

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Regular Meeting

November 3, 2008; 5 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on November 3, 2008, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: Dean Rummel, Kris Fehr, Mitzi Swenson, Morty Krieg and Leslie Ross. Administrators present were: Superintendent Stremick, Vince Reep, Tammy Praus, Dorothy Martinson, Perry Braunagel, Melanie Kathrein and Shawn Leiss. Others present were: Kevin Nelson, Naomi Thorson, 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 October 14, 2008, regular meeting; October 14, 2008, Board workshop; bills for November 2008; financial report for November 2008; the pledged assets report for November 2008; and the tuition agreement for Kristy Repine, Richardton Taylor to Dickinson. There were no new licensed hires or resignations or student/staff recognitions. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- 1) DHS science pod-The contractors finished the science pod a few weeks ago. Board members were invited to tour the science pod following the meeting.
- 2) North Dakota Commission on Education Improvement-Their final meeting is scheduled on November 6. Superintendent Stremick reported that many issues haven't been resolved but several issues will depend on the outcome of the ballot measures.
- 3) Board workshop follow up-Mr. Reep surveyed the other school districts in the state regarding how they pay their Adult Learning Center teachers. There is no consistent method that is being used throughout the state. At the Board workshop, the Board asked the administration to see how other school districts pay their Adult Learning Center teachers.
- 4) Guest column in the Dickinson Press-The Board suggested at the Board workshop that Superintendent Stremick contact the Dickinson Press to see if they would run his monthly school newsletter column in the Dickinson Press in order to get information to community members that don't have children in the schools. The Editor is reviewing his past columns. He will keep the Board informed.
- 5) Best Practice-The book Best Practice has been ordered for administrators to use as a reference in their schools.

President Rummel asked if the administration had a recommendation on how they should pay the Adult Learning Center teachers in the future.

Superintendent Stremick said that their recommendation is to continue the current method that is being used.

Approval of VI-B Grant- The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction requires assurances that IDEA will be met and that the application for funds has been approved by the Board. Mrs. Martinson was available to answer questions. A copy of the Budget Summary is posted under Supporting Documents. Action was requested. Swenson moved to approve the application for IDEA Title VI –B funds, as presented. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

403(b) Plan-New IRS regulations require written documentation of the 403(b) tax sheltered annuity program offered to employees of the Dickinson Public School District. The regulations require the District to adopt the 403(b) plan document, consisting of the 403(b) Plan Document for Public Education Organizations, the Adoption Agreement for 403(b) Plan Document for Public Education Organizations (both of which are referred to hereinafter as the “Plan Document”) and Appendix A which lists the eligible vendors. A copy of the 403(b) Plan Document, the Adoption Agreement and Appendix A which lists the eligible vendors is posted on the school district web site under Supporting Documents. The Plan Document is based on model language released by the IRS for such purpose. Nine vendors meet our criteria and can be used by school district employees. Discussion followed. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to resolve, that the Board does hereby adopt the Plan Document which will, at all times, conform to the requirements of Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code and applicable regulations. Further resolved that it is the intention of the Board that the 403(b) program will conform with all federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to 403(b) plans, except that the program set forth above shall not be subject to the requirements of Title I of ERISA because the employer is exempted from such requirements. Further resolved that the Board authorizes the Business Manager to act on the Board’s behalf with respect to this plan and to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to implement, maintain and administer the plan set forth above in accordance with the Board’s intentions, and all applicable state and federal laws. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Special Meeting-The Board needs to schedule a special meeting to meet with the NCA visitation team. Action was requested. Fehr moved to schedule a special Board meeting on Wednesday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2009-2010 Kindergarten-Superintendent Stremick gave an update on the 2009-2010 kindergarten. The administration believes that 10 sections of kindergarten will be needed next year and that any new sections will be housed at Lincoln and Jefferson. They are evaluating whether this can be done by collapsing grades or by adding additional staff. They plan to make a decision by March of 2009. The administration is also looking at a long range plan for facilities. No action was requested at this time. This agenda item was informational only.

Revision of Policy AAD Dickinson Public Schools Wellness Plan-First Reading-The District Wellness committee recently met and suggested recommendations for the District's Wellness Plan. The suggested changes will bring the school district into compliance with the beverage guidelines that were sent out by the beverage companies and President Clinton. Our policy will allow a larger serving on a few beverages but it does meet the calories per ounce recommendation. Our policy also will not allow high energy and caffeine drinks in the schools. Changes were made to the vending that is available during school hours at Dickinson High School. Superintendent Stremick noted that sales reports do show that students at DHS are making healthier choices and are purchasing more water and low calorie items. Policy AAD Dickinson Public Schools Wellness Plan was presented for first reading approval. The administrative recommendation was to approve the revision for first reading approval. A copy of the Board policy is posted under Supporting Documents. Action was requested.

Fehr moved to revise Policy AAD Dickinson Public Schools Wellness Plan for first reading approval, as presented. Krieg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Evaluation- President Rummel and Superintendent Stremick selected four areas from the superintendent's job description to be evaluated. The areas are: identification and implementation of school board policy needs, supervision of licensed and non licensed staff, supervision of building and grounds, transportation needs and student safety and effective record management. A copy of the superintendent's job description is posted under Supporting Documents. Superintendent Stremick will respond to the topics in writing and forward the evaluation to school board members for their comments. Board comments are due December 1. The written feedback and comments from Board members will be the basis of the evaluation. The Board will review the evaluation at their December 9 Board meeting. No action was requested. This item was informational only.

Other

The regular December Board meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, December 9 at 5 p.m.

At 5:44 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