



**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT LEADERSHIP  
TEAM MEETING**

Monday, April 25, 2016; 4:00 p.m., CAO Board Room

**Minutes**

Members Present: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Mr. Ron Dockter, Mrs. Trista Fisher, Mr. Mitchell Meier, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Mrs. Sarah Ricks, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mrs. Carla Schaeffer, Ms. Sherry Libis, Ms. Tia Newton, Mrs. Melanie Hanel, Dr. Rebecca Pitkin, Mrs. Amanda DeMorrett, Ms. Tammy Praus, Mrs. Amber Fridley, Mrs. Betsy Brandvik, Mrs. Susan Cook, Mrs. Kate Rothschiller, Mrs. Nicole Weiler, and Mrs. Jennifer Nokes.

Absent: Mr. Brent Wolf, Dr. Marcus Lewton, Mrs. Meagen Schlecht, Mrs. Michelle Kovash, Mrs. Kelcey Evers, Mrs. Sara Steier, Mr. Henry Mack, Mrs. Stacy Kilwein, and Mrs. Lindsey Southiseng.

**Call to Order** – Superintendent Sullivan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Meeting Norms** – The meeting norms were available for review on the agenda.

**Review and Approve the January 25, 2016, Meeting Minutes**– Mr. Dockter moved to approve the January 25, 2016, meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Praus seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**School Improvement Camp Agendas** – Dr. Sullivan stated that the topics have changed over time as the school district plans for its future. One item that has been asked at an open forum is what can be done with Dickinson High School. The response was when the middle school was done then the conversation regarding the high school would begin. That was estimated to happen in 2015. With the change in the economic conditions that topic was pushed back. Over the course of the past few months President Ricks and Superintendent Sullivan have been moving that conversation. The plan is to begin the conversation about DHS on June 2 by this committee at the School Improvement Camp. There was recent discussion with the DLR Group regarding DHS and the conversation moved more towards the educational delivery and how to provide the education; not the facility. The plan is on June 1 for the School Improvement Leadership Team to work on its data. The morning of June 2 will be spent with Mr. Gibbs from the DLR Group meeting with the School Improvement Leadership Team. President Ricks and Superintendent Sullivan felt the School Improvement Leadership Team should take a lead role in what education should look like at DHS. Having input from the elementary and the middle school faculty would be beneficial since they are also educators, community members, and often parents. Mr. Gibbs’ plan, at this time, is to visit with the committee about the future of education and how it will be changing.

Dr. Sullivan explained some of the changes within the District. On March 2016 the enrollment had dropped by 134 students since the beginning of the school year. Consequently Dr. Sullivan has taken steps to hold off on some hiring positions. The assistant superintendent is no longer projecting an increase in enrollment next fall.

There will be some community forums regarding DHS which Dr. Sullivan hoped these committee members would attend and help guide the conversations in the small groups.

Mrs. Brandvik inquired if the June 2 afternoon agenda includes a conversation with Mr. Gibbs. Dr. Sullivan said if the conversation would be completed in the morning with Mr. Gibbs then the June 2 afternoon agenda could possibly include the strategic plan and more building work with data with the principals.

Dr. Sullivan noted the state assessment data from 2015 and credited the work from the School Improvement Team. The reading scores at DPS are above area schools and southwest North Dakota including private schools. He thanked the team for their involvement in the scores.

Superintendent Sullivan distributed copies of a PowerPoint presentation he shared in February. He asked the committee to read the information, bring it to the June 2 meeting, and read the strategic plan and also bring it to the June 2 meeting. It may be helpful with the meeting with the DLR Group.

Two years ago DHS students participated in innovative competition with two or three students around the nation. The DHS students did very well. That innovative competition is now also available for middle school. The younger students displayed some unconstrained creativity. Dr. Sullivan would like that type of challenge extended to the high school students.

**Other** – Dr. Sullivan thanked the committee members for their time and looked forward to seeing them on June 2.

**Adjournment**- The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.