

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Regular Meeting

May 9, 2011; 5:00 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on May 9, 2011, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Mr. Jason Hanson, Ms. Leslie Ross, Dr. Morton Krieg, and Dr. Becky Pitkin. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mr. Ron Dockter, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Mr. Perry Braunagel, Mr. Calvin Dean, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mrs. Becky Meduna, Miss Sherry Libis, and Mr. Mark Rerick. Others present were: Mrs. Diana Stroud, Mrs. Andrea Dorval, Miss Courtney Sanders, Mrs. Twila Petersen, and Mr. Sean Soehren from the Dickinson Press.

President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

There were no requests for Public Participation.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Mr. Hanson moved to approve the agenda including the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the April 4, 2011, regular meeting; the bills for May 2011; the financial report for May 2011; the pledged assets report for May 2011; the personnel reports; the resignation of Tracy Brudwick, basic education instructor at the Adult Learning Center; the hires of Rebecca Andvik, ELL instructor at DHS; Kyle Christensen, mathematics instructor at Hagen Junior High; Amanda Hlibichuk, grade four instructor at Lincoln; Kelly Jahn, grade three instructor at Lincoln; Nicole Johns, grade five instructor at Lincoln; Cassie McLean, grade five instructor at Jefferson; Lidia Muckle, Title I reading and mathematics instructor at Hagen Junior High; Justin Schlecht, district-wide art instructor; Meagan Schlecht, grade two instructor at Heart River; and Alisha Webster, strategist at Hagen Junior High; the student/staff recognitions; the RESP report; and the RACTC report. There were no tuition waiver agreements. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:

- a) **Accreditation Report** – Dr. Sullivan informed the Board members that he received inaccurate paperwork regarding two personnel in the district who were not licensed or had an accreditation pending. The matter was cleared up with the Department of Public Instruction and an updated letter has been received notifying Dickinson Public Schools the individual was properly licensed and the other individual was unable to take a required test due to inclement weather. The test was rescheduled and has already been completed.
- b) **Graduations** – The Adult Learning Center's graduation will be held May 12 at 7:30 p.m., the Southwest Community High School graduation will be held May 25 at 7:00 p.m., and the Dickinson High School graduation will be held on Sunday, May 29 at 3:00 p.m.
- c) **June School Board Meeting** – Superintendent Sullivan will be unable to attend the Monday, June 13 School Board meeting.

Major Summer Building Projects – Assistant Superintendent Reep provided the board with a building projects summary that is available on the website under Supporting Documents. The reconfiguration of the boiler and heating system at Berg Elementary is a work-in-progress. Mr. Reep stated that the district building roofs are up to date. Other discussion included the ceiling at the Jefferson gymnasium, the DHS student parking lot, and the DHS practice gymnasium floor replacement. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Dr. Pitkin joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Seventh Grade Mathematics Curriculum – At the April 4 School Board meeting, a request was made to continue the discussion at the May Board regarding the mathematics curriculum meeting. Director of Instruction, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, has posted four documents regarding the mathematics curriculum which are available under Supporting Documents on the website. These documents include a flow chart, common core standards from the Department of Public Instruction website, algebra example from Connected Math, and a short synopsis of the research on Connected Math. Mrs. Kathrein and Mrs. Andrea Dorval addressed the Board. They explained the reasoning for the transition to Connected Math, the mathematics courses students will be taking, and the alignment to common core standards. The common core standards were developed nationally and in North Dakota. To be in alignment with the standards, every seventh grade student will be required to take pre-algebra using Connected Math. There was discussion regarding the transition for the students to Connected Math. This agenda item was for discussion only. No action was requested.

Report on National School Board Association (NSBA) Convention – Board President Kris Fehr, Board Vice-president Leslie Ross, Dr. Becky Pitkin, and Superintendent Sullivan attended the recent NSBA convention. Posted under Supporting Documents are summaries prepared by each member highlighting topics and information from the presentations and workshops attended. Ms. Ross thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference. She said that the digital textbooks and podcasting were two presentations that interested her. Dr. Pitkin briefly discussed areas where a poverty stricken area brought in a specialist to salvage a district. Dr. Sullivan noted a session he attended about superintendent and board self-evaluation. Another topic of interest to him was the merit-based pay plan. Mrs. Fehr found the sessions interesting regarding leadership and professional learning communities. President Fehr thanked the district for budgeting for the members to attend the convention. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Board Policy BEC-School Board Evaluation – At the April school board meeting, Board members tabled the continuing discussion of Board Policy BEC-School Board Evaluation and supplementary exhibit BEC. These two documents (BEC and BEC-E) are posted on the website under Supporting Documents under the April 4 Board meeting. Ms. Ross said the Board has a sample policy that has been tabled. She attended a session at the NSBA Convention regarding board self-evaluation. There are many sample board self-evaluations available. Evaluations may help to improve performance and celebrate accomplishments. It would be an opportunity for Board members to set goals and objectives to tie into strategic planning. Ms. Ross and President Fehr suggested reviewing some board self-evaluations as a group at an upcoming Board workshop. This agenda item was for discussion only. No action was requested.

