

Dickinson Public Schools

Unapproved Budget Public Input Hearing Minutes
September 10, 2018; 6:00 p.m., Central Office Board Room

The Dickinson Public School Board held a Budget Public Input Hearing on September 10, 2018, at the Central Administration Offices. Board members present were: President Brent Seaks, Vice President Kim Schwartz, Mrs. Michelle Orton, Mr. David Wilkie, and Mr. Jason Rodakowski. Others present were: Superintendent Shon Hocker, Assistant Superintendent Keith Harris, Business Manager Kent Anderson, and Mr. Dan Grosz.

Call to Order – Board President Seaks called the Budget Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Budget Presentation – Business Manager Kent Anderson addressed the Board and the audience. He provided a presentation. The presentation addressed errors contained in the recent Stark County tax notice.

Notices were sent out by the Stark County Auditor's office to residents. The notice contained preliminary information regarding the property taxes. Mr. Anderson stated this information did not reflect actual taxes. The final tax bill will reflect the corrected amount.

Mr. Anderson explained that student enrollment in Dickinson Public Schools continues to increase. Within the past nine years, student enrollment has increased by 1,200+ students.

Over the past two years, taxable valuation has decreased. For the District, it is down by approximately 4.6%. Commercial properties are down approximately 6% and residential properties are down approximately 5%.

The revenue received for the District is received from local, state, and federal funding. The projected fund balance is \$28,162,000. The largest reduction is in the building fund, estimating a decrease of \$8.6 million.

The Dickinson Public School District's mill levy is average in comparison to other similar size school districts. Dickinson Public's mill levy, after removing debt, is the lowest of school districts that are similar in size.

Mr. Anderson noted there will be a final Budget Hearing on October 9.

President Seaks inquired why Fargo Public School District's debt limit is allowed to be so high. Mr. Anderson responded that North Dakota Century Code makes an exception for the Fargo Public School District.

President Seaks commended Mr. Anderson on the presentation and said it was very informative.

Public Participation – President Seaks invited the member from the audience to ask questions. Mr. Grosz responded he was only attending to learn more about where the funds are spent. President Seaks thanked Mr. Grosz for attending the hearing.

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Adjournment – At 6:35 p.m., Chair Seaks declared the Budget Public Hearing adjourned.

Brent Seaks, Board President

Kent Anderson, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary