted a claim for damages and filed a lawsuit. Through legal counsel the Falls City School District has been in negotiations with Flerlage to reach a settlement agreement.

Flerlage initially filed a claim with the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regarding pregnancy discrimination. Following this process and negotiations, Flerlage filed the lawsuit.

In return for a full release of liability which included a non-disparagement clause the School District proposed a lump sum settlement of \$92,500. The School District will pay \$2,500 with the remainder of the funds to be paid by the school district's insurance provider.

A report from Superintendent Tim Heckenlively said this is a complex case and while the district and legal counsel believe there are defenses to Ms. Flerlage's claims, litigation is a very long and very extensive process in terms of money, time, energy and resources.

The School Districts attorneys recommended a settlement and that the School District admit no wrongdoing or liability with the settlement.

The vote to approve the settlement was 5-1 with Board member Scott Hollens casting a nay vote.

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