

School Board Minutes
Montpelier Public School District #14
214 7th Ave
Montpelier, ND 58472
December 11th, 2024

Board Members Present: Scott Harms, Tony Roorda, Angela Hansen, Wade Dally, Kyle Throener, Abram Valenta, and Brock Naze.

Also Present: Superintendent Mr. Phil Leitner, PK-12 Principal Ms. Sara Boom, and Business Manager Amy Maurer.

Visitors: Ms. Kim Jackson, and Alex Gilbert.

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

Agenda: Hansen made a motion, seconded by Throener, to approve the following addition to the agenda: 1) Late start/early release policy. A roll call vote was taken: Roorda-no, Hansen-yes, Dally-yes, Naze-yes, Harms-no, Valenta-yes, Throener-yes. Motion carried.

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

- a. Approval of the December bills and financial reports.
- b. Approval of minutes from the November 13th regular board meeting, as presented.
- c. Approval of open enrollment/non-tuition agreements for three students into the school district.

The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Leitner reported:

- Over \$2500 was raised at PTO Bingo.
- Ms. Dockter supervised a Community Service Day.
- The district received an SEEC Innovation Grant, applied for by Mrs. Bear, of \$3902 to produce high quality journalism broadcasts.
- Ms. Dockter organized an Orphan Grain Train donation drive. Top classes donating were 2nd in the elementary and seniors in the high school.
- Mr. Leitner recognized the Hot Lunch Program for their good work.
- A new original watercolor painting of the 1914 school building, as done by Sydney Nelson, is now displayed in the lobby.
- Superintendent Mentorship: a 360 assessment with staff input has been completed.
- ND Climbs School Rank list indicates that Montpelier has a high number of students facing economic hardships and with disabilities.
- The final taxable valuation for the district was reviewed.
- The upcoming semester will be busy with negotiations, a new state legislative session, temporary dean of students, preparing for a new budget cycle, and school board election.

Principal's Report: Ms. Boom reported:

- Three district students are receiving homeschool monitoring.

- Many students attended a program with a speaker on the dangers of vaping.
- There was a review of staff absences and substitutes.
- Ms. Boom reviewed ND Insights student proficiencies.
- The schools' bullying policy was reviewed.

Christmas Gift for Staff: The board concurred that since they are pursuing it on their own it could be discussed outside of the meeting.

School Board Retreat: Agenda topics include strategic planning, policy reviews, financial snapshot, enrollment, building and grounds, transportation, staffing, and Cognia goals. It is scheduled for February 1st at 10:00 am at the Gladstone Inn in Jamestown.

School Board Election: Valenta made a motion, seconded by Dally, to approve holding the Montpelier School Board Election on April 29th, 2025 and to designate one precinct for which the Montpelier school will be the polling place, with the polls to be open from 11:00am to 7:00pm.

The election was discussed.

The motion carried unanimously.

2025 School Board Calendar: Roorda made a motion, seconded by Dally, to approve the board meeting calendar, as presented.

The calendar was discussed.

The motion carried unanimously.

Math Teacher Position: Valenta made a motion, seconded by Naze, to hire Kiana Harris as math teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

It was discussed that currently science teacher Ms. Fehr is teaching 9-12 math and business teacher Mr. Wright is teaching 7-8 math. Ms. Fehr is currently receiving bonus pay for the additional assignment.

A roll call vote was taken: Valenta-yes, Naze-yes, Hansen-abstain due to a declared conflict of interest, Dally-yes, Roorda-yes, Harms-yes, Throener-yes. Motion carried.

Late Start/Early Release Policy: The policy was reviewed. A concern over the recent late start and early release was discussed.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Scott Harms, Board President

Amy Maurer, Business Manager

Approval Date