



**District-Wide Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024; 12:00 p.m.**  
**Professional Learning Lab**

Committee members present were Superintendent Dr. Marcus Lewton, Business Manager Stephanie Hunter, Stacy Kilwein (representing Partners in Parenting), Krissy Kilwein (representing Berg Elementary PAC), Jessica Sherman (representing Heart River Elementary PAC), Laura Fetting (representing Lincoln Elementary PAC), Stephanie Rogers (representing Roosevelt Elementary PAC), and Maree Bowlsby (representing the Early Childhood Program).

**Call to Order** – Superintendent Dr. Lewton called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda Items** – There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**Approval of the April 16, 2024, Minutes** – The April 16, 2024, meeting minutes had been emailed to the team and were available at the meeting. Mrs. Krissy Kilwein moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mrs. Jessica Sherman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Business Topics**

Superintendent Dr. Lewton thanked the District-Wide PAC members for selecting the gift to be distributed to the District employees during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. He also thanked them for preparing the thank you cards and gifts and delivering them to their respective buildings.

**May 13, 2024, School Board Meeting Agenda** – Superintendent Dr. Lewton reported there were 284 kindergartners pre-registered for next fall. Last year at this time, there were 241 pre-registered.

At last night's Board meeting, he reviewed the many educator/staff/administrator recognitions on the Board's consent agenda. Many great things are happening in the District.

Dr. Lewton explained several elementary buildings will have summer construction. The Southwest Career and Technical Academy will also have work done this summer to complete Building C. Building C will provide agriculture, drafting, heavy equipment, business, and textiles beginning fall of 2024.

Last night, the Board received a written report from the Adult Learning Center (ALC). Dr. Lewton explained some of the many services provided by the ALC to support English Learners and General Educational Development (GED). The ALC continues to excel with achievement rates surpassing the state average.

Superintendent Lewton reported he provided information to the Board last night regarding the Board Goals focusing on the Superintendent's Guardrails. The guardrails he covered referenced the High Reliability Schools (HRS). There are five levels for the HRS. Every school in the District has obtained Level 3 and half of the schools are certified in Level 4.

The superintendent also explained he provided a report to the Board regarding the School Climate Survey data. The questions addressed staff and student decision-making, feeling like they belong, feeling safe at school, an inviting work environment, and staff feeling comfortable with discussions with their supervisor. The schools will look at the student and staff data from the surveys and review them during the building's School Improvement Camp scheduled for the end of May.

One concern Dr. Lewton reported was the increase in the perception of bullying. This will be addressed at each school with anti-bullying goals next year. This will include educating staff and parents.

At last night's Board meeting, Stacy Kilwein presented on the West Dakota Parent and Family Resource Center. This was similar to the presentation she provided to this committee in April. Mrs. Stacy Kilwein reported there were almost 500 individuals in attendance at the recent Parent Fair.

Dr. Lewton noted the Board received information last night on a new mathematics curriculum for grades 6-12. There was also an update from the Budget Committee. Business Manager Hunter explained during the recent Budget Committee Meeting, the committee discussed the District being approved for a \$15 million construction loan through the Bank of North Dakota. This will be a property tax savings as it will reduce the bond by approximately \$3.5 million over the 20-year bond.

The Board approved an increase in the breakfast and lunch meal prices. It also approved a high school waiver for instructional time because the high school is on a block schedule which makes some class periods shorter.

Other – Mrs. Krissy Kilwein inquired if the middle school was changing from eight to seven classroom periods. Dr. Lewton responded the middle school was making some changes to the language arts courses in grades 6-8.

Mrs. Krissy Kilwein was unable to attend the Parent Fair as a PAC leader as there were no handouts to distribute. There was a discussion regarding the flyer information emailed to Mrs. Trustem. The committee discussed avenues to try and recruit parents to become active in their building's PAC. The theme included: warm invites, consistent communication, the VOLY volunteer program, family engagement, and being a voice.

Mrs. Stacy Kilwein recommended another meeting, potentially in June, to share ideas with the Director of Communications Trustem to create a flyer. A date in June that fits in Mrs. Trustem's calendar will be emailed to the committee.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.