

## Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools  
Regular Meeting

October 8, 2012; 5:00 p.m.  
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on October 8, 2012, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Vice-president Jason Hanson, Dr. Morton Krieg, Ms. Leslie Ross and Mr. Scott Staudinger. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Mrs. Tamara Praus, Dr. Marcus Lewton, Mr. Henry Mack, Mr. Guy Fridley, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mr. Ron Dockter and Miss Sherry Libis. Others present were: Mrs. Twila Petersen and Miss Katherine Grandstrand from the Dickinson Press.

**Call to Order** - Board President Fehr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Public Participation** - There were no requests for public participation.

**Additions or Deletions to the Consent Agenda** – Mr. Hanson moved to add to the student recognition on the consent agenda WDA senior athlete of the year, Austin Mack. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Ross moved to approve the agenda including the revised consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the September 10 regular board meeting; the bills for October 2012; the financial reports for October 2012; the pledged assets report for October 2012; the personnel reports; the student/staff recognitions; a tuition waiver agreement for two children of Inga Davis from Richardton-Taylor to Dickinson; the RACTC report and the RESP report, as presented. There were no new certified hires or resignations. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Staudinger arrived at the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

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

- a) **NDEA Convention** - There will be no school on October 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> due to the North Dakota Education Association Annual Convention.
- b) **North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA) Conference** - The School Law Seminar/New Member Seminar will be held Thursday, October 25. The NDSBA Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, October 26 and 27<sup>th</sup> in Bismarck.
- c) **American Education Week**- This year, American Education Week will be recognized November 12-16. Preparations have already begun within the district to recognize the teachers and staff for their dedication and commitment to the students and the district.
- d) **Perception Surveys** – There will be perception surveys administered between October 29 and November 16 to faculty, parents and students. It will be accessible online at all the school websites and also the district website.
- e) **Budget Committee Meeting** - The Budget Committee met last week and discussed several topics. Assistant Superintendent Reep presented information to the Budget Committee noting that DPS will not be an equity district after next year. Also presented was a budget for Prairie Rose Elementary for the 2013-2014 school year. On an annual basis, the budget for the new school will be approximately \$1.3 million. The Budget Committee approved the adding a social studies and a science teacher at Hagen Junior High for the next school year. These two positions were eliminated in 2009 due to enrollment reduction. Board members discussed mill levies for school districts and the impact capping

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

the mills will have on the district. President Fehr noted that the cost of the additional impact on the school district is also penalizing the district. Ms. Ross noted that she had requested during the Budget Committee Meeting informational cards be available for Board members in the instances the public questions a board member. She also noted that there is a misconception in the community that the school district is receiving oil impact funds. Administrators and Board members discussed infrastructure costs and price comparison for construction in eastern North Dakota versus western North Dakota

**Prairie Rose Elementary School Update** – Assistant Superintendent Reep provided updated information regarding the progress of the construction on the new school. Available on the website are minutes from the construction meeting held on September 19. Mr. Reep noted the contractors continue to work on the steel frame and the geothermal system. He believes the contractors are still on schedule. Their goal is to have the building enclosed as soon as possible. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Student Mobility Report** – Assistant Superintendent Reep presented information regarding student migration in and out of the district. Available on the website is a student mobility report from 2011-2012 and also a summary from the past four years regarding student mobility. In the school year 2010-2011, there were 721 students that either came into the district or left the district. This was an all time high. In 2011-2012, there were 960 students that either came in or left the district. That accounts for 1/3 of the student population. Even though a large percentage of students are mobile, the district does an outstanding job in making sure the students and their families feel welcome and provide the best education possible. President Fehr asked the principals if there have been any noted challenges. Some challenges with student mobility include receiving student records from the child's previous school, receiving special education records on a timely manner, and foundational skills. One principal noted that some of the students have been very mobile and have attended many schools. Ms. Ross inquired about the changing cultural diversity. The district foresees no concerns with the diverse population. Mr. Reep did note there will be a position posted for an ELL instructor to provide additional student support. President Fehr thanked Mr. Reep for tracking the student mobility. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Superintendent's Formative Evaluation** – DPS will follow the same process as previous years to evaluate the superintendent. The three areas that will be evaluated are: relationship with school board, educational leadership, and relationship with the community. A copy of the superintendent's job description is posted on the website. Superintendent Sullivan will respond to the topics in writing and forward the evaluation to the school board members for their comments. Board members were asked to return the evaluation form to President Fehr by November 23. The Board will review the evaluation at its December 10 Board meeting. President Fehr inquired if Board members wished the topics to remain on the current rotation. There were no objections. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**School Board Workshop** – A Board workshop immediately followed the Board meeting. The agenda for the workshop is posted on the website under the workshop agenda link. Topics discussed at the workshop may become agenda items at future Board meetings. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Collaborative Bargaining Recognition Petition from the Dickinson Education Association (DEA) –**

