



**District-Wide PAC Meeting  
Minutes**

**Monday, October 10, 2022; 12:00 p.m.  
Professional Learning Lab**

Committee members present were Superintendent Dr. Marcus Lewton, Mrs. Krissy Kilwein (representing Berg Elementary PAC), Mrs. Jessica Sherman (representing Heart River Elementary PAC), Mrs. Stacy Kilwein (representing Partners in Parenting), and Mrs. Melissa Wells (representing Jefferson Elementary PAC).

**Call to Order** – Superintendent Dr. Lewton called the meeting to order at noon.

**Introduction of Committee Members** – Committee members introduced themselves and the school they represent.

**Purpose of Committee** – Dr. Lewton explained the purpose of this committee was to communicate to the PAC representatives so they could take information back to their building PAC and also for the building PAC representative to share information with the superintendent. Sometimes topics from this group will be taken to the administrative Cabinet. Mrs. Wells inquired about the purpose of the building PAC. Dr. Lewton responded the building PAC was to support the school and support the vision of the school district.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda Items** – Elementary attendance rezoning was added to the agenda.

**Approval of the May 10, 2022, Meeting Minutes** – Mrs. Krissy Kilwein moved to approve the May 10, 2022, meeting minutes. Mrs. Jessica Sherman seconded the motion. Discussion: Mrs. Stacy Kilwein asked if the Senior Walk-Through could be done again in May. Dr. Lewton will visit with the administrative Cabinet regarding this topic. A voice vote was taken on the motion. The motion carried.

**Business Topics**

**October 6, 2022, School Board Meeting Agenda** – Dr. Lewton explained usually the District-Wide PAC Meetings are scheduled the day following the Board meeting. Board meetings are typically held on the second Monday of the month. This month, the Board meeting was held last week Thursday to meet a deadline for the school district to file the Certificate of Levy with the County Auditor before October 10.

The agenda for the October 6, 2022, Board Meeting was distributed to the committee members. Superintendent Lewton said that under his superintendent’s report last week to the Board, he reported there is training for paraprofessionals that are scheduled most Wednesdays. The trainings have been going very well. There are four assigned trainings and four additional trainings for the paraprofessionals to choose from for a total of eight required trainings to attend. The paraprofessionals are paid to attend the trainings.

Some topics covered in the trainings are 504 reading for the learning disabled, special education law, Love and Logic, and stress management. Mrs. Stacy Kilwein added there is a good variety of speakers from psychologists to speech pathologists.

Superintendent Lewton explained the Board is concentrating on three student performance goals. Those goals are:

- Increasing proficiency in third-grade reading,
- Increasing proficiency in eighth-grade mathematics,
- And increasing the percentage of students that are Choice Ready

This month, the Board received information regarding the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) mathematics scores. A large portion of the Board Meeting covered this topic. An elementary principal and a middle school principal shared processes to increase the mathematics scores which includes a response to intervention.

At last night's Board Meeting, Assistant Superintendent Harris provided some information on the building projects completed over the summer months and also the tracking of students entering and exiting the District during the 2021-2022 school year. There were approximately 1,020 students that entered or exited. This is a large amount and creates stress on teachers and all involved in the enrollment and student placement process. Mrs. Krissy Kilwein inquired how the goals were perceived by the teachers; if they are feeling these were a direct reflection of their teaching. Dr. Lewton explained the Board oversees the superintendent and the superintendent oversees the administrators including the principals. The Board has set up the progress goals by using scores from testing of 5<sup>th</sup> graders, 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders. There is no direct correlation between a teacher and the scores. They are different cohorts and are researched as a whole.

Dr. Lewton shared an update on the construction of the Sanford Sports Complex on the Dickinson State University field. The softball field could be ready next spring. The soccer field could be ready next fall. The District Activities Director Guy Fridley has secured state tournaments to be held in Dickinson in 2024 and 2028. These state tournaments will be a positive impact on Dickinson.

At last night's meeting, the Board approved an increase of 8% on the employee's portion of the health insurance premiums. The Board also approved keeping the mill levies the same. Some property owners may see their property valuations increase and therefore an increase in their property taxes.

The Board approved the District entering into a contract with a real estate broker to sell unused property.

Mrs. Sherman inquired regarding the new Voly program that was recently implemented. She was concerned it could push out some of the building PAC volunteers. Dr. Lewton was confident this was not the intent and could foresee where this was an opportunity for the building PAC volunteers to recruit additional volunteers for projects.

Rezoning – Superintendent Lewton explained the Board received information from RSP & Associates during a Board Retreat/Workshop in August. RSP & Associates provided enrollment and demographics information. Their report identified that the elementary schools will be running out of space within 4-5 years. If the kindergarten enrollment continues to increase, the space will run out sooner. He explained Heart River Elementary would reach maximum capacity at 270 students. The current enrollment is close to 250 students. Jefferson Elementary will run out of space in the next few years as well as Lincoln Elementary. RSP & Associates suggested potentially shifting some attendance lines to provide more students at Prairie Rose Elementary and help with overcrowding. Dr. Lewton did not feel there would be any rezoning this school year.

Dr. Lewton will be sharing the RSP & Associates information this winter with the District staff and then with the community. He mentioned Dickinson High School has \$35 million in deferred maintenance. The District will be asking for input from the community. Some of the Dickinson High students are taking dual credit classes at Dickinson State University. There are four Dickinson High health careers classes being taught at Dickinson Middle School.

The Hagen Building was vacated as a junior high six years ago. Since then, very little maintenance has been done at that building. Depending on how the Hagen Building is utilized, it could cost approximately \$6.5 million for maintenance. Dr. Lewton noted the average age of the Dickinson Public Schools buildings is 50-60 years old.

Adjournment – At 12:50 p.m., Superintendent Lewton adjourned the meeting.