

**School Board Minutes**  
**Montpelier Public School District #14**  
**214 7<sup>th</sup> Ave**  
**Montpelier, ND 58472**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Board Members Present:** Vice President Abram Valenta, Kyle Throener, Brock Naze, Robert Froehlich, Tony Roorda, and Wade Dally. Absent: Scott Harms.

**Also Present:** Superintendent Mr. Phil Leitner, Principal Mrs. Sara Wilson, and Business Manager Mrs. Amy Maurer.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. The board members were given the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda:** Roorda made a motion, seconded by Throener, to add the school calendar to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:** Roorda made a motion, seconded by Throener, to approve the consent agenda which included the following:

- a) Approval of the February bills and financial reports.
- b) Approval of minutes from the January 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and the January 27<sup>th</sup> School Board retreat, as presented.
- c) Personnel: Approval of the contract of Mrs. Sara Wilson for \$84,880 (3% raise) for the 2024-2025 school year.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Throener-aye, Naze-nay, Froelich-aye, Roorda- aye, Dally-aye, Valenta- aye. Motion carried.

**Superintendent/HS Principal Report:** Mr. Leitner updated the board.

Student Experiences: 1) Mrs. Fehr took the Environmental Science class on an educational ice fishing trip. 2) Mr. Wright took students to the Emerging Business Leaders Conference. 3) Junior high choir students went to State Honor Choir. 3) Mr. Lee and Mr. Lynch hosted a school open gaming night. 4) Several elementary students will be attending the Stutsman County Spelling Bee. 5) Second graders will be visiting the VCSU planetarium.

General Information: 1) The school board election will be on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Proposed language on the vote on publication of the minutes was shared with the board. 2) JRSEU is conducting interviews for a new director. Mr. Leitner is Montpelier's representative on the board. 3) Parent/Teacher Conferences are on February 29<sup>th</sup>. 4) Roller Skating, paid for by the PTO, is underway in P.E. class.

Building and Grounds: The list of projects from the last long-term plan were reviewed. A list of future goals/projects will need to be developed.

Mrs. Fehr is working with her high school math students to replace the paneling in the hallway leading to her classroom.

**PK-8<sup>th</sup> Principal's Report:** Mrs. Wilson updated the board: 1) She is making progress on teacher evaluations. 2) The ND A+ testing closes on 02/23. We were selected to do the National Assessment for Educational Progress test which will take place on 02/22. Engagement Survey closes on 02/23. 2) She

attended the NDCEL Winter Conference which included information on the ND A+ testing, and Cybersecurity Integration plans. 3) She is pursuing a Best in Class Grant for preschool which could provide \$60,000-\$120,000 towards the district's preschool program. A 5-day per week preschool program is being considered.

**Preliminary Budget:** The preliminary budget for the 2024-2025 school year was reviewed and discussed. It is negatively impacted by a reduced ADM and the end of ESSER funding. It includes negotiated and anticipated wage and benefit increases. It includes an increase to local taxes. However, Montpelier is still taxing less than neighboring districts. A proposal to offer a single health insurance policy to three classified staff department heads, which is included in the budget, was discussed. The proposed budget shows a deficit of \$73,433 with an anticipated carryover of \$622,438.

**Four-Year-Old Program:** Dally made a motion, seconded by Throener, to approve the Four-Year-Old Program for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. The motion carried unanimously.

**Health Insurance:** A proposal to offer a full single health insurance plan to department heads was discussed. Naze made a motion, seconded by Froehlich, to offer department heads a full single health insurance plan beginning October 1, 2024. Current department heads are defined as the head custodian, head cook, and office manager. There will be no cash payout for department heads not taking health insurance. The motion carried unanimously.

**Roof Update:** An estimate to replace the roof over the kitchen was requested from Core Facilities Solutions. Their recommendation is to replace the roofs over the kitchen, stage/cafeteria area, and locker rooms because of how the roofing ties together and in order to get the best water-tight seal. The estimated cost to remove the old roofing and replace with new insulation and sloped rubber roofing is \$168,872 with a 15-year warranty and Core Facilities Solutions acting as general contractor and future contact to handle any future issues. A quote from Infinity to replace the roof over the kitchen area with a wood framed slanted, shingled roof is \$18,640. This does not include the removal of the existing roof. An estimate has been requested from Herzog Roofing. An estimate for the kitchen roof only has been requested from Core Facilitates Solutions.

**School Calendar:** The proposed 2024-2025 School Calendar was reviewed and discussed. Throener made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

**Other:** A curriculum committee meeting is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup>. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>. The Superintendent Evaluation is due to be completed by March 15<sup>th</sup>. A Building and Grounds Committee Meeting will be scheduled when additional estimates are received. An update to the tardy policy was reviewed. The update will be made to the Student Handbook and become effective Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Scott Harms, Board President

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Amy Maurer, Business Manager

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Approval Date