

Unapproved Board Workshop Meeting Minutes

Dickinson Public Schools
Board Workshop

October 14, 2008; 6:17 p.m.
Board Room, Central Office

The Dickinson Public School Board held a Board workshop on October 14, 2008, at the Central Administration Office. Board members present were: Dean Rummel, Kris Fehr, Leslie Ross and Mitzi Swenson. Morty Krieg was absent. Administrators present were: Superintendent Stremick, Vince Reep, Dorothy Martinson, Sherry Libis, Tammy Praus, Ron Dockter, Calvin Dean, Del Quigley and Perry Braunagel. Others present were: Lew Moormann and Karen Heidt.

President Rummel called the meeting to order.

No action will be taken. Topics may become agenda items at future Board meetings.

Topics for discussion included:

Customer Service- Fehr gave Superintendent Stremick a PowerPoint on customer service that she received at the National School Board Convention which was shared with administrators. Administrators reviewed what they are doing in their buildings for customer service. Lew Moormann shared comments from parents regarding students that aren't involved in athletics at the schools and not feeling part of the school. President Rummel encouraged administrators to keep doing the positives and to continue awards and assemblies for nonathletic events also.

Community Relations/Public Relations-The importance of developing community relations/public relations was discussed. Administrators were encouraged to contact the Press with articles and news stories. Communication with parents was emphasized. Examples included telling parents the educational objective of field trips. Power School was discussed including when grades are entered and student eligibility. It was suggested that the school district do some public relations to inform the public about the school districts mill levy and how it works. A majority of the property tax dollars are spent on Dickinson Public Schools but it is the funding mechanism for education established by the State. Our state funding is connected to our mills. An equity district has to be at 185 mills or they lose money from the state. Dickinson has the lowest mill levy of any Class A school district in the state and we are below the state average. The school district/city/county/park district's tax history was discussed. Swenson suggested that Superintendent Stremick look into writing a guest column once a month in the Dickinson Press similar to the school newsletter articles to reach people that don't have children in the public school system.

Facilities-School district facilities were discussed. Superintendent Stremick gave an update on the Adult Learning Center. He reported that they did some renovations at the Adult Learning Center (about \$12,000). He said that they should recoup the cost from the roof repairs and the painting if they sell the building. They continue to look at properties to house the Adult Learning Center and Southwest Community High School. They anticipate that the revenue from the sale of the Adult Learning Center and the rent money from Southwest Community High School would be used to pay for a building. Reep is scheduling walk throughs of all the buildings and creating a list of needs. A copy of the most recent enrollment

Facilities cont.

report was distributed. Superintendent Stremick said that the administrators have talked about what to do with the extra sections they have added at Jefferson and Lincoln. He said that they may need to collapse these sections as they move up to the older grades. He said that we are running out of classrooms since we added full-day, every day kindergarten. Berg has a couple of extra classrooms in their building. Discussion followed. Possible options could include: centers with in city busing, partner schools and building a new school. The District has other space issues related to providing special services for Title I, etc. The Board asked Superintendent Stremick to start working on a short term and long term plan. A short term plan will be on the November agenda. A long term plan will be brought to a future Board meeting for discussion and a decision.

At 8 p.m., Ross moved to adjourn. Swenson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dean Rummel, Board President

Vince Reep, Business Manager

Karen Heidt, Secretary