



Classified Leadership Minutes

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 1:30 pm
Central Administration Offices

Present: Superintendent Marcus Lewton, Tracy Lauf (Prairie Rose), Kristi Eckes (DMS), Beth Schmitt sat in for Jeanette Wyckoff (Heart River), Kayla Kennedy (Berg), Pam Wardell (Jefferson), Heidi Smith (Lincoln), Jolene Erickson (Roosevelt) and Donna Magnuson (Central Administration Offices).

Absent: Jeanette Wyckoff (Heart River), Alicia Rehbein (Hagen), Assistant Superintendent Keith Harris

- I. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Lewton at 1:30 p.m.
- II. Additions/Deletions to Agenda Items** – No additions or deletions to Agenda.
- III. Approval of the March 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes** – Jolene Erickson moved to accept the minutes from the March 15, 2022 meeting. Heidi Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.
- IV. Old Business** – There were no old business topics to discuss.
- V. New Business**

Dr. Lewton reviewed the May 9th 2022 School Board Agenda with the committee.
Dr. Lewton mentioned several highlights from the board meeting.

 - a) School Board goals for the district
 - b) Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
 - c) 200 DPS Staff signed up for Trauma Training in June
 - d) Kindergarten Kick-off was successful
 - e) Teacher and Administrator negotiations on May 11th

Lincoln Elementary Chain Link Fence Extension.

Heidi Smith explained that in the mornings before school begins there are some students that are in an area in the front of the school where the fence does not extend along the sidewalk. There have been times where a student has ended up in the middle of the street which is very unsafe, especially when parents are dropping students off. She is asking for the fencing to be extended along the sidewalk to help hinder them from running. Dr. Lewton stated that he will talk with Wayne about possibly extending the fence in the front of Lincoln.

2022-2023 Classified Salaries

Pam Wardell asked if there was any news on whether or not there will be raises for Classified staff. Dr. Lewton did state that generally, in the past, raises are determined once negotiations are done but currently negotiations are not done. There was discussion about the various rumors that are circulating around each building but Dr. Lewton was able to clarify and put to rest most of the rumors and concerns that surfaced in this discussion.

Health Insurance

Kristi Eckes brought up the topic of health insurance rates going up next year (Jan 2023) and stated that there was some confusion initially when the new plan was implemented this fall. She is wondering what everyone should expect when coming back in August. People are concerned that rates will increase but hourly wages will not. Stephanie Hunter was able to help explain what was behind the confusion this past fall when insurance rates were being implemented as well as where the district is at regarding our projected outcome for the upcoming rates.



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Lunch Breaks

Kristi Eckes mentioned that in previous years, classified staff have had a full class period for lunch breaks. She noted that everyone is aware that the Labor Law states that each classified employee is entitled to a 30 minute lunch break. However, she is asking if there is a way to have some additional time built into classified schedules. All buildings in the district give classified employees a 30 minute lunch break and it is up to each Administrator of each building how they handle 15 minute breaks throughout the rest of the day. It was brought up that sometimes the way that schedules fall and depending on the needs of students, some staff is feeling fortunate to be able to get their 30 minute lunch break. Dr. Lewton did state that each Administrator is responsible for their building and suggested each person to touch base with their Administrator.

Paraprofessional Audit

Kristi Eckes asked about the outcome of the Paraprofessional audit. Dr. Lewton said that all buildings and Para position numbers were looked at. He did state that it is difficult to compare buildings but that there were some discrepancies noted in the audit. The district will be working to balance those noted discrepancies out better for the 22-23 school year.

VI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm

The next Classified Leadership Meeting is scheduled for Fall 2022.