

## Unapproved School Board Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools  
Regular Meeting

April 14, 2009; 5 p.m.  
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a regular meeting on April 14, 2009, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: Dean Rummel, Kris Fehr, Mitzi Swenson and Leslie Ross. Morty Krieg was absent. Administrators present were: Superintendent Stremick, Vince Reep, Dorothy Martinson, Melanie Kathrein, Tammy Praus, Sherry Libis, Ron Dockter, Perry Braunagel, Henry Mack, Del Quigley and Becky Meduna. Others present were: Naomi Thorson, Bev Kinnischtzke, Toni Fosaaen, 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 March 9, 2009, regular meeting; bills for April 2009; financial report for April 2009; and the pledged assets report for April 2009; the early resignation notifications for Joyce Rivinius, administrative assistant, Jefferson; Jean Steiner, activities coordinator administrative assistant, DHS; Ruthmary Unruh, paraprofessional, Jefferson; and Kayla Westrum, paraprofessional, Heart River; the RESP Report; and the student/staff recognitions. There were no tuition waiver agreements. Fehr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- 1) **Snow days** - The make up day for Monday, March 30 is Friday, May 29. It was originally scheduled as a teacher work day without students. We had five total snow days this year. He is waiting to hear if the Governor will waive one of our snow days. DPI has recommended that our request be approved.
- 2) **Staffing** - They are not planning to fill the physical education position at Dickinson High. They may make some adjustments in schedules and possibly share some time with Hagen Junior High. They are trying to deal with staff reductions through normal attrition.
- 3) **School improvement** - We signed a contract with Viewpoint for a data warehouse collection. Training will be provided in mid August. A District-wide PAC committee made up of building PAC presidents will be organized next fall. The District-wide PAC committee will meet the first half of the month and the building PAC committees will meet the second half of the month. The data warehouse and District-wide PAC committee were recommendations from the school improvement site visit.
- 4) **Update on the legislature** - House Bill 1400, the school funding bill, is headed to conference committee. There doesn't appear to be any real big differences. Pre-K, professional development and at-risk are a few areas that need to be worked out. We are projecting approximately \$500,000 less in funding in year one and a gain of \$700,000 during year two. Senate Bill 2199, the tax relief bill, is also headed to conference committee. The bill provides dollars to school districts to buy down their mill levy (up to 75 mills). The House added 100 million in income tax relief which complicated the property tax issue.

**Superintendent's Report cont.**

- 5) **Stimulus funds** - There is three parts to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): additional Title I funding, additional IDEA or special education funding and stabilization funding. They are waiting for clarification on how the stabilization funding can be spent. The money will be available to school districts on May 1. We do not want to direct the stimulus funds into hiring staff since the money will be gone in two years.

**DHS Girls' Fast-pitch Softball Agreement** - The school board previously approved a girls' fast-pitch softball program at Dickinson High School. The girls' fast-pitch softball agreement with the Dickinson Public Schools and Dickinson Diamonds Fast-pitch Softball Club, Inc. was submitted for approval. Calvin Dean, District-wide activities director, met with Bill Butterfield, president of Dickinson Diamonds Fast-pitch Softball Club, to review the Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum of Understanding is similar to the DHS baseball and hockey agreement. A copy of the agreement is posted under Supporting Documents. The administrative recommendation was to approve the one year agreement, as presented. Action was requested.

Swenson moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Dickinson Public Schools and Dickinson Diamonds Fast-pitch Softball Club for DHS girls' fast-pitch softball for the 2008-2009 school year. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**State Assessment Report** - The State Assessment Report for the Dickinson Public School District is posted under Supporting Documents. We do not have the AYP determination at this time. The assessment report contains the percentage of students in the District achieving proficiency. Henry Mack and Melanie Kathrein reviewed the assessment report. They reviewed the fall of 2008 results and 2005-2008 historical assessment results. The report contains raw data and each grade is based on the previous grade's standards. They reported that we have seen some impressive gains in math and language arts. DHS made some math curriculum changes. They have seen a significant increase in math at DHS. Professional development had an emphasis on math and the power standards also. Most of our grade levels scored higher than the state average. Lincoln's grade three scored at 100% in math. Other schools are close to 100%. The final AYP report is expected to come out in about one week. We will be implementing Viewpoint, a data warehouse, which will help track assessment data. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Facility Planning Follow up/Staffing/Class Sizes** - The Board has been discussing short range and long range facility planning at previous Board meetings. Vince Reep reported at the March Board meeting on enrollment data regarding attendance areas and neighborhood schools. He reported that many of our students do not attend their neighborhood school. They will take this data into consideration when developing a facility plan for the school district.

We are anticipating over 220 kindergarten students next year. This will require at least 11 sections which will technically fill all available classrooms in the four K-5 schools. If we have eight grade five classrooms next year and take in 10 sections of kindergarten, we will not have room to accommodate these extra two sections. Discussion followed. Board members discussed possible facility planning options. They are not interested in portable classrooms. Some of the options include: a new super school (K-12), new elementary

**Facility Planning Follow up/Staffing/Class Sizes cont.**

school on the north property, moving grade five to Berg, classroom additions at two elementary schools (possibly Jefferson and Lincoln) and sister schools (K-2, 3-5). In city transportation, demographics, pre K students, building regulations, projected enrollment and economics will be part of the discussion. The administration will prepare a report for the May Board meeting with the different options, strengths, weaknesses, projected cost estimates, etc. The Board will prioritize what issues they want to address. The enrollment report is posted under Supporting Documents. Input was requested. This agenda item was informational only. No action was requested.

**Revision of Policy HCE Gifts, Bequests and Grants and Policy KAIB Advertising in the Schools-Second Reading** - Policy HCE Gifts, Bequests and Grants and Policy KAIB Advertising in the Schools was presented for second reading.

Fehr moved to approve policy HCE Gifts, Bequests and Grants and policy KAIB Advertising in the Schools for second reading approval and final adoption, as presented. Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Report on National School Board Association Convention** - Mitzi Swenson's report on the National School Board Convention is posted under Supporting Documents on the school board web site. She reviewed highlights from the convention.

**Other**

Superintendent Stremick stated that the budget committee will meet when the legislature finishes their session.

Rummel reminded Board members to read the announcements and to log them in their calendars.

At 6:15 p.m., Fehr moved to adjourn. Swenson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Dean Rummel, Board President

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Vince Reep, Business Manager

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Karen Heidt, Secretary