

School Board Minutes
Montpelier Public School District #14
214 7th Ave
Montpelier, ND 58472
February 12th, 2025

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

Also Present: Superintendent Mr. Phil Leitner, and Business Manager Amy Maurer.

Visitor: Mrs. Fehr, Science Teacher.

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: No changes.

Consent Agenda: Open enrollment agreements were reviewed. There were two open enrollment applications out of the district: 1) One student had recently moved here and will attend Jamestown 2) One was attending in Jamestown and will be attending Litchville-Marion. These do not require Montpelier Board approval. There are open enrollment applications for two students from Litchville-Marion and one from Jamestown to start attending in Montpelier in the fall of 2025-26. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Koep, 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 15th regular meeting, the February 1st special meeting, and the February 1st board retreat, as presented.
- c. Approval of open enrollment agreements for three students into the school district to start in the 25-26 school year.

The motion carried unanimously.

*Throener arrived.

Superintendent's Report: Supt. Leitner reported:

- He attended the NDCEL superintendent conference. Topics included: 1) The state modernization project, i.e. replacing PowerSchool with infinite Campus for student records and state reporting 2) Using artificial intelligence 3) Effective board relationships and 4) Strategic planning.

*Naze arrived.

- He and Mr. Valenta attended NDSBA negotiation seminar. Topics included: 1) Negotiations 2) Legislative panel 3) Non-renewals
- He briefed the board on some pending legislation concerning school choice, the breakfast and lunch bill, and school finance.
- He addressed a question that had come up at the retreat concerning what the process would be to go to a 5-member school board. If there were resignations mid-year, those positions would still be replaced by appointment/special election and the board would be reduced by one member each year at the time of the regular elections.
- The Best in Class Grant renewal application for the 2025-2026 school year has been submitted.

- A raffle permit application has been submitted for a Drone Racing/Student Scholarship Raffle to be held in April. Tickets will be \$20 each.

Science Fair: Mrs. Fehr shared information with board and invited them to attend the school science fair which will be February 13th from 11:30-12:30 in the school gym. All students in grades 5-8 are required to participate. It was optional for grades 9-12. Some students will go to the regional science fair at the Fargo Dome which may qualify some to make it to the state science fair at UND. Gaming funds from the Twisted Trough/KC's are financing the fair expenses.

Graduation Policy: The board did the second reading of an amended graduation policy. The policy expands the science options students may take toward graduation and adds the community service hours requirement to the graduation policy section of the policy book. Naze made a motion, seconded by Dally, to approve the policy. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Leave Request: Throener made a motion, seconded by Koep, to approve the leave of Mr. Leitner for up to 6 days in September of 2025.

It was discussed if it was appropriate to approve leave prior to issuance of a 25-26 contract. The principal would be in charge while the superintendent is gone. Mr. Bear assists with weather related decisions. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Assignments: After discussion, Roorda made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve the appointment of new board member Dan Koep to the Athletic Committee, Building and Grounds Committee, and Policy Committee. And, to move Kyle Throener from the Policy Committee and onto the Curriculum committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee for Strategic Planning: The formation of a Committee for Strategic Planning was discussed. It was suggested to form a committee consisting of 2 board members, 2 faculty members, 2 patrons and 2 parents. Mr. Harms volunteered to serve on the committee. Mr. Leitner will look for volunteers.

Negotiations: Roorda made a motion, seconded by Naze, to go into executive session to discuss teacher negotiations as permitted by NDCC Section 44-04-19.1(9). The motion carried unanimously. The board went into executive session at 6:40pm. The board returned to open session at 7:00 pm.

Other: A curriculum committee meeting is scheduled for February 19th and the next regular board meeting is scheduled for March 12th.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Scott Harms, Board President

Amy Maurer, Business Manager

Approval Date