

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Special School Board Meeting

November 6, 2014; 12:30 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a special meeting on November 6, 2014, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Vice President Jason Hanson, Mrs. Sarah Ricks, Ms. Leslie Ross and Mrs. Tanya Rude (via conference call). Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan and Assistant Superintendent Reep. Others present were: Mrs. Kim Schwartz, Mr. Tracy Tooz, Mrs. Twila Petersen, and Ms. Nadya Faulx from the Dickinson Press.

Call to Order – Board President Kris Fehr called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. She noted this was a Special School Board Meeting and only topics on the agenda may be discussed. There was only one item on the agenda.

Public Participation – There were requests from public participation from Mrs. Kim Schwartz and Mr. Tracy Tooz. President Fehr welcomed Mrs. Kim Schwartz. Mrs. Schwartz addressed the Board and stated she was a DHS graduate, a community member, the wife of a retired teacher and a resident of the Dickinson Public School District. She requested the Board to negotiate the teacher salaries not based on justification for the cost of living but as to the worth of the teachers in the community, to the parents and the students in the District. President Fehr thanked Mrs. Schwartz for her comments and asked Mr. Tracy Tooz if he had any comments he wished to share. Mr. Tracy Tooz stated that it was discouraging to hear the negotiations discussion going back and forth. He noted Board members are public persons that sit on the Board and do not get paid much for this position. He added the Board members were intelligent and were doing what was best for the benefit of the school system and the teachers are doing what is best for the benefit of the teachers. Mr. Tooz said it was wise of the Board to call an executive session, to get in alignment and get organized. Board President Fehr thanked the two individuals for providing their input. President Fehr said she thought the teacher negotiations meetings were discouraging and felt they have not been as productive as the Board negotiators would have liked. The Board negotiators would like some direction from the Board members. Board President Fehr stated it was her interest to do what is in the best interest of the students of the school district and receive direction from the Board on the teacher negotiations and contract.

Teacher Contract Negotiations – President Fehr noted the next item on the agenda was the purpose of teacher contract negotiations strategy. She stated this item may be discussed in an executive session. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is North Dakota Century Code section 44-04-19.1(9). The topic or purpose of the executive session was teacher contract negotiations. President Fehr reported a motion would be in order to discuss this topic in executive session, if this was the wishes of the Board. Mrs. Ricks stated as per North Dakota Century Code NDCC 44-04-19.1 (9) she moved to close the meeting and go into executive session for the purpose of teacher contract negotiations. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. President Fehr noted after the executive session was completed the public will be invited to rejoin the meeting. A roll call vote was taken on the motion; Ross–aye, Ricks–aye, Hanson–aye, Fehr–aye. The motion carried unanimously. President Fehr reported the executive session would be recorded and all members of the governing board were to limit their discussion during the executive session to the announced topic. Any collective decision, collective commitment, or other final action

Teacher Contract Negotiations (cont.)

by the governing board would occur when the meeting reconvenes unless required by law during the executive session. President Fehr reflected school board policy BCAD-Executive Session which lists those individuals that may attend the executive session. Those designated to be in attendance were Board President Fehr, Board Vice President Hanson, Board Member Ross, Board Member Ricks, Board Member Rude (if she should call in), Superintendent Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Reep, and Recorder Petersen. At 12:40 the School Board went into executive session for the purpose of teacher contract negotiations. The session was attended by Board President Kris Fehr, Board Vice President Jason Hanson, Board Member Leslie Ross, Board Member Tanya Rude, Board Member Leslie Ross, Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, and Recorder Twila Petersen. President Fehr noted she anticipated the meeting would adjourn in approximately 20 minutes.

The executive session was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. President Fehr invited the public back into the Special School Board meeting. She noted that the Board discussed the teacher contract negotiations. President Fehr noted there were no other topics for the Special School Board meeting. President Fehr expressed concerns with the negotiations. She addressed Assistant Superintendent Reep and asked if a meeting had been set up last night for Mr. Fahy to go over numbers. Mr. Reep said he made sure that Mr. Tuchscherer received the spreadsheet from last night with the numbers and then caught Mr. Fahy to compare calendar schedules. Mr. Reep invited Mr. Fahy to look at his schedule and meet with Mr. Reep, possibly Wednesday or Thursday, November 12 or 13th and tie back the increase sheet. Mr. Reep will inform the Board negotiators when the meeting has transpired. President Fehr noted the next negotiations meeting would be chaired by the Board. There was discussion regarding the difficulties with scheduling a negotiations meeting the week of November 10, including the difficulties for Mr. Fahy and Mr. Reep to meet before the end of next week. Assuming Mr. Fahy and Mr. Reep have met by the 14th of November, a proposed date for the negotiations meeting would be 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 19 at the Central Office. No other topics were discussed.

President Fehr recapped, the Board has met and given the negotiators direction. The understanding is that Mr. Fahy and Mr. Reep will be meeting to go over figures. Mrs. Petersen will find out if the next teacher negotiations meeting can be scheduled for the 19th of November at 6:30 a.m. at the Central Office.

Adjournment – At 1:53 p.m., Ms. Ross moved to adjourn. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Kris Fehr, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary