

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Regular Meeting

November 12, 2013; 5:00 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on November 12, 2013, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Vice President Jason Hanson, Ms. Leslie Ross, Mrs. Tanya Rude, and Dr. Morton Krieg. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mr. Ron Dockter, Mr. Jay Hepperle, Mr. Guy Fridley, Mr. Calvin Dean, Dr. Marcus Lewton, Mrs. Susan Cook, Ms. Tamara Praus, Ms. Sherry Libis, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, and Mr. Henry Mack. Others present were: Mr. Larry Sebastian, Mrs. Twila Petersen, and Miss Katherine Grandstrand from the Dickinson Press.

Call to Order - Board President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Participation – There were no requests for public participation.

Additional Agenda Items/Removal of Items from the Consent Agenda – There were no additions or deletions to the consent agenda.

Consent Agenda - Mrs. Rude moved to approve the agenda including the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the October 14 regular board meeting and workshop, the October 21 special board meeting; the bills for November 2013; the financial reports for November 2013; the pledged assets report for November 2013; the personnel reports; the student/staff recognitions; and the RACTC report, as presented. There were no tuition waiver requests. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following topics.

- a. **AdvancED External Review** – On Sunday, November 17, the AdvancED visitation team will arrive. Board members were requested to be present for the Board member interviews scheduled for Monday, November 18 at 10:45 a.m. at the Central Office. There will be an exit report provided by the interview team at a special school board meeting on Wednesday, November 20 at 4:00 p.m. at the Hagen Junior High School cafeteria.
- b. **Community Forum** – The facility master planner, DLR Group, will have the first community forum on Monday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Prairie Rose Elementary cafeteria.
- c. **American Education Week** – American Education Week is celebrated November 18-22. Several local companies are sending employees to read to students in the classroom. This is a great opportunity to thank all the employees in the District for their hard work and dedication.
- d. **DHS Attendance Improvements** – Superintendent Sullivan commended the students that had perfect attendance for the first quarter at DHS. There were 131 DHS students who had no tardies or absences. This is the highest number of students in recent years. Along with thanking the students, Dr. Sullivan thanked the administrators, teachers and staff for this accomplishment.

Business Topics

Roughrider Area Career and Technical Center (RACTC) Update – Mr. Larry Sebastian, RACTC Director, addressed the board providing an update on RACTC. Within the monthly Director's report posted under Supporting Documents, Mr. Sebastian has included summary report information regarding course offerings, mission and financials. Mr. Sebastian stated this is the sixth year for the

Roughrider Area Career and Technical Center (RACTC) Update (cont.)

RACTC program. It initially started in 2008 with 145 students. In 2013, 396 students are participating in the program. Mr. Sebastian explained some of the courses offered by the program. Funding for the program is broken down 40% / 60%. The fee structure has not changed since 2008. Mr. Sebastian expressed his gratitude for the Dickinson Public Schools staff. There was discussion regarding fees charged to non-member schools. Mr. Sebastian explained there has been an increase in tuition from \$200 to \$250. President Fehr inquired if Mr. Sebastian has seen a change with all the new students coming into the area. Mr. Sebastian responded there has been a significant interest in health careers. There have periodically been late enrollees. President Fehr said she appreciates the monthly newsletters that Director Sebastian provides. She thanked Mr. Sebastian for traveling to Dickinson to attend the meeting and providing an updated report. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Southwest Community High School (SWCHS) Report – Principal Jay Hepperle from SWCHS addressed the board providing updated information regarding the alternative high school. He distributed a handout listing demographic and credit information for SWCHS. Also available is a report prepared by Mr. Hepperle which is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Mr. Hepperle thanked the board for providing the facility and education for those students benefiting from the alternative school. This is the 12th year SWCHS has been serving students. He explained that SWCHS may be the alternative decision for students who have dropped out of school previously or are contemplating dropping out of school. The staff at SWCHS provide the support and encouragement to a unique demographic of students. Between the three staff members, up to 20 students are served. The teachers are providing curriculum for 47 different classes. These teachers work very hard as well as being positive role models and mentors for the students. A graduation plan was implemented recently to help the students have a target and stay on a path towards graduation. New to SWCHS is the Response to Intervention program. This helps to serve the needs of the students socially, emotionally, and intellectually. Other topics discussed were classes offered to students that are parents, using technology, and absenteeism goals. President Fehr thanked Mr. Hepperle for his presentation and the material provided. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

School Board Workshop – Following the Board meeting, there was a Board workshop. Available on the website is the agenda for the workshop under the agendas link. No decisions were made during the workshop but topics discussed may become further Board meeting agenda items. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA) Convention - Available on the website under Supporting Documents are reports available from Mrs. Fehr, Mrs. Rude, Mrs. Martinson, and Dr. Sullivan for the convention, the legal seminar, and the new member seminar. Mrs. Rude noted that the Governor is requesting that schools try and work in the snow days towards the end of the school year when creating the school calendars. President Fehr reported the general assembly discussed the NDSBA dues increase. The dues increase did pass. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Scheduling a Special School Board Meeting – The AdvancED visitation team will be in the District November 18-20. At 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, the review team will be presenting an

Scheduling a Special School Board Meeting (cont.)

exit report. All administrators and school board members were encouraged to attend. Due to a possible Board quorum, this meeting will be posted as a public meeting. The public will also be invited to attend. Administrative recommendation was to hold the meeting at Hagen Junior High. Action was requested. Mrs. Rude moved to schedule a special school board meeting on Wednesday, November 20 at 4:00 p.m. at Hagen Junior High for the AdvancED verbal report. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Girls' Fastpitch Softball Cooperative Agreement - The Killdeer Public School District has requested a girls' fastpitch softball cooperative agreement with DPS. The proposed agreement is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Administrative recommendation was to approve the agreement. Mr. Fridley addressed the board stating there are one or two Killdeer students interested in the softball program. Mr. Hanson moved to approve the extracurricular cooperative agreement with Killdeer Public School District for girls' fastpitch softball for the 2013-2014 school year. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Request Approval of the Dunn County GPT Infrastructure Grant Application – Assistant Superintendent Reep addressed the Board explaining the grant application to the Dunn County Commissioners to help defray the costs for increases in transportation. A copy of the grant application is posted under Supporting Documents. The amount requested is \$89,880. Action was requested to approve the submittal of the grant. Ms. Ross moved to approve the grant application to the Dunn County Commissioners for the Dunn County GPT Infra-structure Grant in the amount of \$89,880 for the purchase of a bus and for additional transportation costs incurred by the District, as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Request Approval of the Stark County GPT Infrastructure Grant Application – Assistant Superintendent Reep addressed the Board and explained the justification for the grant application to the Stark County Commissioners to help defray the costs for the purchase of a bus and the increased transportation fees incurred by the District. A copy of the grant application is posted under Supporting Documents and for consideration by the Board. The amount requested is \$89,880. Action was requested to approve the submittal of the grant. Mrs. Rude moved to approve the grant application to the Stark County Commissioners for the Stark County GPT Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$89,880 for the purchase of a bus and for additional transportation costs incurred by the District, as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other – President Fehr reminded board members of the upcoming play at Dickinson High School and encouraged them to attend.

Adjournment – At 6:00 p.m., Ms. Ross moved to adjourn. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Kris Fehr, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary