



District-Wide PAC Meeting
Central Administration Offices, Board Room
Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2019; 12:00 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Shon Hocker (Superintendent), Mrs. Stacy Kilwein (Partners in Parenting), Mrs. Tavia Kuntz (representing Jefferson Elementary PAC), Mrs. Alicia Saienga (representing Heart River Elementary PAC), Mrs. Jessica Cron (representing Lincoln Elementary PAC), Mrs. Julie Heidecker (representing Roosevelt Elementary PAC), Mrs. Lindsey Southiseng (representing Dickinson Middle School), Mrs. Lenée Bookhardt (representing Dickinson High School), Mrs. Ashley Koch (representing Prairie Rose Elementary PAC), and Mrs. Krissy Kilwein (representing Berg Elementary PAC).

Call to Order –Superintendent Shon Hocker called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their time.

Introduction of Committee Members – Committee members were provided with table tents with their names and the building or partnership they represented.

Purpose of the Committee – Superintendent Hocker explained there was a PAC representative from each of the buildings. This committee was an opportunity to bring input from each campus and also take back information to the building PAC. It is an advisory group that has a direct connection to the superintendent.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda Items – Mrs. Southiseng moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Kilwein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the May 14, 2019, Meeting Minutes – The May 14 meeting minutes were distributed to the committee. Mrs. Saienga moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Cron seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Business Topics

October 7 School Board Meeting and Workshop Agendas – Superintendent Hocker explained at the District-wide PAC meetings he will highlight topics from school board meetings. Then the representatives can share those highlights at their building PAC meetings.

At last night’s Board meeting, the superintendent announced exciting news regarding a grant awarded to the District from the U.S. Dept. of Education. The grant is over \$1 million to be distributed over five years to help the District with community engagement strategies and practices. This is in alignment with the District’s pursuit to become a High Reliability School System. Dr. Hocker explained some areas that will be funded by the grant.

Also at the Board meeting, the superintendent provided an update on student enrollment. There are currently 408 kindergarteners in the District. Ten years from now, those kindergarteners will be ninth graders. In ten years, if there are four grades of 400 students, that will put 1,600+ students at the high school.

Dickinson High School has chosen the ACT as its state accountability test. This was reported to the Board last night by Dickinson High School Principal Kevin Hoherz. A letter from Principal Hoherz will be mailed out soon to parents of DHS students.

Topics discussed at the Board workshop which followed the Board meeting were the Dickinson High School Career Academies and District Facility Planning. Dr. Hocker explained two committees have recently been created to receive feedback regarding student capacity and meeting the needs of the students. One committee is comprised of community leaders. The second committee is an open opportunity to be on an advisory committee. Applications for the advisory committee are advertised on the District's website, Facebook, and in the newspaper. Both committees were formed for the superintendent to listen and receive information from the committee members and to answer questions.

Superintendent Hocker shared a range of information regarding the District. The District has been discussing solutions for addressing the high school student capacity for 4-5 years. A long-range plan was drafted many years ago and it included the high school facility. Dickinson Public Schools is one of the largest employers in Dickinson. Two teaching positions were unfilled. The superintendent felt these were unfilled because the applicants had the perception the community does not support education since the bond referendum failed two times.

Dr. Hocker explained the challenges with the school buildings in the District. Some of the elementary buildings were not built to service 30 students in a classroom. Modular buildings or trailer houses create issues for student safety and also the money invested in a modular building cannot be recuperated.

Repairs were made to a section of the roof at Dickinson High School that cost \$125,000. This fall when the Dickinson area received a lot of rain, the roof was leaking at DHS in the areas where the new roof joined the old roof. Having a leaky roof could create mold issues and airborne pathogens. The boiler at the high school needs some immediate attention. This could cost \$1-2 million to replace as it is beyond repairs.

Superintendent Hocker said the initial 20-year plan to address the capacity at the elementary level was to build a new elementary school. The next plan was an addition possibly to Heart River Elementary or Prairie Rose Elementary. He explained the challenges with adding onto an existing building, such as was done at Prairie Rose. There are times there is commotion with the flow of students and traffic is congested on the student pickup and drop off loop.

Future Meeting Dates – The District-wide PAC Meetings are scheduled at noon the day after the school board meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13 at noon.

Adjournment – At 1:17, the meeting adjourned.