Superintendent Sullivan reported the DEA has filed a notice of intent to negotiate by submitting two petitions requesting recognition of an appropriate negotiating unit and recognition of a representative organization. The notices will be posted in the buildings for review and presented at the November Board meeting for action. This agenda item was for discussion only. No action was requested.

**Hockey Agreement** - The agreement with the Dickinson Public Schools and Dickinson Youth Activities, Inc. for boys' and girls' hockey was due for renewal. Mr. Guy Fridley, District-wide Activities Director, addressed the Board stating there were no changes, issues or problems noted. A copy of the agreement signed by Lynn McChesney, DHC President, is posted on the website under Supporting Documents. Action was requested. Ms. Ross moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Dickinson Public Schools and Dickinson Youth Activities, Inc./Dickinson Hockey Club for boys' and girls' hockey for the 2012-2013 school year, as presented. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**North Dakota School Board Association Convention**

- a) **Delegates** – Board President Kris Fehr, Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, and Mr. Scott Staudinger, will be attending the convention. Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep and Superintendent Sullivan will be attending the legal seminar on Thursday, October 25. Mr. Scott Staudinger will be attending the new member seminar on Thursday, October 25. The convention is scheduled for Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27 in Bismarck. The convention allows DPS to have up to four delegates. President Fehr, Mr. Scott Staudinger, and Ms. Leslie Ross volunteered to be delegates. Action was requested to designate the delegates. Mr. Hanson moved that President Fehr, Mr. Scott Staudinger and Ms. Leslie Ross be named delegates from Dickinson Public Schools for the North Dakota School Board Association Convention. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- b) **Resolutions** – A copy of the 2012 resolutions are posted under Supporting Documents on the school board website. Input on the resolutions was requested. Discussion included item D#2. Pay For Performance. Board members expressed their opposition to this resolution. Superintendent Sullivan, President Fehr, and Ms. Ross noted that extensive research has shown that in school and across the business industry, this incentive has a positive reinforcement for a short time and then phases down. Board members have attended national seminars on this topic and learned that it is not recommended as a best practice for students. The No Child Left Behind program was briefly discussed.

**Approval of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) VI-B Grant** – Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Director of Student Services, addressed the Board regarding the IDEA VI-B Grant. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction requires assurances that IDEA will be met. A summary of the application is posted under Supporting Documents. This year's grant is an increase of approximately \$34,000. There is no guarantee the additional \$34,000 will be available next year. Mrs. Martinson reported 95% of the grant is for special education salaries. President Fehr inquired if an increase in students on IEPs has an impact on the grant. Mrs. Martinson responded there were many factors involved in the calculation, including free and reduced lunch applicants and foster care. The administrative recommendation was to approve the application as presented. Action was requested. Ms. Ross moved to approve the application for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act VI-B funds, as presented.

**Approval of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) VI-B Grant (cont.)**

Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Fehr thanked Mrs. Martinson for keeping the Board informed about the grant.

**Open Enrollment Application** – Finola Martinez applied for open enrollment for her child to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools from the Richardton-Taylor School District. The application indicates they recently moved so the deadline waiver applies. The administrative recommendation was to approve the application. Action was requested. Mr. Staudinger moved to approve the open enrollment request for a child of Finola Martinez, as specified in the open enrollment request, to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Other** – There were no other topics for discussion.

**Adjournment** – At 5:54 p.m., Ms. Ross moved to adjourn. Dr. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 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