

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL
Regular Meeting
Unofficial Minutes

5:15 pm on Monday, March 4, 2024, in the Thompson Community room in the Middle School, 203 2nd Ave SE, Jamestown, ND.

Present: Heidi Larson, President, Dan Tweten, Vice President, Jamie Bear, Melissa Gleason, Aaron Roberts, Jason Rohr, Steve Veldkamp, Robert Lech, Superintendent and Business Manager, Kristi Grounds. Melissa Gleason was by phone until arriving at the meeting at 5:26. Gayle Nelson was by phone. Diane Hanson was absent.

Guests: Corinne Bennett, Teresa Olson, Heidi Eckart, Natalie Schrader, Cheryl McIntyre, Jennifer Michalenko, Nicole Stevahn, Adrian Miller and Jessica Folden-Miller.

President Larson called the meeting to order and welcomed the audience, Jason Linz, Bluejay Channel and Amy Neustel, Administrative Assistant.

Corrine Bennett, a Jamestown resident, shared her support and approval of the new childcare program at the Career and Technology Center. She felt Jamestown Public Schools was coming up with a solution for the employees and helping with training quality childcare staff.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the consent agenda which consisted of February 19, 2024 regular board meeting minutes, February 26, 2024 Finance Committee meeting minutes, payment of bills, pledged securities, open enrollment applications: Pre-k, 1st and 10th grade Jamestown students to Pingree Buchanan Public School for the 2024-2025 school year; and 2023-2024 school year of 1st and 3rd grade Jamestown students to Pingree Buchanan Public School and 2nd grade Barnes County North student to Jamestown Public School. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

The Board recognized Mrs. Cheryl McIntyre for being the recipient of the ND Music Education Association Distinguished Service Award and Ms. Jennifer Michalenko for receiving the ND String Teacher’s Association Distinguished Service Award. Congratulations and thank you to both for your dedication to music in our school and community.

Dr. Lech reported he responded to questions from the last meeting on elementary school achievement data and analysis in this superintendent’s report using FAST research documents, the NDSA technical manual and FastBridge Alignment Report.

Dr. Lech reported on the many activities that are hosted in Jamestown. Mr. Roaldson, Athletic Director, does a lot of work for the events hosted by Jamestown Public Schools but also the city of Jamestown. These events are for class A & B schools, and some are annual events held here in Jamestown. These events are great for our community overall.

Dr. Lech reported that the finance committee reviewed the compensation study for support staff. The committee has recommendations for changes in the schedule to happen in phases. The committee support a new budget development software which would provide budgeting efficiencies and improved reporting. The Harlow bid for transportation was reviewed for the 24-25 school year. The committee recommends the bid and wants to do a study for future transportation plan.

Mr. Mark Stilwell, Middle School Principal and Mrs. Natalie Schrader, Middle School Instructional Coach, reported on the Middle School assessments. They reviewed the NDSA and Fastbridge results for 6-8 grade students. NDSA 2023 results were above the state average.

Fastbridge results showed areas of strength and others that need more work. The Steve Dunn training has helped teachers with curriculum to address the at-risk students. There are some gaps with different interventions for those gaps to assist students at risk. The coaches work on helping teachers with finding interventions for different grade levels to make them stronger in areas that need more.

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts, to approve adding Childcare Programming and Services at the James Valley Career and Technology Center. Discussion of this program being good incentive for staff, concerns on students with children and GED drop ins, and policies for this program. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear, to approve the bus bid with Harlows to provide transportation services for the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp, to approve the 2023-2024 budget revisions:

BUDGET REVISIONS						
Account Number	Account Description	Current Budget	Budget Adjustment	Revised Budget	Description	
Expense						
01 075 024 290 1000 320 2023	Title II Prof Services St. John's	\$8,000.00	1,483.68	9,483.68	Adjust line item	
01 075 024 290 1000 580 2023	Title II Travel - St. John's	\$3,829.96	(1,882.96)	1,947.00	Adjust line item	
01 075 024 290 1000 810 2023	Title II Reg - St. John's	\$3,500.72	399.28	3,900.00	Adjust line item	
01 078 024 285 1000 320 2023	Title IV Prof Serv - St. John's	\$3,000.00	3,243.00	6,243.00	Adjust line item	
01 078 024 285 1000 810 2023	Title IV Due/Fee - St. John's	\$5,656.83	(3,243.00)	2,413.83	Adjust line item	
01 000 000 000 6400 920	FND Transfer-DW-Career Tech	\$500,000.00	(500,000.00)	-	Adjust line item	
01 112 040 298 1000 320	ESSER III-LL-PROF SRV-SH_INS	\$0.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	Adjust line item	
Total Expense Adjustment		\$523,987.51	\$0.00	\$523,987.51		

Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten, to approve extended contracts for 2023-2024 2nd semester to Cheryle McIntyre: five section of music courses with one extra course of piano; Nate Purcell: one additional section of computer applications; Michael Dietz: one additional section of Art 1. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp, to approve the hire of Nikki Braaten and Jacob Sherfy for the 2024-2025 school year upon a successful background check and receipt of licensure. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the resignations of Michael Hiltner, Jaye Fike, Jalyn Helstad and Danica Brekken at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

President Larson reminded the board members to make a motion of satisfactory or unsatisfactory per section of the superintendent’s evaluation.

Mr. Roberts moved a satisfactory rating for Section 1 Goals and Vision setting score 3.38, seconded by Mr. Tweten. Roll call vote: Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved a satisfactory rating for section 2 Board Relations score 3.38, seconded by Mr. Tweten. Roll call vote: Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Rohr moved a satisfactory rating for Section 3 Human Resource Management score 3.49, seconded by Mr. Roberts. Discussion of this section is hard to view Dr. Lech's role in this section because of the variables and the questions in this section. This section should be reviewed for relevant questions to rate a score. Roll call vote: Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved a satisfactory rating for Section 4 Curriculum and Student Support Services score 3.30, seconded by Mr. Rohr. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes, Gleason, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved a satisfactory rating for Section 5 Community Relations score 3.40, seconded by Mr. Tweten. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved a satisfactory rating for Section 6 Operations and Resource Management score 3.57, seconded by Mr. Roberts. Roll call vote: Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

President Larson had meet with Dr. Lech this past week and areas of growth would be student achievement and reporting to see monitoring progress and orientation processes. Dr. Lech's availability to the community, addition of Human Resource position and other personnel changes and working on student needs helps the district to move forward. President Larson stated they did discuss changes to the evaluation during this summer.

The board election timeline information was available for board members.

No further business, President Larson adjourned the meeting.