

# The Morning After



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## Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2009

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- 1) **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** - The Board approved the consent agenda, including the resignations of Jessica Billadeau, geography teacher, Hagen; Phobe Frye, preschool teacher, Early Childhood Center; and Lisa Holding Eagle, chemistry/physics teacher, Dickinson High; the hire of Kandace King, grade three teacher, Lincoln; the RESP Report; the student/staff recognitions; the tuition waiver agreement for Jimmy Murphy, South Heart to Dickinson (09-10) and to dissolve the open enrollment applications for Dominic Hoffart with Richardton Taylor (09-10) and Kayden Meduna with South Heart (09-10).
- 2) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Stremick reported on the following:
  - a. **Adult Farm Management Program**-Bismarck State College has picked up the Adult Farm Management Program for southwest North Dakota. Jerry Tuhy will begin work with them later this summer.
  - b. **Office Relocations**-The District wide technology staff will be located in the front of the Central Office in the near future following some office changes.
- 3) **Badlands Activities Center** - Kevin Thompson, from the DSU Foundation, gave an update on the Badlands Activities Center. His presentation included a handout with an illustration of the Badlands Activities Center east and west side, the football field, an overview of the video scoreboard and BAC Facts. The front row seating will be six feet from lane eight. The bids came in under budget so they have added some additional features to the project. The video scoreboard will be the largest outdoor video board in North Dakota. The new stadium seating will extend from end zone to end zone. They will have an electronic timer which shows the runner's time on the scoreboard instead of using eight timers. The new lighting system will save energy costs and will be three times brighter than the old lights. They plan to have the football field completed by late August/early September. Fans will enter the east side of the stadium this fall and have temporary seating. The stadium is expected to be completed by the end of February in 2010.
- 4) **School Resource Officer (SRO) Report** – Officer Ron Van Doorne, School Resource Officer, gave an update on the School Resource Officer activities. A copy of his report is posted under Supporting Documents. The SRO's main goals are prevention, intervention and education. This year they worked on security and safety issues in the schools. All of the Hagen and DHS doors were numbered and lettered. Emergency responders (police department, fire department and ambulance department) have a copy of the school maps with the door locations, etc.
- 5) **Technology Committee Report** - Superintendent Stremick and Leslie Ross gave an update on the Technology Committee. A copy of the technology inventory is posted under Supporting Documents. Our technology inventory has grown significantly over the past 2 ½ years. The school district will be transitioning to Office 2007 this summer on all computers. Their technology plan also includes a replacement plan. They are increasing the District's bandwidth and are in the process of updating the work order system.

- 6) **Class Sizes/Enrollment** - Superintendent Stremick updated the Board on class size and staffing projections. A handout is posted under Supporting Documents. Hagen's grade eight average class size is 16 students. They recently had a chemistry teacher resign at DHS and a Hagen teacher has requested a transfer to DHS. Also, a Hagen geography teacher recently submitted her resignation. The administration is recommending that they cut one teacher in each department at Hagen because of the current enrollment. We have smaller classes moving to Dickinson High. The administration recommends reducing teachers through attrition at Hagen and DHS in the future because of lower enrollments. Dickinson High School is expected to lose 150 students in the next four years because of smaller classes moving to DHS. The elementary schools are expected to grow.
- 7) **Cell Phone Policy for 2009-2010 Student Handbooks** - Board members requested that the administration look at the cell phone policies from the other Class A schools in North Dakota. The recommended cell phone policy for DHS is posted under Supporting Documents. Mr. Peck reported on other Class A school's cell phone policies. The recommended cell phone policy for the Dickinson High School student handbook does not allow cell phones and other electronic devices during the regular instructional school day in the building or the classroom. Students would be allowed to use them in the east and west main entry ways (not lobby areas) after the instructional day. The other policies were presented at the last meeting. The Board approved the elementary, Hagen Jr. High, DHS and SWCHS cell phone policies for the 2009-2010 student handbooks, as presented.
- 8) **Facility Planning Follow up** – The Board has been discussing short range and long range facility planning at previous Board meetings. The administration was directed to research what the stimulus dollars can be used for and to look at possible financing for the Jefferson and Lincoln additions. Mr. Reep reported that he has talked to DPI about using one time stimulus dollars. He has updated our facilities plan and the preliminary construction request forms for a future Board meeting. DPI must approve the plan 60 days prior to submitting the application for assistance. He feels that we could do the Jefferson and Lincoln additions without borrowing or bonding money. They plan to request \$150,000 in stimulus dollars. They would use a portion of the stimulus money, building fund, and/or general fund to finance the projects. The estimated cost is \$1.5 million for the Lincoln addition and \$1.6 million for the Jefferson addition. We have until September 30, 2010, to spend the stimulus money. Board members requested that the administration schedule public meetings to inform the public of the plans (next fall) and the financing opportunities and to develop a timeline. One of the Board workshops will focus on enrollment and facilities.
- 9) **Adequate Yearly Progress Report** - We have received our 2008-2009 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports. The AYP report is posted under Supporting Documents. Superintendent Stremick reviewed the AYP reports. The high school composite score in math jumped considerably. We made AYP in the composite area in all buildings. We did not meet AYP standards in the "students with disabilities" subgroup in some of our schools. Lincoln, Berg and Hagen Made AYP. Heart River did not make AYP in the "economically disadvantaged students" subgroup and in the "students with disabilities" subgroup in the reading content area. Jefferson did not make AYP in the "students with disabilities" subgroup in reading. Roosevelt did not make AYP in the "economically disadvantaged students" subgroup in reading. DHS did not make AYP in the "students with disabilities" subgroup in reading and math. There is also a District determination on AYP. We did meet AYP standards in all content areas and subgroups. Superintendent Stremick explained how they determine AYP. They use a three year roll up if you don't have enough students in a subgroup. They hope that the stimulus money for coaches will help the disadvantaged students in the elementary schools in the future.

- 10) **Certify Average Daily Membership (ADM) Report and Transportation Report** - A summary of the Average Daily Membership Report and the Transportation Report is posted under Supporting Documents. State law requires that the school board certify the average daily membership and the transportation report for the recently completed school year to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Board approved the Average Daily Membership report and the Transportation report and to submit them, as presented, in accordance with NDCC 15.1-27-20.11.
- 11) **Wellness End of Year Summary**-The Wellness End of the Year summary is posted under Supporting Documents.
- 12) **Board Policies**
- a. **Policy DBGA Professional Leave-Second Reading** –The Board approved the revisions in policy DBGA Professional Leave for second reading approval and final adoption, as presented.
  - b. **Policy FBF Graduation Requirements**- Policy FBF Graduation Requirements was presented for first reading because of changes in the law. The Board approved the revisions in policy FBF Graduation Requirements for first reading approval, as presented.
  - c. **FBF-R Graduation Requirements Regulation**-The Board approved FBF-R Graduation Requirements for first reading approval. A copy of the revised regulation is posted under Supporting Documents.
- 13) **Open Enrollment Applications** - The Board approved the requests for Trent and Zoe Medlar and Dakota Sweet to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. They recently moved so the waiver applies.
- 14) **Classified Staff Salary Proposal** - Superintendent Stremick recommended approval of a \$.70 cent per hour or 7% increase in wages for classified staff who have received a satisfactory performance evaluation. Some additional adjustments will be made with starting salaries and employees affected by those changes. Other recommended changes included: moving the transportation para to category A, moved the RASP supervisor to RASP para/supervisor in category VIII and RASP Head para/supervisor to category VII. The Board approved the Classified Salary and Benefit package with an effective date of July 1, 2009, and authorized a \$.70 cent per hour or 7% wage increase for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented.
- 15) **Contracted Busing** - The administration recommended that we contract with Harlow's Bus Service for activity busing and all other busing needs. The Board accepted the bid submitted by Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. for activity busing contract services from 2009-2011.
- 16) **Approval of Title I Stimulus Application** - The Title I Stimulus application is posted under Supporting Documents. The application must be approved by the Board. The Board approved the Title I Stimulus application for \$524,523, as presented.
- 17) **Withdrawal from Old Joint Power Agreement** - It was recommended that the Dickinson Public Schools withdraw from the Joint Power Agreement (RESP) dated May 29, 2002. The Board approved the withdrawal from the May 29, 2002, RESP Joint Power Agreement.
- 18) **Other**