

# The Morning After



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## Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, November 9, 2010

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- 1) **Call to Order** – President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- 2) **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** - The Board approved the agenda including the consent agenda consisting of the personnel reports, the RESP report, the RACTC report, the student/staff recognitions, and the ND ETC Grant application. There were no tuition waiver agreements.
- 3) **Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:
  - a. **Gearing Up For Kindergarten** – Board members should have received an invitation from Mrs. Kilwein to attend these sessions. This would be a great opportunity for Board members to observe this program.
  - b. **Letter from Senator Conrad Regarding ESEA Reauthorization** – A copy of the letter from Senator Conrad to Secretary of Education Duncan is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Within the letter, Senator Conrad recognizes the concerns with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and how it affects rural educational communities such as those found in North Dakota.
  - c. **American Education Week** – This year, American Education Week is being recognized November 14-20. The response Dickinson Public Schools has received from the community to participate in activities during that week has been outstanding.
  - d. **Legislative Meeting, November 17** – The meeting organized by the North Dakota Study School Council (NDSSC) in Minot for November 17 has been postponed due to conflicts with committee meetings the legislators need to attend.
- 4) **Lincoln Elementary and Jefferson Elementary Additions Update** – A report on Lincoln Elementary's progress on the addition is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Pictures of Lincoln and Jefferson Elementary's additions are also posted on the website. Superintendent Sullivan reported the following improvements to the additions have been completed at Jefferson Elementary. All the windows have been installed, the exterior brick work is completed, and sheet rocking should begin this week. There should be substantial completion by March 2011.

At Lincoln Elementary, the walls in the gymnasiums have been primed and work may begin this week on the interior brick work. The majority of the interior sheet rocking has been completed. The project is ahead of schedule and substantial completion should be completed in February.
- 5) **Southwest Community High School (SWCHS)** – Principal Shawn Leiss has a SWCHS report posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Mr. Leiss addressed the Board and summarized the report indicating the new facility has been a great improvement for the students and staff. The building is more private, fewer distractions, and better sound proofing. This could be a record year for the number of graduates from SWCHS.

- 6) **North Dakota State Board Association Convention** – Copies of reports from attendees at the convention are posted on the website under Supporting Documents. President Fehr, Dr. Pitkin, Mr. Hanson, and Superintendent Sullivan summarized their reports.
- 7) **Superintendent's Evaluation**- Dickinson Public Schools will use the same process they used last year. President Fehr and Superintendent Sullivan have selected three areas from the superintendent's job description to be evaluated. Those areas are: Recruitment/retention of staff (licensed and non-licensed), relationship with students and parents, and financial management skills. A copy of the superintendent's job description is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. The deadline for completion of the process is December 15. The Board will review their evaluation at their December 13 Board meeting.
- 8) **Request Approval of the Dunn County GPT Infrastructure Grant Application** - The Board moved to approve a grant application to the Dunn County Commissioners for the Dunn County GPT Infrastructure in the amount of \$344,040 to help defray the costs for the additions at Lincoln Elementary and Jefferson Elementary.
- 9) **Hockey Agreement** – The Board approved a one-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Dickinson Youth Activities, Inc./Dickinson Hockey Club for boys and girls hockey. This agreement is posted as a Supporting Document on the school board website. Mr. Mark Rerick, District-wide activities director, addressed the Board noting the changes made from last year's agreement. The most noted change was the district is now paying the expenses for transportation.
- 10) **Other** – There were no other items for discussion.
- 11) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.