



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\$89 Million School Bond Referendum Fails

DICKINSON, ND – The Dickinson Public Schools (DPS) Bond Referendum failed today, according to unofficial results. The vote did not meet the needed 60 percent supermajority with the uncanvassed count at 1,463 votes cast for and 2,470 votes cast against the bond referendum. The bond would have been used for the construction of a new 1,600 student high school.

DPS Superintendent Dr. Shon Hocker shared this statement following the results, “Unfortunately, numerous obstacles are presented to school districts and school boards when charged with providing appropriate opportunities for all students. One of those obstacles include the requirement of achieving 60% voter support to pass a school bond.”

The Dickinson Public School Board will canvass and certify the results at a special school board meeting on September 16. Board President Brent Seaks shared his frustration stating, “I am disappointed for my own children and for all the children in our district who deserve a better learning environment. I am disappointed for our high school teachers who deserve a better teaching environment. I am disappointed for the sake of our community as we become a less attractive place to live without a solution to our worn out and overcrowded high school. While I am not certain of our next step today, I do believe this community will rise to the challenge to meet the present and future educational needs of our kids.”

As for plans moving forward, Hocker stated, “Many difficult decisions lie ahead. We will evaluate all options and put forth our best path forward. I am committed to provide the most relevant, effective, and empowering learning opportunity for all students.”

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