

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Regular Meeting

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

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on December 14, 2009, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Dean Rummel, Mrs. Mitzi Swenson, Mrs. Kris Fehr, and Ms. Leslie Ross. Board member absent was: Dr. Mort Krieg. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Mrs. Becky Meduna, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Mr. Perry Braunagel, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mr. Ron Dockter, and Mr. Del Quigley. Others present were: Mr. Calvin Dean, Mrs. Sara Binstock, Mrs. Twila Petersen, Mr. James Wosepka, PC, and Ms. Beth Wischmeyer from the Dickinson Press.

President Rummel called the meeting to order.

There were no requests for Public Participation.

There were no deletions to the agenda. Mrs. Swenson requested “Elementary School PAC Fundraisers” be added after agenda XI.

Mrs. Fehr moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the November 9, 2009, regular meeting; bills for December 2009; financial report for December 2009; the pledged assets report for December 2009; the tuition waiver agreement for Shantel, Kellie, Jonathan, and Holly Williamson, South Heart to Dickinson; and the student recognition of the team scholar awards for the first quarter of the 2009-2010 school year. There were no new licensed staff hires or resignations. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent’s Report- Superintendent Sullivan reported on the following:

- a. **Petition for Recognition** – At a recent Cabinet meeting, a petition was provided to recognize the administrative council as the exclusive representatives for negotiations for the 2010-2011 contract year and will be on the January Board agenda.
- b. **Professional Development Proposal** – Dr. Sullivan has put together a proposal which is posted as a Supporting Document on the website. Dr. Sullivan’s proposal recommended \$130,000 in stimulus funds be allocated for professional development. After discussion, the Board recommended Dr. Sullivan continue with his proposal. A request was made by the Board to have training in a method to avoid substitute teachers, if possible.
- c. **Tax Levy Information** – Assistant Superintendent Reep addressed the Board. He distributed two handouts. One handout provided data for the tax levies from 1980 to present. Another handout showed taxable valuation data. The documents indicate that the State is taking over some of the tax obligations; consequently, the tax amount for some home owners has decreased from last year.
- d. **School Board Orientation** – Two board members have indicated they will not be running for re-election during the June 2010 election. Dr. Sullivan requests that the remaining board members begin the process of planning for orienting any new board members that may be elected in June. Any suggestions board members have regarding information that would be helpful to new Board members, should be forwarded to Mrs. Petersen.

Audit Report – Mr. James Wosepka, the school district’s auditor, addressed the Board regarding his recently completed audit of the records. A copy of his report was mailed to Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Wosepka explained there were no findings, no recommendations, no comments or concerns. Action was requested. Mrs. Swenson moved to approve the annual audit report for the year ending June 30, 2009. Mrs. Fehr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus Grant – Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, Director of Student Services addressed the Board regarding the IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus Grant. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction requires assurances that IDEA will be met and the application for funds has been approved by the Board. A copy of the Budget Summary is posted under Supporting Documents on the website. Mrs. Martinson summarized the grant proposal addressing most line items. She explained how the funds would be allocated and answered questions. Action was requested. Mrs. Swenson moved to approve the application for IDEA Title VI-B Stimulus Grant, as presented. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of North Dakota Educational Technology Council (ND ETC) Grant Application – Copies of the three applications are posted as Supporting Documents on the school board website. Mrs. Swenson moved to approve the applications for the North Dakota Educational Technology Council Grant, as presented. Mrs. Fehr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion followed. If possible, prior to submission, Ms. Ross would prefer the technology grants be run through the technology committee. The requesting school principal needs to make sure the application falls within the technology plan.

Open Enrollment – Linda Cooksey applied for open enrollment for Sierra Cooksey to be admitted to the Dickinson Public School District from the Killdeer School District. The application indicates she moved so the waiver applies. The administrative recommendation is to approve the application. Action was required. Mrs. Fehr moved to approve the request for Sierra Cooksey to be admitted to the Dickinson Public Schools under the open enrollment policy. Mrs. Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Lincoln and Jefferson Additions Update – Assistant Superintendent Reep gave a brief update to the Board on the progress of the proposed additions at Lincoln and Jefferson. Background information is available as a Supporting Document on the website. Mr. Reep passed around a handout explaining the proposed kitchen remodel at Lincoln Elementary. The target date for bids for both projects is still anticipated for February 2010. This agenda item was informational only. No formal action was requested.

Baseball Cooperative Agreement with Beach Public School District – Dickinson High School has received a request from Beach Public School District to establish a cooperative agreement for baseball beginning in spring of 2010. Information regarding this request has been posted as Supporting Documents on the website. Action was required. Ms. Ross moved to approve the request from Beach Public School District to establish a cooperative agreement for high school baseball commencing in spring 2010. Mrs. Swenson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Evaluation - President Rummel provided a summary report which is posted as a Supporting Document on the website. Last week, President Rummel reviewed the evaluations with Superintendent Sullivan. The three areas evaluated were: relationship with school board, educational leadership, and community involvement. All areas of the evaluations were positive and satisfactory by all five Board members. Board members were pleased with Superintendent Sullivan's performance and felt he was moving the DPS in the right direction. President Rummel thanked Superintendent Sullivan for the job he has done. The evaluation documents will be placed in his personnel file. Superintendent Sullivan expressed his appreciation to the Board and the administrators. Action was requested. Mrs. Swenson moved to approve the superintendent evaluation, as presented. Mrs. Fehr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Other

Elementary School PAC Fundraisers – Mrs. Swenson recently noticed significant revenue for the school PACs. Mrs. Swenson asked if the schools were following the Board policy when the PACs have fundraisers. Assistant Superintendent Reep and Superintendent Sullivan will check into the policy and make sure it is being followed correctly.

At 6:30 p.m., Mrs. Swenson moved to adjourn. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dean Rummel, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary