

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

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

Also Present: Superintendent Mr. Phil Leitner, Business Manager Amy Maurer, and Dean of Students Tyler Lee.

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: Roorda made a motion, seconded by Valenta, 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 9th, 2025 regular meeting, as presented.
- c. Approval of open enrollment/non-tuition for one student out of the district to Jamestown, and for two students into the district from Jamestown.
- d. The motion carried unanimously.

*Dally arrived.

Superintendent's Report:

- The district was approved for the preschool Best-in-Class Grant for thirty or sixty thousand dollars with the amount depending on the enrollment numbers. At least eight students must be enrolled to receive the grant.
- Mr. Dally volunteered to represent the district on the sports co-op committee.
- Our head cook, Sara Jensen, has expressed an interest in coaching JH girls' volleyball.
- The Title IX complaint concerning the location of scheduled games for girls' basketball has been resolved without a complaint being filed with the office of Civil Rights.
- We are currently projecting 99 students K-12 for the 2025-26 school year. This includes all known enrollments in and out of the district. Our current enrollment k-12 is 86, so this is a significant increase.
- A long-term discussion on busing and costs of bussing will need to be had as we look at our needs. Based on projected enrollments we believe that we have enough vehicles/drivers available to make it through the 2025-26 school year. Please note that that does not mean we won't add a route. It means that we have a vehicle and will likely be able to find a driver to fill that need if it were to exist next year.
- Legislative update. Mr. Leitner reviewed with the board the impact of state legislative changes on our district.

Dean of Students Report: Mr. Tyler Lee reported:

- Mr. Lee, along with Ms. Dockter, Ms. Nelson, and Mr. Nelson, attended the National BARR Conference April 23-24 and found it informative as the district looks at implementing the BARR program with funding from the ND CLIMBS Grant.
- Graduation is on Sunday, May 18th, at 2:00pm.
- Several students attended the State Envirothon last week.
- Ian Lien received a Star rating at state music. All other Montpelier attendees received a “1” which is the next top score under Star.
- Several students attended regional drone racing
- Ella Lien attended state speech and represented well.
- There are several upcoming track and field events.

Canvass Election Results: The district held its annual election on Tuesday, April 29th, 2025. Twenty-four ballots were cast.

For Member of the School Board. Three positions, 3-year terms.

Candidate	Votes
Wade Dally	24
Daniel Koep	19
Kelsey Naze	4
Brady Dick	2
Jamie Bertsch	2
Eric Schrader	2
Jeff Jensen	1
Brock Naze	1
Cheyenne Dick	1
Blaine Naze	1

Wade Dally, Daniel Koep, and Kelsey Naze, having the highest number of votes, are elected to the school board for 3-year terms.

For Member of the School Board. One position, 2-year term.

Candidate	Votes
Tony Roorda	22
Blake Naze	1

Tony Roorda, having the highest number of votes, is elected to the school board for a two-year term.

Terms begin at the annual meeting in July.

The election results were reviewed with the board. Valenta made a motion, seconded by Naze, to certify the election results. The motion carried unanimously.

Kelsey Naze is relied on as a substitute teacher in the district. Mr. Leitner did discuss her election with the district’s attorney who indicated there is not a law preventing her from serving on the board. She would be subject to conflict of interest laws like any board member.

Classified Staff Wages: Proposed 2025-2026 classified staff wages were reviewed and discussed with the board. Brock made a motion, seconded by Koep, to approve the classified staff wages as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

School Auditor Engagement Letter: Brady, Martz, and Associates proposes to do our financial audit for between \$10,000 and \$15,000. The cost last year was \$12,000. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Naze, to approve engaging Brady Martz to perform the financial audit of the districts 2024-2025 financials. The motion carried unanimously.

Title Consolidated Application: The allocations have not been received yet, but approval of the application is required. Whatever funding is available will be used to pay for our Instructional Assistant (Ms. Kjellberg), the IXL program, and part of Mr. Wright's salary. Part of Mr. Wright's schedule will be slotted for work within the Title program. Valenta made a motion, seconded by Roorda, to approve the Consolidated Title Application. The motion carried unanimously.

2025-2026 School Calendar: The proposed calendar was reviewed and discussed. Valenta made a motion, seconded by Koep, to approve the 2025-2026 school calendar. The motion carried unanimously. It was discussed that classified staff non-traditional leave is intended to keep classified staff wages whole when they do not have opportunity to work, such as when there is a storm day that is not made up. The school classified staff will be required to attend the upcoming BARR training.

Professional Development Plan Policy-Second Reading and Approval: The board did the second reading of the proposed Professional Development Plan Policy which is amended to say that certified staff and administration will collaborate on PD days exceeding 3 days. Roorda made a motion, seconded by Valenta, to approve the updated professional Development Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

January 15th, 2025 School Board Minutes Correction: It was discovered that there was an omission in the previously approved January minutes.

Valenta made a motion, seconded by Naze, to amend the 01/15/2025 minutes to include the following under approved consent agenda items:

- a. *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.*
- b. *Approval of the hire of James Bear to teach the behind-the-wheel portion of driver's education summer of 2025.*
- c. *Accept the resignation of para professional Lindsay Lepp.*

The motion carried unanimously.

Dean of Students Extended Contract: Ms. Wilson will be on maternity leave through the end of the school year. Mr. Lee will be needed to perform principal duties for one week after school is out. The proposed rate of pay would be his daily teacher rate plus \$110 per day. Naze made a motion, seconded by Dally, to approve the hire of Mr. Lee for the additional week at the recommended wage. The motion carried unanimously.

Activity Fund Adjustment: The Class of 2024 left \$454.72 in their activity fund. Naze made a motion, seconded by Koep, to move the Class of 2024 fund balance to the High School fund. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Scott Harms, Board President

Amy Maurer, Business Manager

Approval Date