

The Morning After



Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2009

- I. **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** – The Board approved the consent agenda including the tuition waiver agreement for Shantel, Kellie, Jonathan, and Holly Williamson, South Heart to Dickinson.

- II. **Superintendent's Report**- Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:
 - a. **Petition for Recognition** – At a recent Cabinet meeting, a petition was provided to recognize the administrative council as the exclusive representatives for negotiations for the 2010-2011 contract year.
 - b. **Professional Development Proposal** – Dr. Sullivan has put together a proposal which is posted as a Supporting Document on the website. After discussion, the Board recommended Dr. Sullivan continue with his proposal. A request was made by the Board to have training in a method that would avoid the use of substitute teachers, if possible.
 - c. **Tax Levy Information** - Mr. Reep addressed the Board. He distributed two handouts. One handout provided data for the tax levies from 1980 to present. Another handout showed taxable valuation data. The documents indicated that the State is taking over some of the tax obligations; consequently, the tax amount for home owners has decreased from last year.
 - d. **School Board Orientation** – Two board members have indicated they will not be running for re-election during the June 2010 election. Dr. Sullivan requests that the remaining board members begin the process of orienting any new board members that may be elected in June.

- III. **Audit Report** – Mr. James Wosepka, the school district's auditor, was present at the meeting. He addressed the board regarding his recently completed audit of the records. The Board approved the audit report for the year ending June 30, 2009.

- IV. **Approval of IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus Grant** – Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Director of Student Services addressed the Board regarding the IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus 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. A copy of the budget summary is posted under Supporting Documents on the website. Mrs. Martinson summarized the grant proposal addressing most line items. The Board approved the IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus Grant application.

- V. **Approval of North Dakota Educational Technology Council (ND ETC) Grant Application** – The Board approved the applications for the North Dakota Educational Technology Council Grant. There was a recommendation that the technology applications be reviewed by the principals ensuring that they fall within the technology plans. If possible, the district-wide technology committee should be involved in the grant application process.

- VI. **Open Enrollment** – The Board approved the request from Linda Cooksey for Sierra Cooksey to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy.
- VII. **Lincoln and Jefferson Additions Update** – Mr. Reep gave a brief update regarding the proposed additions at Lincoln and Jefferson Elementary schools. Background information is available as a Supporting Document on the website.
- VIII. **Baseball Cooperative Agreement with Beach Public School District** – The Board approved a request from Beach Public School District to establish a cooperative agreement for high school baseball commencing in spring 2010.
- IX. **Superintendent Evaluation** - President Rummel selected the three areas to evaluate Superintendent Sullivan. Those three areas are: relationship with school board, educational leadership, and community involvement. Dr. Sullivan responded to the questions on the evaluation. The Board approved the superintendent evaluation. Dr. Sullivan received satisfactory marks in all areas on all five evaluations. There were many good comments on the evaluations and the Board members felt Dr. Sullivan is moving the DPS in the right direction.
- X. **Other** – Board members briefly discussed the process for PAC fundraisers. Superintendent Sullivan will review the fundraiser policy.