

Bern Patrons Make Request to Join USD 115

A group of Bern area patrons have officially made a request to transfer their land into Nemaha Central USD 115, where many Bern students will attend classes next year when the Bern school closes..

The group made their request to the USD 115 school board this week.

The board was presented information and maps showing 159 property owners have signed a form in favor of transferring their land from Prairie Hills USD 113 to USD 115. One hundred twelve of those households residing within the area have children in school.

The group asked the board to consider working with the USD 113 board to allow the land transfer to happen. The group made the same presentation to the USD 113 board last week.

Nemaha Central Superintendent Darrel Kohlman said he and USD 113 Superintendent Dennis Stones have been in contact with the Kansas State Department of Education regarding the issue. Kohlman's recommended that the USD 115 board should pursue the issue.

He said the first step was for the superintendents and representatives from each board to meet and try to come to an agreement of which land would be agreeable to both parties.

Once the exact property is determined and a legal description written, Kohlman said the USD 115 board could then make a formal request of USD 113.

If USD 113 denies the request, USD 115 has the right to appeal to the state Board of Education. Jason Hammes and Gary Niehues volunteered to be the USD 115 representatives on the study committee with Kohlman.