

## Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools  
Regular Meeting

September 14, 2009; 5:00 p.m.  
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on September 14, 2009, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Dean Rummel, Dr. Mort Krieg, Ms. Leslie Ross, Ms. Mitzi Swenson, and Mrs. Kris Fehr. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Sherry Libis, Tamara Praus, Becky Meduna, Dorothy Martinson, Melanie Kathrein, Ron Dockter, and Del Quigley. Others present were: Naomi Thorson, Beverly Kinnischtzke, Twila Petersen, Kevin Nelson from RACTC, Janet Prchal from Hulsing & Associates, and Beth Wischmeyer from the 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.

Ms. Swenson moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the August 10, 2009, regular meeting; minutes from the August 10, 2009, workshop; bills for September 2009; financial report for September 2009; the pledged assets report for September 2009; the hiring of Jolene Wilhelmi, preschool teacher at the Early Childhood Center; Trina Kudrna, first grade teacher at Roosevelt Elementary; Nicole Hanson, kindergarten teacher at Lincoln Elementary; the student/staff recognition; and to dissolve the open enrollment application for Jayce Belakjon from South Heart to Dickinson. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:

- a. The National School Board Association Convention will be held April 10-12, 2010, in Chicago. Early registration with a discount is before the end of this year.
- b. Near the end of October, there will be a district-wide Ergonomic Assessment in cooperation with the Work Force Safety and Insurance.
- c. The North Dakota School Board Association Annual Convention will be held at the Ramkota in Bismarck October 30-31. There are supporting documents posted on the school board web site. Some Board members expressed interest in attending this convention.
- d. The School Law Seminar for School Board Members and Administrators will be held on October 29 in Bismarck. There is a supporting document posted on the school board web site.
- e. The Southwest District Health Unit (SWDHU) has tentatively scheduled a seasonal flu shot Point of Dispensing (POD) clinic at the Heart River Elementary School September 25-26. There are two locations in Dickinson designated as POD sites. They are Heart River Elementary and Dickinson High School. These POD sites are used in the event of a national emergency. This will give the SWDHU and Heart River Elementary an opportunity to practice in the event of an emergency. The SWDHU will provide information regarding the H1N1 vaccine in the near future.

**Superintendent's Report (Cont.)**

- f. The September 1 enrollment report is posted on the school board website as a supporting document. The numbers are very encouraging.
- g. There will be a School Improvement Leadership Team meeting held on Wednesday, September 16 at 8:00 a.m. at Berg Elementary. Representatives from this team will report back to the School Board with their progress.

**Supplemental One-Time Grant Funds – Lincoln & Jefferson Additions** – Ms. Janet Prchal of Hulsing & Associates Architects and Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep presented information about the possible Lincoln Elementary and Jefferson Elementary classroom additions. The appropriate use of the Supplemental One-Time Grant monies (\$2,257,818) was discussed. Material pertaining to this topic is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board website. Since there is some state-set restrictions on the size of new construction, alternative plans and options were discussed. Assistant Superintendent Reep clarified that the Supplemental One-Time Grant and Stabilization Funds are not the same. There are approximately \$2.2 million dollars available to the DPS as a supplemental, one-time grant. Ms. Prchal provided information regarding three options for additions at Jefferson Elementary and two options for Lincoln Elementary. The criterion for the grant requires the size of any additions must be less than 25% of the existing square footage. Funding for projects with excess footage would need to be provided from other funding sources. Mr. Reep explained some of the grant monies could be used to do renovation and repair, and/or add equipment and technology. This could total up to \$1.2 million very quickly. That would leave approximately \$1 million for building projects.

Estimates provided by the architect do not include the architectural fees of 6.5% or surveying. The Jefferson Elementary estimates do include relocating the transformer, where required. Supporting documents are provided on the school board website. Brief descriptions of each option are as follows:

Jefferson Elementary Option 1: 9,991 square foot expansion. This expansion has a cost estimate of \$1,452,936. It would provide four additional classrooms and a multipurpose room towards the north end of the current school.

Jefferson Elementary Option 2: 12,460 square foot expansion. This expansion has a cost estimate of \$1,728,700. It would provide six additional classrooms and a multipurpose room towards the north end of the current building.

