



# Budget Development and Input Committee Meeting Minutes

**September 28, 2017; 12:00 p.m.**

## **Central Administration Office – Board Room**

Present: Board Vice President Brent Seaks (Chair), Board President Sarah Ricks, Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, and Business Manager Kent Anderson. Also present was Mrs. Twila Petersen.

**Called to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Brent Seaks.

**Additions/Deletions to Agenda Items** – There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**Old Business** – There was no old business topics for discussion.

### **New Business**

**Land Purchase for New Elementary School** – Business Manager Kent Anderson introduced information regarding a parcel of land that could be a potential school site. This site would have acreage for one school or more and there is potential for utilizing the additional acreage as an investment for the future of the District. Superintendent Sullivan shared that he has visited with Mr. Shawn Kessel, Dickinson City Administrator, and Mr. Kessel indicated the city would be supportive of the District considering this acreage for development of a school or schools. President Ricks inquired if this acreage would be considered a third parcel the District is considering. Superintendent Sullivan concurred this parcel was a third option. Superintendent Sullivan also shared that based both on cost and location, he feels that this option is the best of the three currently being considered. Business Manager Anderson explained that funds for purchasing land were included in the 17-18 budget and the asking price was within the budgeted amount. Vice President Seaks and President Ricks concurred this would be a good opportunity for Dickinson Public Schools. The consensus was to sign a buy/sell agreement that would be contingent on School Board approval.

**North Dakota Department of Trust Lands Grant** – Business Manager Anderson shared with the Committee that Dickinson Public Schools was awarded and received a non-budgeted grant in September from the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands. The total of the grant was approximately \$1.2 million and was to be used for capital projects only. Expenses incurred for Dickinson Middle School (DMS) were eligible for reimbursement so the grant award replenished capital project funds previously expended on DMS construction.

**Rapid Enrollment Growth Grant** – Business Manager Anderson reported that due to the significant increase in student enrollment this fall, DPS is eligible for a Rapid Enrollment Grant administered by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (DPI). The exact grant award amount won't be known until November and is dependent on how many schools throughout the state are also eligible. The statewide appropriated amount for this grant was \$3,000,000 and eligible schools will be awarded grant dollars on a pro rata basis once DPI finishes its fall enrollment analysis.

Stop Arm Cameras on Buses – Business Manager Anderson explained that the district’s bus drivers have reported having issues with vehicles not stopping when the bus’s stop-arms are extended. Recently within a two-day span, 47 vehicles were observed by DPS bus drivers violating the school bus safety stop arm with 12 of those violations by the handicapped/special needs bus driver. Board representatives felt this was unacceptable. Administration agreed and are taking the matter very seriously to ensure the safety of the students. Mr. Anderson said the District is moving forward to put cameras on the stop arms of some of the buses. He added the police department has indicated they are willing and able to use the evidence from the cameras for prosecution. The cameras are a non-budgeted item so budget dollars will need to be re-classified for purchasing the cameras. Estimated cost for installation on all DPS buses is ~\$14,000. Consensus from the committee was to move forward with the project and shift budget dollars accordingly.

Other – There were no other topics for discussion.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.