

Calendar Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 18, 2015; 4:00 p.m. Central Administration Office

Members present: Douglas Sullivan, Nikki Forsness, Lyle Smith, Brenda Loney, Lee Mehrer, Damian Sobolik, Amy Hughes, Jamie Prellwitz, Kelly Jahn, Nancy Mack, Tammy Meschke, and Mandy Lubken. Others present: Mrs. Twila Petersen.

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Sullivan at 4:00 p.m.

Superintendent Sullivan noted that Mandan Public Schools had approved a school calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Copies of the Mandan approved calendar were distributed. Dr. Sullivan noted that Mandan had six professional development days built into the calendar. Two draft DPS 2016-2017 calendars were prepared prior to the meeting. The Mandan Public calendar was used as a guide to draft the DPS calendars. Superintendent Sullivan distributed draft A. He then distributed draft B and noted the difference between draft A and draft B. Draft A had two storm days (May 5 and May 25) and Christmas break began on December 22. Draft B had three storm days (March 31, May 5, and May 25) and Christmas break began on December 23. Mrs. Meschke inquired if there was a requirement to have a third storm day and Dr. Sullivan responded there is not. Ms. Loney explained the importance of keeping the same amount of instructional days for all quarters at the high school. She suggested not having all the storm days within one quarter. Ms. Loney recommended adding another day onto the Easter weekend holiday by moving a storm day. Mrs. Meschke suggested a four day weekend in February and move a storm day to February 17. That would guarantee the storm day in the third quarter. Ms. Mehrer suggested moving the March 31 storm day to February 17. Mrs. Meschke asked for clarification that there would be school on March 31 and Dr. Sullivan concurred. Dr. Sullivan said another option would be to move the March 31 storm day to March 9. Mrs. Lubken liked moving it to the WDA tournament weekend since students are gone for the tournaments. Dr. Sullivan emphasized the importance of the breaks which would allow the teachers time to recharge and provide the best education for the students. Mrs. Meschke was not in favor of any storm days on May 5. Mrs. Mack felt that additional storm days in May are difficult for the students and teachers and recommended a five-day weekend during the Easter break. Mrs. Meschke was in favor of this recommendation and felt it would be more sellable to the parents.

Dr. Sullivan stated that two new drafts would be prepared and sent out to the committee tomorrow. One draft would have the May 5 storm day moved to March 9 and the other version would have the May 5 storm day moved to April 13.

Ms. Loney referenced early release days and suggested the early release days not be placed the same week as the week the quarter ends. Dr. Sullivan will visit with Mrs. Kathrein and share this request. Ms. Loney said this year there was an early release day and then the students came back and did testing on Thursday and Friday.

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.