



District-Wide PAC Meeting
Central Administration Offices, Board Room

Minutes

Tuesday, April 9, 2019; 12:00 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Shon Hocker (Superintendent), Mrs. Kari Sayler (representing Jefferson Elementary PAC), Mrs. Nicole Wald (representing Berg Elementary PAC), Mrs. Alicia Saienga (representing Heart River Elementary PAC), Mrs. Jessica Cron (representing Prairie Rose Elementary PAC), and Mrs. Julie Heidecker (representing Roosevelt Elementary PAC).

Call to Order – Superintendent Hocker called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda Items – Superintendent Hocker requested to add to the agenda Board policy KAB-Parental Involvement.

Approval of the March 12, 2019, Meeting Minutes – The March 12 meeting minutes were distributed to the committee. Mrs. Sayler moved to approve the meeting minutes, as presented. Mrs. Heidecker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Business Topics

April 8 School Board Meeting Agenda – A copy of the Board meeting agenda was available for the committee members. Superintendent Hocker highlighted items that were pertinent to this committee.

Dr. Hocker noted there were a couple of Public Engagement Forums scheduled regarding the upcoming bond referendum. Representatives regarding the City Renaissance Zone addressed the Board regarding a five-year tax freeze on authorized properties in the renaissance zone. This would be beneficial to new businesses that would be located in those zones.

Board members spoke highly of the recent national conference they attended in Philadelphia. Some of the breakout sessions they attended were regarding building a new school and bonding. Dr. Hocker explained that a majority of the jobs today’s kindergarteners will be pursuing have not been developed. Sessions at the conference explained how to train learners to learn for the future.

The school board renewed its cooperative agreement with the swimming club. The school board also approved for next year a transportation plan. The transportation plan will shrink down the restriction zone for Dickinson High School students. Each school will have assigned buses that will pick up and drop off students for that school. There will no longer be transfer locations. This will drastically reduce the amount of time students will ride the bus unless they live out of town. Students will be allowed to ride one way and pay for one way. Dr. Hocker added the District is looking into accepting credit cards as payment for the busing. The elementary starting times might be adjusted and could possibly all start at the same time. That topic is still in discussion.

Students that qualify for free meals or reduced meals may also qualify for free or reduced busing fees. Superintendent Hocker explained the half-mile walk zone around the schools where students will not qualify for busing.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week May 6-10 – The committee members picked up the thank you cards, envelopes, and employee roster list for their buildings. Twila will email the committee members when the gifts they chose have arrived. Since the gifts are larger than normal, she will coordinate with the buildings to have the gifts delivered to the buildings. Committee members will check with the building secretary to find out where they are being stored. The gifts will come in individual boxes so committee members could tape the thank you card directly on the gift.

Board Policy KAB-Parental Involvement – Superintendent Hocker explained the administration is reviewing the District’s policy on family engagement. This policy is primarily dedicated to Title I schools. Those school would be Roosevelt Elementary, Prairie Rose Elementary, Dickinson Middle School, and possibly Berg Elementary. The policy will require some input from the PACs at the Title I schools. Information will be provided online so that parents may research if they wish.

In yesterday’s Cabinet meeting, the administrators spent a great deal of time updating the information in the policy. Sharing information with parents regarding a program, such as the Regional After School Program (RASP), can sometimes be a challenge. Dr. Hocker explained the District has hired a new public relations individual that will start next week. Part of her duties will be communicating information. She will also be coordinating information regarding the CAPS academy at Dickinson High School, do some grant writing, and be a volunteer coordinator. Her skills will help to promote to the community the positive things going on in the District and build school pride.

Rumors – Mrs. Wald referenced comments on FaceBook regarding the proposed new high school. She said some of the facts on FaceBook are not accurate and she has responded stating the facts. There was discussion regarding the importance of being educated regarding the new high school and the bond referendum. Dr. Hocker explained the challenges with the boiler system at the current high school and student safety concerns.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m. The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 14 at 12:00 p.m. at the Central Office.