

# The Morning After



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## Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2011

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- 1) **Call to Order** – President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- 2) **Election of Officers**
  - a. **President** - The Board approved the motion for the nomination of Mrs. Kris Fehr as president of the Dickinson Public School District for 2011-2012.
  - b. **Vice-president** – The Board approved the motion for the nomination of Ms. Leslie Ross as vice-president of the Dickinson Public School District for 2011-2012.
- 3) **Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** - The Board approved the agenda including the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports, the RACTC report and the personnel reports. There were no new licensed hires or resignations, no student/staff recognitions, and no tuition waiver agreements.
- 4) **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:
  - a. **Hagen Teacher Accreditation** – DPS recently received a letter from DPI indicating that Hagen Junior High has been designated accredited for the 2010-2011 school year. A copy of the letter is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. A previous correspondence from DPI indicated a teacher at Hagen needed a requirement completed. This issue has been resolved.
  - b. **2011 Fall Registration and Open Houses** – A copy of the schedule is posting on the website under Supporting Documents. A discussion at Monday's Cabinet meeting was regarding the article in the Press of the proposed population increase. If the projections are accurate, the District wishes to get the word out to the new families to register their children. The District will be posting notices on school building exterior signs, putting advertisements in the newspaper, and providing information to the real estate companies and the Chamber to share with new individuals. Utilizing the new online forms will be suggested.
  - c. **Professional Learning Communities Conference** – Recently Superintendent Sullivan and Mrs. Kathrein along with 24 teachers attended a conference in Minneapolis. The feedback from attendees has been positive. Some excellent information was shared. Approximately 25% of the faculty within the District have attended a PLC Conference.
  - d. **Adequate Yearly Progress** – On the website under Supporting Documents is information regarding the assessment results for math, reading, science, and a history of the results. The Department of Public Instruction increased the threshold for student achievement this past year and will continue to increase the threshold in the next three years until the requirement reaches 100% proficiency. There is a mixture of levels of achievement. The performance of some students within the district is higher, the same, or below the state average. Based on the new requirements from DPI, none of the buildings within the District achieved adequate yearly progress. Superintendent Sullivan said the changes being made within the District will help improve the student performance. He said the District needs to continue to work hard and continue to make improvements. Students

have the opportunity to learn at a high level. Mrs. Melanie Kathrein explained the students are tested in the fall and the results are received in the spring. Mrs. Kathrein felt the benchmark assessments are more accurate and timely.

- 5) **School Resource Officer (SRO) Report** – School Resource Officer Dave Wallace addressed the Board and explained the buildings within the District that he was called to handle incidents the past school year. He spent approximately 950 hours within the District with most hours (302) being at Hagen Junior High. The most significant incidents were due to electronic harassment and bullying. Lt. Wallace feels the policies and procedures used by DHS are effective. The administrators there handle most of the incidents. Below the high school level, Lt. Wallace is called for intervention purposes. Bad decisions by younger-age students are increasing.
- 6) **2010-2011 Budget Statistics** – Mr. Reep, business manager, presented the 2010-2011 final revenue and expenditures information for several different fund accounts. The fund balances are listed under the Combined Balance Sheet under Financial Reports. Mr. Reep feels the District's financials are very healthy.
- 7) **Annual Financial Report** – A copy of the annual financial report is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board website. Mr. Reep, business manager, explained the ending balance on the report ties into the balance sheet. Everything in the district financials ties back to what is reported to the State. The Dickinson Public Schools average cost per pupil for 2009-2010 was \$7,778. The average cost per pupil for 2010-2011 is \$8,445.
- 8) **Meeting Day and Time** - The Board moved to schedule the regular meetings of the Dickinson Public School District on the second Monday of each month beginning at 5:00 p.m. The August 9 Board meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. The April Board meeting will be held on April 16, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.
- 9) **Board Workshop** - The Board moved to schedule their Board workshops on Monday, September 12 following the regular Board meeting and on Monday, October 10 following the regular Board meeting. Board members were asked to forward agenda items to Superintendent Sullivan. No decisions will be made during the workshop but topics discussed could become future Board meeting agenda items.
- 10) **School Board Authorized Representative** - The Board named Superintendent Douglas Sullivan the authorized representative of the Dickinson Public School District for the Department of Public Instruction and the legislature, all federal programs, including but not limited to: all school lunch, special education and vocational programs, the Energy Impact Office, Title I, Title IIa, Title IIc, E-rate and Job Service programs.
- 11) **Designate Official Newspaper** - North Dakota Century Code requires that the school district designate an official newspaper. The Board moved to designate the Dickinson Press as the official newspaper of the Dickinson Public School District.
- 12) **Bank Depository Designation** - State law requires Dickinson Public Schools to designate all depositories at their annual meeting. The Board moved that American Bank Center be designated as the official depository for the school district checking account and other investments and that Wells Fargo Bank, Bank of the West, Dacotah Bank, and Dakota Community Bank be designated as depositories for investments for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

- 13) **Committee Assignments** - The Board moved to designate Mrs. Kris Fehr and Ms. Leslie Ross as Board representatives on the teacher collaborative bargaining team, Mrs. Kris Fehr and Mr. Jason Hanson as Board representatives on the administrative bargaining team, and designate Mr. Jason Hanson as the primary school board representative and Dr. Becky Pitkin as the secondary school board representative on the Roughrider Area Career & Technology Center for 2011-2012. Other committee assignments are listed under Supporting Documents.
- 14) **Conflict of Interest** - Board members declared changes and updates to their Statement of Interest forms. The Board moved to allow Mr. Jason Hanson, Dr. Becky Pitkin, Dr. Morton Krieg, Ms. Leslie Ross, and Mrs. Kris Fehr to participate and vote on the identified potential conflicts in accordance with NDCC 15.1-07-17.
- 15) **Other** – Ms. Ross asked members to mark August 18 on their calendars for the Stand Down Project Service Connect at the Recreation Center.

Mrs. Fehr asked Assistant Superintendent Reep to report on the status of the staffing for the upcoming school year. Mr. Reep explained there are two teaching positions left to fill. One position an offer has been made to a candidate.

- 16) **Adjournment** – The Board adjourned at 6:12 p.m.