

School Board Minutes
Montpelier Public School District #14
214 7th Ave
Montpelier, ND 58472
January 15th, 2025

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

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

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: Throener made a motion, seconded by Valenta, to add Certificates of Deposit to the agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes. Motion carried.

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

- a. Approval of the January bills and financial reports.
- b. Approval of minutes from the December 11th, 2024 regular board meeting, as presented.
- c. Approval of open enrollment/non-tuition agreements for four students into the school district to start this semester and three students to start in 25-26.
- d. Approval of the hire of Linda Dockter to teach the classroom portion of driver's education for a total salary of \$1500 summer of 2025.
- e. Approval of the hire of James Bear to teach the behind-the-wheel portion of driver's education summer of 2025.
- f. Accept the resignation of para professional Lindsay Lepp.

The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Leitner reported:

- Current school enrollment is 98. PK-12, K-12 86.
- There was a Powerschool data breach. No Montpelier School data was breached.
- A quote for air conditioning in the kitchen ranged from \$6000-\$10,000, plus the cost of an electrician.
- There is a grant available to help pay for bus radio upgrades. The total cost would be \$23,000 while the grant would cover \$15,000.
- A ND Climbs Literacy Grant application was submitted. Mrs. Bear and Mrs. Schrader contributed greatly to the grant application.
- Governor Armstrong is recommending a 2% increase to K-12 education each year of the biennium.
- The district was granted 3 years approval for reading curriculum development and professional development report (Science of Reading).
- January is School Board Appreciation Month.

Principal's Report: Ms. Boom reported:

- High School students completed finals and the first semester ended December 20th.
- A professional development day was held on January 2nd. Elementary focused on FastBridge interventions and high school focused on literary strategies.
- A blood drive was held at the school on January 9th.

School Board Vacancy: Angela Hansen submitted her resignation due to having moved out of the district. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Throener, to appoint Dan Koep to fill the vacancy. The motion carried unanimously.

Teacher's Letter of Intent to Negotiate: The teachers of the school district submitted a letter of intent to negotiate a future contract. Roorda made a motion to recognize the Montpelier Education Association letter of intent to negotiate pursuant to NDCC 15.1-16.13. Throener seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The board concurred a meeting will take place on February 1st in order to complete the recognition process within the timeframe that is required by state law.

Return to Learning Plan: Reauthorization of the plan is required as part of ESSER funding regulations. Valenta made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve the district's Return to Learning and Continuity of Services Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Vital Network Project: Information on teaching staff job satisfaction that was obtained through the services of Vital Network was reviewed with the board.

Policies: The board did the first reading of an amended Graduation Requirements Policy. It adds more course options for students to fulfill the science requirements. The requirement for community service hours is added to appear under the Graduation Requirements Policy. The service hours help students meet the state's Choice Ready criteria.

The policy committee does not recommend a change to the Inclement Weather Policy. They did recommend the superintendent revise the Winter Weather Plan to do a test of phone notification system each fall and to use all notification methods outlined each time there is a weather related change to the school schedule.

The test exemption policy was discussed. The superintendent would like to communicate with staff and students about any changes before any proposals are presented.

Certificates of Deposit: Valenta made a motion, seconded by Throener, to put \$150,000 into certificates of deposit. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Scott Harms, Board President

Amy Maurer, Business Manager

Approval Date