Jefferson Elementary Option 3: 9,962 square foot expansion. This expansion has a cost estimate of \$1,431,652. It would provide four additional classrooms and a multipurpose room towards the south end of the current school. Due to some landscaping concerns and the distance from one end of the building towards the new proposed expansion, some Board members felt this was not a good option.

Lincoln Elementary Option 1: 8,608 square foot expansion. This expansion has a cost estimate of \$1,194,643. It would provide three additional classrooms and a multipurpose room towards the west end of the current building.

**Supplemental One-Time Grant Funds (Cont.)**

Lincoln Elementary Option 2: 11,963 square foot expansion. This expansion has a cost estimate of \$1,618,171. It would provide six additional classrooms and a multipurpose room towards the west end of the current building.

Additional information was provided to remodel the kitchen at Lincoln Elementary with a cost estimate of \$150,000. Ms. Prchal stressed that there are other possibilities available. She estimated a cost of \$145 per square foot for the expansions. Another option that was proposed would be building a new school.

Mr. Reep provided information regarding enrollment based on data collected from birth rates. He also took into account retaining our kindergarten students and rolling them forward each year. Mr. Reep felt that Lincoln Elementary is the school in the most “dire straits”. If the enrollment levels out, Mr. Reep projected we would need 18 classrooms at Jefferson Elementary and 20 classrooms at Lincoln Elementary by 2013. Currently, there are 14 classrooms at Jefferson and 15 classrooms at Lincoln.

Ms. Prchal felt now would be a good time to build. She felt the month of April would be the first opportunity for contractors to start work. Mr. Reep and Dr. Sullivan will review the options and provide the Board with information regarding where the monies will come from, what the enrollment projections are, and compare this information with the options available and also against building a new school.

This agenda item was informational only. No formal action was requested. There was discussion regarding providing a public open forum in late September or early October.

**Application Approval of ARRA Education Stabilization Funding** – Assistant Superintendent Reep explained to the Board the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Education Stabilization Funding application for approximately \$434,000. A copy of the application is available on the school board website under Supporting Documents. Ms. Ross moved to approve the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Education Stabilization Funds application as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Roughrider Area Career and Technology Center (RACTC) Update** – Mr. Kevin Nelson, Director of the RACTC, explained to the Board the history of the RACTC. He also provided a report which is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board website. His report explained the different courses offered at various school locations. Health Careers has the largest interest among the students. The Board members asked various questions regarding the courses offered and what could be done to enhance the program further. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Student Transfer & Withdrawal Report** – Assistant Superintendent Reep presented information regarding student transfer and withdrawal for students K-12. Copies of his reports are posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. Mr. Reep explained there were 315 new students to DPS from last September and of that, 193 students exited the school district. This was a net of 122 students. The inward and outward

**Student Transfer & Withdrawal Report (Cont.)**

migration cumulative from 2004 to present indicates a net change of +156 students. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**NDSBA Constitutional Amendment** - President Rummel addressed the Board regarding the NDSBA recommendation to revise the NDSBA Constitution to contain a clause that removes directors from the Board. A copy of the document from NDSBA is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. President Rummel said this item will be discussed at the NDSBA convention. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Open Enrollment Applications** –Neal and Mary J. Smith applied for open enrollment for Zachary, Neal A. and Kristen Smith to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the South Heart School District. Tina M. Trevino applied for open enrollment for Dallas Payne to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the South Heart School District. Alvin M. Keller applied for open enrollment for Dustin P. Keller to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the Killdeer Public School District. All applicants recently moved so the waiver applies. The administrative recommendation was to approve the open enrollment applications. Action was requested. Mrs. Fehr moved to approve the request for Zachary, Neal, and Kristen Smith; Dallas Payne; and Dustin Keller to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Board Policies** - President Rummel addressed the Board regarding the NDSBA required revisions to the DPS Board policies. Assignments were made to Board members distributing the list of approximately 80 policies for review. A copy of a spreadsheet document summarizing the policies and required revisions is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. President Rummel explained some policies have cosmetic revisions. Many policies have revisions due to changes in the law. There may be some policies that require review by a committee. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Other** – There was no other business.

At 6:40 pm., Ms. Swenson moved to adjourn. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Dean Rummel, Board President

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Vince Reep, Business Manager

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Twila Petersen, Secretary