DHS Practice Gymnasium Floor Bid – Assistant Superintendent Reep addressed the Board explaining the tartan floor on the practice gymnasium at DHS has some cracks due to the settling of the cement underneath. He said the district had advertised for bids for the new flooring at the DHS practice gymnasium. The district received one bid from Athletic Performance Solutions for a new wood floor to be placed over the current tartan flooring. This company also did the wooden floor at Berg Elementary. This would be about a 3-4 week project. A copy of the bid is available under Supporting Documents. The administrative recommendation was to accept the bid submitted by Athletic Performance Solutions. Action was requested. Ms. Ross moved to accept the bid from Athletic Performance Solutions for \$142,600 for replacement of the DHS practice gymnasium floor. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Breakfast and Lunch Meal Prices – Assistant Superintendent Reep addressed the Board and said it has been approximately three years since the district has increased their meal prices. He explained under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, it requires the district to provide the same level of financial support for lunches provided to students who pay for their meals as those students eligible for free meals. A summary of the costs is posted under Supporting Documents. This provision is effective July 1, 2011. The areas highlighted in yellow on Mr. Reep's Supporting Document reflect the suggested new prices. The administrative recommendation was to increase the breakfast meal prices \$.05 and some lunch meal prices \$.10 to be in compliance. Action was requested. Mr. Hanson moved to approve a fee of \$1.15 for breakfast for students, \$1.30 for breakfast for adults, \$1.80 for lunch for students grades K-6, \$2.10 for lunch for grades 7 and 8, \$2.85 for lunch for grades 9-12, and \$3.35 for lunch for adults, effective the fall of 2011. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2011-2012 Student Handbooks - A copy of the 2011-2012 student handbooks and a summary of the recommended changes for the elementary, Hagen Junior High, Dickinson High School, and Southwest Community High School handbooks have been posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. President Fehr asked Superintendent Sullivan to discuss the bullying policy. Dr. Sullivan said that legislation is requiring the North Dakota School Board Association (NDSBA) to provide our district with a model policy. Discussion has already begun with district cabinet members regarding the policy and a committee will review the model policy when it is available. During the interim, the current bullying policy will remain in place. Dr. Pitkin moved to approve the 2011-2012 elementary, Hagen Junior High, Dickinson High School, and Southwest Community High School student handbooks, as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Authorized Representative for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program – The district was recently notified by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that the continuing application for the 21st Century Grant is due by May 15th, 2011. As the requirements for submitting the grant application were reviewed, a new requirement was identified for the 2011-2012 school year. The request must now verify that the school board of the fiscal agent for the grant appointed an authorized representative for the grant. As managing and administering the 21st Century Grant is in the portfolio of Assistant Superintendent Reep, it is the administrative recommendation to appoint Mr. Reep as the authorized representative for the grant. Action was requested. Dr. Pitkin moved to appoint Assistant Superintendent Vince

Authorized Representative for the CCLC Program (cont.)

Reep as the authorized representative for the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant for the 2011-2012 school year. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual Meeting Day and Time - Board members were asked to schedule the annual meeting date. Action was requested. Mr. Hanson moved to schedule the annual school board meeting for Monday, July 11, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Pitkin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Teacher Negotiated Agreement – The proposed teacher negotiated agreement includes the following changes from the previous contract:

- a) The agreement is for two years (2011-2012 and 2012-2013) ending June 30, 2013.
- b) The index base for 2011-2012 is \$29,300 which is a 5.4% increase in the base. The index base for 2012-2013 is \$30,000 which is a 2.39% increase.
- c) Continuance pay has been suspended. Career increments will now be calculated off of BS+0 and given every other year.

The contract meets the State mandate of spending 70% of new State money on teacher compensation. The school board bargaining team recommends approval of the negotiated agreement pending ratification by the Dickinson Education Association (DEA) on May 16, 2011. A copy of the teacher negotiated agreement is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. Old policy descriptor codes will be changed to new descriptor codes as the district receives updates from the NDSBA. Mrs. Fehr and Ms. Ross were the Board representatives on the collaborative bargaining team. Both felt the process went well and thought all participants were very collaborative and came to positive solutions. Action was requested. Ms. Ross moved to approve the two year teacher negotiated agreement that includes an index base for 2011-2012 school year of \$29,300 and an index base for 2012-2013 of \$30,000 and to approve the changes in the negotiated agreement, as presented, pending ratification by the DEA at its meeting on May 16, 2011. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Classified Staff Salary Proposal – The budget committee had met and discussed the salaries for the classified staff and proposed a 6% increase in 2011-2012 for classified staff receiving a satisfactory performance evaluation. The beginning salaries would increase \$.45 per hour. Action was requested. Mr. Hanson moved to approve the Classified Salary and Benefit package with an effective date of July 1, 2011, and to authorize a 6% increase in 2011-2012 for classified staff receiving a satisfactory performance evaluation, as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other - The Roughrider Career and Technology Center (RACTC) has interviewed four candidates for their health career instructor position. President Fehr complimented DHS choir director Mr. Michael Stevenson for the experience provided to all the choir students when a composer came to the school rather than the students going on a tour, which made it possible for all the choir students to take part in the activities. The students went to Medora and Richardton to rehearse and presented a wonderful concert to the public.

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Adjournment - At 6:46 p.m., Ms. Ross moved to adjourn. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion.
The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Kris Fehr, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary