



Prairie Hills USD 113
Preparing Kids, Shaping the Future
Axtell - Sabetha - Wetmore

June 12, 2023

Dear President Zinke,

Thank you for your letter dated May 17, 2023. The USD 113 Board of Education continues to maintain that our respective boards need to exchange proposals based on researched documents before we engage in a face-to-face meeting. We believe a face-to-face meeting at this time may negatively impact a resolution to this issue.

With that said, the USD 113 Board of Education does believe that a trade of territory, done prudently, will be a positive move for both districts. Such a trade of territory will allow constituents to have representation on the boards of education where their children attend school. Additionally, each district would receive state transportation funding for these students who were formerly out-of-district students.

In considering both USD 113 and USD 115, we believe that the Bern area and the Baileyville area have many similarities. Both schools were closed in a similar time frame and both areas have students attending out of district schools. USD 113 has a number of students from the Bern area that attend USD 115; and, USD 115 has a number of students attending USD 113, especially those located geographically near the Axtell facility.

In light of the similar situations between these closed attendance centers, USD 113 proposes a transfer of territory between our school districts based on the enclosed map. We developed this map by researching the residences of the students who attend out of district schools. This proposal leaves the municipalities of Bern and Baileyville with the districts with which they entered into consolidation and accomplishes the desired goal of the majority of families living within their school's territory.

We feel this proposal is both fair and equitable. The USD 113 Board of Education requests a written response by July 17, 2023. If there is not a written response by that date, we will withdraw this proposal.

In the interests of transparency, this information will be made public. We look forward to your prompt response to this proposal.

Respectfully,

Leslie Scoby
USD 113 Board of Education President

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