

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Regular Meeting

June 8, 2009; 5 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on June 8, 2009, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: Dean Rummel, Kris Fehr, Mitzi Swenson, Mort Krieg and Leslie Ross. Administrators present were: Superintendent Stremick, Vince Reep, Jeff Peck, Melanie Kathrein, Becky Meduna, Sherry Libis, Dorothy Martinson, Perry Braunagel, Shawn Leiss, Tammy Praus and Del Quigley. Others present were: Kevin Thompson, Ron Van Doorne, Karen Heidt and Beth Wischmeyer-Dickinson Press.

President Rummel called the meeting to order.

There were no requests for Public Participation.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Swenson moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the May 11, 2009, regular meeting; bills for June 2009; financial report for June 2009; and the pledged assets report for June 2009; the resignations of Jessica Billadeau, geography teacher, Hagen; Phobe Frye, preschool teacher, Early Childhood Center; and Lisa Holding Eagle, chemistry/physics teacher, Dickinson High; the hire of Kandace King, grade three teacher, Lincoln; the RESP Report; the student/staff recognitions; the tuition waiver agreement for Jimmy Murphy, South Heart to Dickinson (09-10); and to dissolve the open enrollment applications for Dominic Hoffart with Richardton Taylor (09-10) and Kayden Meduna with South Heart (09-10). Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Stremick reported on the following:

- 1) **Adult Farm Management Program**-Bismarck State College has picked up the Adult Farm Management Program for southwest North Dakota. Jerry Tuhy will begin work with them later this summer.
- 2) **Office Relocations**-The District-wide technology staff will be located in the front of the Central Office in the near future following some office changes.

Badlands Activities Center (BAC) - Kevin Thompson from the DSU Foundation gave an update on the Badlands Activities Center. His presentation included a handout with an illustration of the Badlands Activities Center east and west side, the football field, an overview of the video scoreboard and BAC Facts. The bids for the project came in under budget so they have added some additional features to the project. The video scoreboard will be the largest outdoor video board in North Dakota. The new stadium seating will extend from end zone to end zone. They will have an electronic timer which shows the runner's time on the scoreboard instead of using eight timers. The new lighting system will save energy costs and will be three times brighter than the old lights plus they have a 25 year warranty. They plan to have the football field completed by late August or early September. The turf will be installed in mid August. Fans will enter the east side of the stadium off of 13th Ave. this fall and have temporary seating. The stadium is expected to be completed by the end of February 2010. The Development Board is working on user policies and procedures, rental fees, etc. A steel beam signing is tentatively scheduled on Tuesday, July 7 at 2 p.m. They have raised over \$14.7 million thus far for the project.

Badlands Activities Center (BAC) cont.

The DSU Foundation took out private financing for the BAC project. President Rummel thanked Mr. Thompson for allowing the Dickinson Public Schools to be involved in the project. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

School Resource Officer (SRO) Report – Officer Ron Van Doorne, School Resource Officer, gave an update on the School Resource Officer activities. A copy of his report is posted under Supporting Documents. The SRO's main goals are prevention, intervention and education. This year they worked on security and safety issues in the schools. All of the Hagen and DHS doors were numbered and lettered. Emergency responders (police department, fire department and ambulance department) have a copy of the school maps with the door locations, etc. Mrs. Dalton's drafting classes developed the school maps. President Rummel thanked Officer Van Doorne and the Dickinson Police Department for the SRO partnership. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Technology Committee Report - Superintendent Stremick and Leslie Ross gave an update on the Technology Committee. A copy of the technology inventory is posted under Supporting Documents. Our technology inventory has grown significantly over the past 2 ½ years. The school district will be transitioning to Office 2007 this summer on all computers. They will be doing staff trainings. They are purchasing additional Activ Boards since the usage in the classroom has increased. Their technology plan also includes a replacement plan. They are increasing the District's bandwidth and are in the process of updating the work order system. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Class Sizes/Enrollment - Superintendent Stremick updated the Board on class sizes and staffing projections. A handout is posted under Supporting Documents with average class sizes and ranges. Their goal is to have smaller class sizes in grades K-3. Hagen's grade eight average class size is 16 students. They recently had a chemistry teacher resign at DHS and a Hagen teacher has requested a transfer to DHS. Also, a Hagen geography teacher recently submitted her resignation. The administration is recommending that they cut one teacher in each department at Hagen because of the current enrollment. Discussion was held regarding how the change would impact the teams at Hagen. They will need to rebuild their schedule. Dickinson High is expected to lose 150 students in the next four years because of smaller classes moving to DHS. The administration recommends reducing teachers through attrition at Hagen and DHS in the future because of lower enrollments. The elementary schools are expected to grow. Superintendent Stremick said that there will be a staffing shift to the elementary schools. We currently have 225 kindergarten students enrolled. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Cell Phone Policy for 2009-2010 Student Handbooks - Board members requested that the administration look at the cell phone policies from the other Class A schools in North Dakota. The recommended cell phone policy for DHS is posted under Supporting Documents. Mr. Peck, DHS assistant principal, reported on the other Class A school's cell phone policies. The recommended cell phone policy for the Dickinson High School student handbook does not allow cell phones and other electronic devices during the regular

