

School Board Minutes
Montpelier Public School District #14
214 7th Ave
Montpelier, ND 58472
Regular Meeting
May 6th, 2024

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

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

Visitors: Julie Williams, Dianne Brown, Kim Jackson, and Jodean Nelson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. The board members were given the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Roorda made a motion, seconded by Naze, to amend the agenda to add: 1) Auditor 2023-2024. Assuming a roll call vote, 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 May bills and financial reports.
- b) Approval of minutes from the April 10th regular meeting and April 22nd special meeting minutes.
- c) Approve the hire of Curt Brown as substitute teacher.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

- 1) Many students attended the student lock-in which was put on by the Student Activity group.
- 2) The Science Club went on a trip to the Wolf Center in Minnesota.
- 3) Four star ratings (highest rating) were earned by students at state music: August Harms- Bass Clarinet Solo, Jordan Jensen-Clarinet Solo, Ian Lien- Oboe Solo and Vocal Solo.
- 4) High School Student Greatness Night will be held on the 16th at 7:00pm.
- 5) Update on complaint: Mr. Leitner reviewed current board policies and practices surrounding complaints. A report of suspected institutional neglect was found as not indicated by an ICPS Team. Related policies that have been recommended by the ICPS Team, the school board, and the Superintendent, were reviewed.

PK-8th Principal's Report: Mrs. Wilson reported:

- 1) Preschool teacher, Ms. Dosch, has been chosen Teacher of the Year for Stutsman County as part of the state recognition program.
- 2) She presented information to the board on the testing currently administered throughout the year along with some test scores from the recently completed NDSA testing.

Canvass and Certify the Election Results: The school board election was held on April 23rd. Fifty ballots were cast. Two positions for school board member for 3-year terms were on the ballot with votes cast as follows: Angela (Angie) Hansen 28 votes, Abram Valenta 25 votes, Dan Koep 19 votes, Eric Schrader 19 votes, Lucinda Lien 2 votes, Jeff Jensen 1 vote, and Matt Bowen 1 vote. Angela Hansen and Abram

Valenta, having the highest number of votes, are elected to the school board for 3-year terms. A measure was on the ballot to determine if the proceedings of the Montpelier School Board are to be published in the official newspaper of the district: Yes-21 votes, No-28 votes. The minutes of the district will not be required to be published in the newspaper. After review, Roorda made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve the school board annual election results, as presented. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

Classified Staff Wages: Mr. Leitner reviewed with the board his recommendation for classified staff wages for the 2024-2025 school year. After discussion, Throener made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve the 2024-2025 wages and approve, effective immediately, paying support staff \$50 per unused sick day when they end employment and \$50.00 per unused sick day over 70 days at the end of the fiscal year if continuing employment. A roll call vote was taken: Dally-aye, Naze-aye, Throener-aye, Harms-abstain, Roorda-aye. Motion carried.

Budget Adjustment: The following grants that were received by the district this school year have not yet been added to the budget: High Quality instructional Materials Grant- \$31,000, AMIRA Grant- \$620.00, Monsanto/Bayer Grant \$5000.00, LETRS Training Grant- \$2458.00, and Cognia Training Grant- \$500.00. Total \$39,578. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Dally, to adjust the budget to account for the grants. The motion carried unanimously.

Tree Removal Quotes: The following quotes were received to remove the tree in courtyard south of the school: Triple C Service \$5500, Jamestown Tree Service \$2800, Z's Trees \$2,000. Naze made a motion, seconded by Throener, to approve Z's Trees removing the tree for \$2000. The motion carried unanimously.

Teacher Summer Professional Development Days: Mr. Leitner recommends that elementary teachers have 2 days of professional development in June to work with the new CKLA curriculum and student benchmarking and that they be compensated at their daily rate of pay. The approximated cost would be \$4930. After discussion, Naze made a motion, seconded by Throener, to approve the professional development for the curriculum development and benchmarking. The motion carried unanimously.

2023-2024 Auditor: Brady Martz and Associates has been doing the district's financial audit for the last several years and require a signed engagement letter each year. The cost will be between \$10k-\$15k. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Dally, to engage Brady Martz to audit the district's 2023-2024 financials. The motion carried unanimously.

The next board meeting is scheduled for June 12th.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Scott Harms, Board President

Amy Maurer, Business Manager

Approval Date