

# The Morning After



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## Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, November 4, 2008

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- 1) **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** - The Board approved the consent agenda and the tuition agreement for Kristy Repine, Richardton Taylor to Dickinson. There were no new licensed hires or resignations.
- 2) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Stremick reported on the following:
  - a. **DHS science pod**-The contractors finished the science pod a few weeks ago. Board members were invited to tour the science pod following the meeting.
  - b. **North Dakota Commission on Education Improvement**-Their final meeting is scheduled on November 6. Superintendent Stremick reported that many issues haven't been resolved but several issues will depend on the outcome of the ballot measures.
  - c. **Board workshop follow up**-Mr. Reep surveyed the other school districts in the state regarding how they pay their Adult Learning Center teachers. There is no consistent method that is used throughout the state.
  - d. **Guest column in the Dickinson Press**-The Board had suggested that Superintendent Stremick contact the Dickinson Press to see if they would run his monthly school newsletter column in the Dickinson Press so that information gets to community members that don't have children in the schools. The Editor is reviewing his past columns. He will keep the Board informed.
  - e. **Best Practice**-The book **Best Practice** has been ordered for administrators to use as a reference in their schools.
- 3) **Approval of VI-B Grant** - The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction requires assurances that IDEA will be met and the application for funds has been approved by the Board. Mrs. Martinson was available to answer questions. A copy of the Budget Summary is posted under Supporting Documents. The Board approved the application for IDEA Title VI –B funds, as presented.
- 4) **403(b) Plan**-The Board approved the 403(b) Plan Documents and authorized the Business Manager to act on the Board's behalf with respect to the 403(b) plan and to take actions necessary to implement, maintain and administer the plan in accordance with the Board's intentions and state and federal laws. New IRS regulations require written documentation of the 403(b) tax sheltered annuity program offered to employees of the Dickinson Public School District. A copy of the 403(b) Plan Document, the Adoption Agreement and Appendix A which lists the eligible vendors is posted on the school district web site under Supporting Documents. The Plan Document is based on model language released by the IRS for 403(b) plans.
- 5) **Schedule Special Meeting**-The Board moved to schedule a special meeting on Wednesday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m. to meet with the NCA visitation team.

- 6) **2009-2010 Kindergarten**-Superintendent Stremick gave an update on the 2009-2010 kindergarten. The administration believes that 10 sections of kindergarten will be needed next year and that any new sections would be housed at Lincoln and Jefferson. They are evaluating whether this can be done by collapsing grades or by adding additional staff. They plan to make a decision by March of 2009. The administration is also looking at a long range plan for facilities. No action was requested at this time. This agenda item was informational only.
- 7) **Revision of Policy AAD Dickinson Public Schools Wellness Plan-First Reading**-The District Wellness committee recently met and suggested recommendations for the District's Wellness Plan. The suggested changes will bring the school district into compliance with the beverage guidelines that were sent out by the beverage companies and President Clinton. Our policy will allow a larger serving on a few beverages but it does meet the calories per ounce recommendation. Our policy also will not allow high energy & caffeine drinks in the schools. Changes were made to the vending that is available during schools hours (exception of the lunch period) at Dickinson High School. The committee recommended that vending machines and the Midget Market offer a selection of products that are healthy and nutritious. Mr. Dockter and Jo Marie Kadrmas, dietician on the committee, will be meeting with Mrs. Wellenstein, Midget Market advisor, to discuss guidelines and educating the students that purchase items for the Midget Market. The committee may meet next year to look at school fundraisers. Superintendent Stremick noted that sales reports do show that students at DHS are making healthier choices and are purchasing more water and low calorie items. The administrative recommendation was to approve the revision for first reading approval. A copy of the Board policy is posted under Supporting Documents. The Board approved the revisions to Policy AAD Dickinson Public Schools Wellness Plan for first reading approval, as presented.
- 8) **Superintendent Evaluation**-Four areas were selected from the superintendent's job description to be evaluated. The areas are: identification and implementation of school board policy needs, supervision of licensed and non licensed staff, supervision of building and grounds, transportation needs and student safety and effective record management. A copy of the superintendent's job description is posted under Supporting Documents. Superintendent Stremick will respond to the topics in writing and forward the evaluation to school board members. The information will be sent to Board members for their comments. The Board will review the evaluation at the December 9 Board meeting. No action was requested.
- 9) **Other**