Cell Phone Policy for 2009-2010 Student Handbooks cont.

instructional school day in the building or the classroom. Students would be allowed to use them in the east and west main entry ways (not the lobby areas) after the instructional day. They also may be used in the building after the instructional day has officially been dismissed. Cell phones may be confiscated by school officials if used in the building/classroom during inappropriate times or areas. The other policies were presented at the last meeting. Discussion followed. Some Board members would like to see a more liberal cell phone policy in the future. The administrative recommendation was to approve the cell phone policies, as presented. Action was requested.

Ross moved to approve the cell phone policy language for the elementary, Hagen Jr. High, DHS and SWCHS 2009-2010 student handbooks, as presented with the change made to Dickinson High School's cell phone policy. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Facility Planning Follow up – The Board has been discussing short range and long range facility planning at previous Board meetings. The administration was directed to research what the stimulus dollars can be used for and to look at possible financing for the Jefferson and Lincoln additions. Mr. Reep reported that he has talked to DPI about using one time stimulus dollars. He has updated our facilities plan and the preliminary construction request forms for a future Board meeting. DPI must approve the plan 60 days prior to submitting the application for assistance. He feels that we could do the Jefferson and Lincoln additions without borrowing or bonding money. They plan to request \$150,000 in stimulus dollars. They would use a portion of the stimulus money, building fund and/or general fund to finance the projects. The estimated cost is \$1.5 million for the Lincoln addition and \$1.6 million for the Jefferson addition. We have until September 30, 2010, to spend the stimulus money. Board members requested that the administration schedule public meetings next fall to inform the public of the plans and the financing opportunities and to develop a timeline. They may begin conversations with architects and engineers. One of the Board workshops will focus on enrollment and facilities. This agenda item was informational only.

Krieg left the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Adequate Yearly Progress Report - We received our 2008-2009 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports. The AYP report is posted under Supporting Documents. Superintendent Stremick reviewed the AYP reports. The high school composite score in math jumped considerably. We made AYP in the composite area in all buildings. We did not meet AYP standards in the “students with disabilities” subgroup in some of our schools. Lincoln, Berg and Hagen made AYP. Heart River did not make AYP in the “economically disadvantaged students” subgroup and in the “students with disabilities” subgroup in the reading content area. Jefferson did not make AYP in the “students with disabilities” subgroup in reading. Roosevelt did not make AYP in the “economically disadvantaged students” subgroup in reading. DHS did not make AYP in the “students with disabilities” subgroup in reading and math. There is also a District determination on AYP. We did meet AYP standards in all content areas and subgroups. Superintendent Stremick explained how they determine AYP. They use a three year roll up if you don't have enough students in a subgroup. They hope that the stimulus money for coaches will help the disadvantaged

Adequate Yearly Progress Report cont.

students in the elementary schools in the future. Superintendent Stremick reported that overall our composite scores are really good but we have some subgroups to work on. President Rummel complimented the administrators and the staff on the progress that they have made. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Certify Average Daily Membership (ADM) Report and Transportation Report - A summary of the Average Daily Membership report and the Transportation report is posted under Supporting Documents. State law requires that the school board certify the average daily membership and the transportation report for the recently completed school year to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Action was required.

Fehr moved to certify that the Average Daily Membership report and the Transportation report have been submitted, as presented, in accordance with NDCC 15.1-27-20. Swenson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Wellness End of Year Summary -The Wellness End of the Year summary is posted under Supporting Documents. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

Board Policies

- a. **Policy DBGA Professional Leave-Second Reading** - Policy DBGA Professional Leave was presented for second reading approval and final adoption. A copy of the policy with the recommended changes is posted under Supporting Documents. The administrative recommendation was to approve the revisions for second reading approval. Action was requested.
Fehr moved to approve the revisions in policy DBGA Professional Leave for second reading approval and final adoption, as presented. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. **Policy FBF Graduation Requirements** - Policy FBF Graduation Requirements was presented for first reading because of changes in the law. A copy of the revised policy is posted under Supporting Documents. The administrative recommendation was to approve the revisions for first reading approval. Action was requested.
Fehr moved to approve the revisions in policy FBF Graduation Requirements for first reading approval, as presented. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. **FBF-R Graduation Requirements Regulation** -FBF-R Graduation Requirements was presented for first reading approval. The regulation would be effective the 2010-2011 school year. Since it is a required regulation, it only requires one reading. The composition courses haven't been finalized yet. They will work with students so they are on track for graduation. A copy of the revised regulation is posted under Supporting Documents. Action was requested.
Ross moved to approve FBF-R Graduation Requirements, as presented. Swenson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Enrollment Applications-Nikki Medlar applied for open enrollment for Trent and Zoe Medlar to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the Richardton Taylor school district and Jaime Sweet applied for open enrollment for Dakota Sweet to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the Hebron School District. They recently moved so the waiver applies. The administrative recommendation was to approve the open enrollment applications. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to approve the requests for Trent and Zoe Medlar and Dakota Sweet to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. Fehr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Classified Staff Salary Proposal - Superintendent Stremick recommended approval of a \$.70 cent per hour or 7% increase in wages for classified staff who have received a satisfactory performance evaluation. Some additional adjustments will be made with starting salaries and employees affected by those changes. Other recommended changes included: to move the transportation para to category A, to move the RASP supervisor to RASP para/supervisor in category VIII and RASP Head para/supervisor to category VII. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to approve the Classified Salary and Benefit package with an effective date of July 1, 2009, and to authorize a \$.70 cent per hour or 7% wage increase for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Contracted Busing - The administration recommended that we contract with Harlow's Bus Service for activity busing and all other busing needs. Swenson noted that this agenda item was brought up at collaborative bargaining. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to accept the bid submitted by Harlow's Bus Service, Inc. for activity busing contracted services from 2009-2011. Fehr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Title I Stimulus Application - The Title I Stimulus application is posted under Supporting Documents. A hard copy of the Title I Stimulus application was available at the meeting to review. The application must be approved by the Board. Mrs. Martinson was available to answer questions. The application meets Title I guidelines. Action was requested.

Ross moved to approve the Title I Stimulus application for \$524,523, as presented. Fehr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Withdrawal from Old Joint Power Agreement - It was recommended that the Dickinson Public Schools withdraw from the RESP Joint Power Agreement dated May 29, 2002. Superintendent Stremick stated that they replaced the old joint powers agreement in May. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to withdraw from the May 29, 2002, RESP Joint Power Agreement. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other

Superintendent Stremick thanked everyone. He stated that it has been a great three years and that he enjoyed working with the Board, administrators and teachers. He felt that they accomplished a lot over the past three years.

Other cont.

President Rummel thanked Superintendent Stremick for his efforts and his leadership and wished him the best in his new endeavors.

Swenson thanked Superintendent Stremick. She hopes that he has many happy memories of Dickinson. She appreciates what he has done for us.

Fehr reported that she went to Southwest Community High School's graduation. One of their speakers was a member of the first graduating class at SWCHS in 2003. She said that the speaker was very inspirational and that it was nice to see that the graduates are doing well.

Ross requested that Superintendent Stremick provide his contact information in case they need to contact him. She requested that they add RACTC Update to the July Board meeting agenda. They are hiring a new health career teacher and they will be doing interviews on June 16. She will check to see if they have a monthly report which could be added to our consent agenda. RACTC is also developing a web site.

Swenson thanked Karen Heidt, the Board secretary, for her years of service to the Board. Reep echoed the Board member's comments. He thanked Superintendent Stremick. He said that he learned a lot from him and wished him luck in Minnesota.

At 7:25 p.m., Swenson moved to adjourn. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dean Rummel, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Karen Heidt, Secretary

