

## Unapproved School Board Workshop Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools  
Board Workshop

October 14, 2013; After Board Meeting  
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a workshop on October 14, 2013, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Kris Fehr, Vice President Jason Hanson, Ms. Leslie Ross, and Mrs. Tanya Rude. Board member absent was Dr. Morton Krieg. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, Mr. Ron Dockter, Mr. Jay Hepperle, Mr. Guy Fridley, Mr. Calvin Dean, Dr. Marcus Lewton, Dr. Becky Pitkin, Mrs. Susan Cook, Ms. Tamara Praus, Mrs. Melanie Kathrein, Ms. Sherry Libis, Mr. Shawn Leiss, Mrs. Dorothy Martinson, and Mr. Henry Mack. Others present were: Mr. Brian Gregoire, Mr. Chris Gibbs, and Mrs. Twila Petersen.

**Call to Order** - Board President Fehr called the workshop to order at 6:10 p.m.

### **Facility Master Planning**

**Enrollment Projections** – Assistant Superintendent Reep distributed handouts. The handouts included fall 2014 projected enrollment, five year projected enrollment, and comparison enrollment projections. Mr. Reep stated that two years ago at a board workshop there was discussion regarding building a new K-5 school. Today Prairie Rose Elementary is open and is serving 279 students. He said that things move rapidly and enrollment and demographics are moving targets. If the current student enrollment is moved forward to 2014 and add 5% inward migration, there is potential for having an additional 242 students in the school district. Mr. Reep said that the middle school (Hagen Junior High) is running out of space. President Fehr asked if there was data available that showed the largest number of students that have been enrolled at each of the schools. Mr. Reep has information available and noted that when the schools changed to full day kindergarten, that changed the number of students. Next year, Lincoln could see 450 students. That would be a record for Lincoln.

**Vision Building/Defining Exercise** – Mr. Chris Gibbs from DLR Group and Mr. Brian Gregoire with GT Architecture introduced themselves to the group. Mr. Gibbs said that the facility planning process has taken place in neighboring school districts. He has worked with the Bismarck, Minot, and Wahpeton School Districts. The approach taken is customized for the individual community.

Mr. Gibbs asked each person to be challenged as they worked through the process. There are no preconceived notions. Mr. Gibbs verified that the administrators and board members understood the tentative schedule of the process that was distributed during the school board meeting. This schedule will be updated as time goes along. Mr. Gibbs explained there are six steps to the process. Those steps are planning, assessment, discovery, solutions, refine, and communication.

Mr. Gibbs had the administrators and board members break up into groups and do several different exercises. He also showed a 10-minute video clip “Changing Education Paradigms.” The group discussed the definition of a “classroom” with responses ranging from the traditional brick and mortar, four-wall room to online education and alternative suggestions.

**Next Steps in the Master Planning Process** - Mr. Gibbs discussed the role of the building leadership team members. Every staff member in the district will be asked to participate in a survey responding with likes and dislikes. The building leadership team members will be asked to prioritize the survey results. The team will then meet with Mr. Gibbs to discuss the surveys. There will also be a visioning exercise with the leadership team to discuss where the district should go educationally. The leadership team members

will be representing the staff in the building. Mr. Gibbs emphasized that the staff members and the leadership team members will not make the final decision; however, the District administration and DLR Group will want to have the teams input and want to hear what is going on in those buildings. It needs to be a regenerative process from the building. The surveys could be sent out as early as next week. Mr. Gibbs may possibly return to Dickinson on November 4 to meet with the leadership team.

President Fehr thanked Mr. Gibbs for the presentation and exercises and supporting the district by being available in person for the board meeting and workshop.

The workshop was adjourned at 7:47 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