

The Morning After



Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, September 9, 2008

- 1) **Public Participation**-Kelly Armstrong requested to speak during Public Participation regarding agenda item V. Girls' Softball.
- 2) **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report**-The Board approved the consent agenda; the tuition waiver agreements for Kayden Meduna, South Heart to Dickinson; Deanna & Tiffany Schneider, Dickinson to Richardton-Taylor; Dallas Frohlich, Elgin to Dickinson; Rosalie Hunke, Dickinson to Richardton-Taylor; and Carly Dehner, Belfield to Dickinson. There were no new licensed hires or resignations. President Rummel received a letter from the Belfield Public Schools thanking the school district and DHS counselors (Maxine Hauck and Cherie Mack) for helping them during a recent moment of need. They thanked the school district for being a good neighbor and the timely response.
- 3) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Stremick reported on the following:
 - a. **Bus driver**-We have secured a special education bus driver and are still looking for subs for activity drivers.
 - b. **Summer School Performing Arts Project**-The group that went to Fargo met and talked about the next steps for a summer school performing arts project in Dickinson. Mr. Dockter will be conducting a survey of grades 8-12 students to establish the student interest level.
 - c. **Book study**-The Cabinet will be reading the book Common Formative Assessments: How to Connect Standards-Based Instruction and Assessment. It is tied to the work being conducted in Professional Learning Communities.
 - d. **Roughrider Area Career & Technology Center (RACTC)**- Roughrider Area Career & Technology Center has 172 students enrolled in the RACTC classes (44 students are from existing programs). The Center has 128 students enrolled in "new classes." Dickinson High School has 44 students enrolled in the Health Careers classes.
 - e. **Transportation**-Expenditures for 2007-08 were \$377,768 and revenue was \$165,828. The cost to the general fund was \$211,940. Total miles driven were 303,722 (127,642 for activities and 176,080 for routes). They have 100 families signed up for rural busing this year (195 students). Thirty are private school students.
- 4) **Girls' Softball**-Kelly Armstrong, President of the Dickinson Baseball Club, requested that the Board consider funding the coach's salaries for girls' softball. The Dickinson Diamonds Fast Pitch Softball Club made a request to add girls' softball as a Dickinson High School sport beginning the spring of 2009. The request was on the August agenda and was tabled. Calvin Dean, Activities Director, provided information requested by the Board at the August meeting. He stated that 52 high school and junior high girls are interested in girls' softball. His recommendation is to have a varsity and a JV team the first season. Thirteen of the 25 high school students are currently involved in spring sports. He stated that Dickinson would be the 14th school to sanction girls' softball, if approved. Mr. Dean reported that students from Trinity, Hope Christian Academy and area schools have expressed interest in a coop with Dickinson High School. Coops would be addressed at a future Board meeting. Discussion followed. A memorandum of understanding similar to the baseball and

hockey agreements will be prepared and brought to a future Board meeting. The intent of the Board is to provide the funding for girls' softball coaches. The girls' softball program would also receive the subsidized rate for travel during the school year. The Board approved the sanctioning of girls' fastpitch softball for the spring of 2009.

- 5) **School Opening Report**-Superintendent Stremick reported on the 2008 school opening and gave the fall enrollment numbers. They have 2,519 students enrolled as of September 1 (1,247 elementary which includes ECC, 373 at Hagen, 881 at DHS and 18 at SWCHS). Last fall they had 2,561 students. The March projection was 2,521 students. Superintendent Stremick stated that DHS will lose 192 students over the next four years The enrollment report is posted under Supporting Documents. This item was informational only. No action was requested.
- 6) **Board Policy HEB Expense Reimbursement-Second Reading**-The Board approved the revision of Policy HEB Expense Reimbursement for second reading approval and final adoption. The change was "the approval of travel requests by employees shall be vested in the Superintendent or designee." A copy of the Board policy is posted under Supporting Documents. The new language is underlined.
- 7) **Open Enrollment Applications**-The Board approved the request for Johni, Bobbi and Jacob Augare, Alexis Lamb and Zackary Weidman to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. They recently moved so the waiver applies.
- 8) **Authorization to Add a Position**- The Board moved to authorize the superintendent to add a technology paraprofessional at Dickinson High School.
- 9) **Other**
Swenson stated that Prairie Public TV will be having a special program on education and suggested that Board members watch.

Announcements

The Board workshop followed the Board meeting. Agenda items included: Student Achievement: Math & Reading, District's Grant Funded Programs and Initiated Measures.

The New Educator Breakfast sponsored by the Chamber Education Committee is scheduled on Thursday, September 11 at 7 a.m. in the DSU Student Center.