

# The Morning After



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## Notes from last night's school board meeting Tuesday, February 12, 2013

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- 1) **Call to Order** – President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.  
  
**Consent Agenda and Personnel Report** - The Board approved the agenda including the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports; the personnel reports which includes the new hires of Susan Cook, principal at Heart River Elementary and Mitchell Meier, social studies instructor at Hagen Junior High; the personnel report which also included the resignations of the following certified staff: Kathy Bacon, instructor at Early Childhood Center, effective 05/24/2013, 14 years of service; Ellen Becker, speech pathologist at Berg Elementary, effective 05/24/2013, 22 years of service; Terry Glasser, Title I instructor at Heart River Elementary, effective 05/24/2013, 29 years of service; Kelly Harrison, grade five instructor at Heart River Elementary, effective 05/24/2013, 31 years of service; Nancy Kienzle, speech pathologist at Heart River Elementary, effective 05/24/2013, 18 years of service; Connie Klein, Title I instructor at Hagen Junior High, effective 05/24/2013, 31 years of service; Elaine LaPlante-Jilek, speech pathologist at DHS, effective 05/24/2013, 21 years of service; and Kathleen Schou, strategist at Heart River Elementary, effective 05/24/2013, 13 years of service; the student recognitions; a tuition waiver agreement for two children of Stephanie Crimmins from South Heart to Dickinson; and the RACTC report. There was no RESP report received.
  
- 2) **Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:
  - a. **Kindergarten Pre-Enrollment** – Last week the district held pre-registration for kindergarteners for the next school year. There were 182 that registered, this compares to 168 pre-registrations one year ago.
  - b. **New England Baseball Agreement** – As per a notification from the North Dakota High School Activities Association, New England Public Schools has requested the agreement for baseball be dissolved.
  - c. **Collaborative Bargaining Meeting** – The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m.
  - d. **Budget Committee Meeting** - Topics from the recent Budget Committee Meeting included purchasing additional buses, a 1-to-1 initiative in the DHS history department, classified staff salaries, hiring a Facility Planning Consultant to assist with long range planning for the district, the girls softball program in the next school year, and an update from Assistant Superintendent Reep regarding the legislative session and the school funding bill.
  - e. **New Employee Assistance Program** – A new program has been selected by the district. The program is served by the Midwest Employee Assistance Program Solutions. President Fehr inquired if there was a difference in cost than the previous program. Assistant Superintendent Reep responded the average employee uses 2.4 counseling sessions. The new program provides less sessions at a lower cost.
  
- 3) **School Board Vacancy** – The DPS advertised for applications for the position of a school board member. There were six applications received. Available on the website under Supporting Documents are the applications. All candidates attended the board meeting. President Fehr

thanked the applicants for their interest and for attending the meeting. She asked each applicant to introduce themselves, explain some information about themselves, where their children attend or have attended school, and their interest in the position. Following are the candidates that applied for the position: Dr. Rich Brauhn, Mrs. Karen Thompson, Mrs. Tonya Rude, Mr. Gery Smith, Mr. Dean Rummel, and Mrs. Marya Skaare. Assistant Superintendent Reep explained the process for narrowing down the selection to three candidates and then the process for the final selection. After a vote was taken by Board members, Mrs. Tonya Rude was unanimously selected as the new school board member. Mrs. Rude was invited to stay for the Board meeting and took the Oath of Office immediately following the board meeting.

- 4) **Regional After School Program (RASP) Report** – Board members heard a presentation from the RASP Co-directors Mrs. Peggy Anderson and Mrs. Trisha Freidt. The RASP program began in 2008 and is funded by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant. The co-directors listed the schools the program is located, the number of students served, and the number of staff employed. They also listed some extra summer activities provided in the program. Available on the website under Supporting Documents is a report provided by the RASP co-directors. Assistant Superintendent Reep explained the funding for the program and some possible limitations in the future if funding is cut. President Fehr thanked the co-directors for attending the meeting and providing updated information. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.
- 5) **Prairie Rose Elementary School Update** – Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep addressed the Board stating progress on the construction is on schedule. Available on the website are minutes from the January 16 construction meeting. The next meeting will be held next week. Mr. Reep stated the remaining floors will be poured next week. Texturing has been completed on many sections in the building. Casework should begin in late March. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.
- 6) **Superintendent’s Evaluation** - The superintendent’s evaluation must be completed prior to March 15. Board members will rate the superintendent on the following three areas: Relationship with School Board, Educational Leadership, and Relationship with the Community. President Fehr will forward a MS Word document to Board members. Board members were asked to complete the form and return to President Fehr before March 1. Board President Fehr will compile the information and present it to the Board at the March Board meeting. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.
- 7) **Budget Development and Input Committee and Budget Funding Priority List** – President Fehr lead the discussion regarding this agenda item. This committee was formed in July 2003. The intent of the committee was to provide board input in the development of the annual budget and to represent the board in budgetary or financial matters of the school district. Additionally, the intent was to assist the board in its understanding of the district’s budget and district financial matters. Vice-president Jason Hanson and Board Member Leslie Ross are the board representatives on this committee. A funding priority list was established in 2011 with the assistance of the School Board and Cabinet members. Board members discussed some of the items on the list that had been accomplished. Consensus was to review the list on an annual (or more) basis. Timing will be affected by legislative action.
- 8) **Roughrider Educational Services Program (RESP) Membership** – At the February 2012 Board meeting a Board member requested the topic of the RESP be brought back for further discussion in 2013. There is a deadline to follow if DPS would wish to withdraw from the RESP

program. President Fehr noted at the Board meeting the RESP services are not in alignment with the expectations of DPS. Some concerns noted by the School Board included the RESP fee structure, services that would benefit the DPS students, and specialized professional development based on the RESP strategic plan. Administration and Board members have been trying to work out the concerns with RESP for the past two years. After lengthy discussion, the Board approved to withdraw DPS from the membership in the Roughrider Educational Services Program effective at the end of the 2012-2013 fiscal year. There are several meetings before the end of the term. The School Board left a contingency that if the program would become more beneficial and appropriate relative to the staff and students at DPS, the Board may reconsider. President Fehr thanked the administrators for their extra efforts the past two years. There was a lot of their time committed to trying to make the program successful.

- 9) **Reschedule March School Board Meeting** – The Board rescheduled the March Board Meeting for Tuesday, March 12 at 5:00 p.m.
- 10) **Extracurricular Committee Meeting Update** – Available on the website are the minutes from the recent Extracurricular Committee Meeting. The Board approved to add CTE Summer Supervision to the negotiated agreement at the rate of .6% of the base salary per day for National Skills USA, National TSA, State Officer Training, National Ford AAA Student Auto Skills, and National FBLA, effective for the 2013-2014 contract.
- 11) **Early Resignation Incentive Application** – The Board approved the early resignation incentive applications for the following individuals:
  - Kathy Bacon, instructor at Early Childhood Center (14 years of service)
  - Ellen Becker, speech pathologist at Berg Elementary (22 years of service)
  - Terry Glasser, Title I instructor at Heart River Elementary (29 years of service)
  - Kelly Harrison, grade five instructor at Heart River Elementary (31 years of service)
  - Nancy Kienzle, speech pathologist at Heart River Elementary (18 years of service)
  - Connie Klein, Title I instructor at Hagen Junior High (31 years of service)
  - Elaine LaPlante-Jilek, speech pathologist at DHS (21 years of service)
  - Eleanor Sand, assistant cook at Lincoln (40 years of service)
  - Kathleen Schou, strategist at Heart River Elementary (13 years of service)
  - Ione Weiler, head cook at Lincoln Elementary (19 years of service)

Assistant Superintendent Reep explained the deadline for certified staff to turn in their application is March 1. The deadline for classified staff to turn in their application is April 1. President Fehr expressed, on behalf of the board, the sadness for losing these employees which have a combined total of 238 years of service. She publicly thanked the individuals for their dedication to the children of DPS and for all their hard work. These individuals have put in their time with the district and she wished to thank them.

- 12) **Open Enrollment Applications** - The Board approved an open enrollment request for the three children of Marissa Krump from Belfield Public Schools to Dickinson Public. The Board also approved a request for three children of Michelle Mayer from Hebron Public School District to Dickinson Public. All students are currently enrolled in DPS.

- 13) **Board Policy Addition – Second Reading and Final Adoption** - The Board approved for second reading and final adoption the addition of policy FAAD-Tuition Agreements. This policy is available on the website under Supporting Documents.
- 14) **Board Regulation Additions or Revisions – First Reading and Final Adoption** – The Board approved for first reading and final adoption school board regulation KBA-BR1 Relations with the News Media. This regulation is posted on the website under Supporting Documents.
- 15) **Other** – Ms. Ross reminded everyone of the Mystery Dinner Theater sponsored by the DPS Foundation which will be held this weekend at the Elks. Tickets are still available. President Fehr reminded everyone of the Drum Line/Jazz Band/Swing Choir Concert at DHS Monday night at 7:00 p.m.
- 16) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.