

Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Special Meeting

January 26, 2017; 5:00 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a special meeting on January 26, 2017, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: President Sarah Ricks, Vice President Brent Seaks, Mrs. Tanya Rude, Mrs. Kim Schwartz, and Mr. David Wilkie. Administrators present were: Superintendent Douglas Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent Vince Reep, and Mrs. Melanie Kathrein. Also present was Mrs. Twila Petersen.

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

Public Participation – There were no requests for public participation.

Petition for Recognition from the Dickinson Education Association (DEA) – The DEA submitted two petitions which are posted on the website under Supporting Documents. The petitions are for recognition of an appropriate negotiating unit and also recognition of a representative organization. The administrative recommendation was to recognize the DEA as an appropriate negotiating unit and recognize them as the representative organization for contract negotiations. Action was requested. Mrs. Rude moved that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.1-16-10 of the North Dakota Century Code, the school board of the Dickinson Public School District #1 recognizes all licensed personnel employed, or to be employed, by the Board in positions requiring a license issued pursuant to Chapter 15.1-13 of the North Dakota Century Code, except administrators and substitute teachers, as an appropriate negotiating unit for the purpose of negotiations. Mrs. Schwartz seconded the motion. Discussion: President Ricks inquired if the signatures on the petition had been verified as all licensed teachers and not substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, etc. Superintendent Sullivan responded the signatures had been verified as all licensed teachers. A roll call vote was taken on the motion: ayes-5 (Seaks, Schwartz, Rude, Wilkie, Ricks); nays-0; absent-0. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Schwartz moved that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.1-16-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, the school board of the Dickinson Public School District #1 recognize the Dickinson Education Association as the exclusive representative of the appropriate negotiating unit for the purpose of the negotiations. Mrs. Rude seconded the motion. Discussion: none. A roll call vote was taken on the motion: ayes-5 (Wilkie, Schwartz, Seaks, Rude, Ricks); nays-0; absent-0. The motion carried unanimously.

2017-2018 DPS School Calendar – At the January 9 School Board meeting, Board members requested the draft calendars for the 2017-2018 school year include a third storm day and the early release dates. The Professional Development Leadership Team (PDLT) met on January 11, the Calendar Committee met on January 24, and Cabinet members provided additional input. The four draft calendars posted on the website under Supporting Documents reflect the discussion from those meetings. The PDLT requested moving the October 2 PD day to October 9. All calendars have the same first student contact date of Thursday, August 24 and the last student contact date of Wednesday, May 23. The proposed date for graduation is Sunday, May 27. There are three built-in storm days in all four drafts. The differences between the drafts are the dates for professional development at the beginning of the school year and also the date for the teacher work day. The background agenda for this meeting explains the breakdown of the choices for each building for each calendar. Dr. Sullivan explained that Hagen teachers and Berg teachers should have chosen one calendar for the Dickinson Middle School. Those two buildings would like A2 for the Dickinson Middle School. Dickinson High School teachers preferred calendar A4. Mrs. Rude inquired if it would be feasible to have three separate calendars. Dr. Sullivan responded the only distinction between the calendars is the placement

2017-2018 DPS School Calendar (cont.)

of the workday and the placement of the professional development days prior to the beginning of school. He added he did not believe there would be any reason it would not work to have three calendars; the student contact days are identical on all calendars. President Ricks found it interesting that each building seemed to have a separate calendar preference. Mr. Seaks was curious what could be the reasons. Dr. Sullivan explained the Dickinson Middle School staff preferred a workday the day before school starts due to the opening of the new school. Some of the elementary teachers wanted to try having the workday the day before school started. Mrs. Schwartz inquired if the workdays are really a workday or are meetings scheduled on those dates. Superintendent Sullivan responded the negotiated agreement states one workday. He did not believe there were meetings scheduled on that date. Mrs. Rude moved to approve for the 2017-2018 school year calendar A1 for Lincoln Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary; calendar A2 for Dickinson Middle School, Heart River Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, and Prairie Rose Elementary; and calendar A4 for Dickinson High School and Southwest Community High School with a starting date on all calendars of August 24, 2017; the last day of school on all calendars scheduled for May 23, 2018; and graduation scheduled for Sunday, May 27, 2018. Mr. Wilkie seconded the motion. Discussion on the motion: Mr. Seaks wanted assurance that the communication would get to all the buildings so that everyone was on the same page. Mrs. Rude recognized if there was a problem with the calendar selected that should be shared with the building representatives on the Calendar Committee. There was discussion regarding the different days for the professional development prior to the beginning of school. Mrs. Rude thanked Dr. Sullivan and Mrs. Kathrein for the placement of the early release days on the calendar and for providing the information in a prompt manner. A roll call vote was taken on the motion: ayes-5 (Rude, Seaks, Wilkie, Schwartz, Ricks); nays-0; absent-0. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment – President Ricks declared the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Sarah Ricks, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Twila Petersen, Secretary