

## Unapproved School Board Workshop Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools  
Board Workshop

September 13, 2010; 5:35 p.m.  
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a Board workshop on September 13, 2010, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Dr. Becky Pitkin, Ms. Leslie Ross, and Mr. Jason Hanson. Dr. Morton Krieg was absent. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mr. Ron Dockter, Mrs. Becky Meduna, Mr. Del Quigley, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Mr. Perry Braunagel, Miss Sherry Libis, Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Mr. Calvin Dean, Mrs. Tamara Praus, Mr. Henry Mack, and Mr. Shawn Leiss. Others present were: Mrs. Beverly Kinnischtzke, Mr. Marcus Lewton, Ms. Lisa Miller from the Dickinson Press, and Mrs. Twila Petersen.

President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

No action will be taken. Topics may become agenda items at future Board meetings.

Topics for discussion included:

### **Facilities**

**District Organization** – Superintendent Sullivan asked the group to consider what would be the best organization of the facilities in the district to meet the educational needs and what type of organization has the potential to improve student learning. There are reservations if the district would change the organization of the elementary buildings from its current kindergarten to grade five. An option would be changing the organization of the elementary buildings from grades K-5 into two buildings with K-2 and two buildings with grades 3-5. Assistant Superintendent Reep discussed the possibility of the district buildings running out of space. The migration trends are unknown for the future. He felt the maximum number of classrooms the K-5 buildings in the district could handle would be 66. The district currently has 54 sections. The projection for 2011 is 61 classrooms.

**Enrollment** – Assistant Superintendent Reep provided a handout indicating the classroom sections at the K-5 buildings and the projections through 2015 based on births at St. Joseph's hospital with a 4% migration. Mr. Reep reported as of September 1, there were 15 sections of classes at Lincoln, 13 sections at Roosevelt, 13 sections at Heart River, and 13 sections at Jefferson. In 2011, Dickinson Public Schools will gain eleven additional classrooms with the additions at Lincoln and Jefferson Elementary.

**Sister Schools** – Assistant Superintendent Reep's handout also included information regarding the five elementary schools changing their current organization to two elementary schools carrying grades K-2 and two elementary schools carrying grades 3-5. This would be a district-wide collaborative move. Superintendent Sullivan provided a handout from Solution Tree and he discussed how this concept has the ability to increase student learning. Mrs. Tammy Praus, principal at Berg Elementary, explained how the combination of the sixth grade students into one building has positively impacted the students and teachers in the district. There was discussion regarding between-school busing, the starting time of school in the buildings, and the possibility of the construction of a new school.

**Roughrider Area Career and Technology Center (RACTC)** – Mr. Lewton provided a handout that included information regarding the salaries and district costs for the RACTC teachers utilized at Dickinson High School (DHS). His handout also projected costs for the next few years. The health career courses draw a lot of interest from the DHS students. There was discussion regarding adding an additional section of the health career course and the affect this would have on this program and the block scheduling at DHS.

**School Improvement**

**NCA Update** – Superintendent Sullivan provided a handout with information from the Quality Assurance Review Team Report. Dr. Sullivan reviewed each item listed on the handout and the progress that has been made in accomplishing the goals established in the report.

**Strategic Plan** – Superintendent Sullivan distributed copies of the latest school district strategic plan which was last updated in April 2007. Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, director of instruction, introduced the idea of the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) to the Board members. She explained how the Balanced Scorecard is a system to help improve communications from the top-down in an organization and also bottom-up. Board members discussed attending a Balanced Scorecard presentation at the National School Board Conference in April 2011.

**Adjournment** – At 8:00 p.m., Ms Ross moved to adjourn. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Kris Fehr, Board President

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Vince Reep, Business Manager

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Twila Petersen, Secretary