

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL
Regular Meeting
Official Minutes

New School Board Orientation at 4:15 pm in the District Office Conference room, 207 2 Ave SE, Jamestown, ND.

School board meeting on Monday, September 3, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the Thompson Community room at the Middle School, 203 2 Ave SE, Jamestown, ND.

Present: Heidi Larson, President, Dan Tweten, Vice President, Jamie Bear, Melissa Gleason, Owen McKenna, Jacob Meier, Aaron Roberts, Jason Rohr, Steve Veldkamp, Superintendent, Robert Lech and Kristi Grounds, Business Manager.

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

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the consent agenda which consisted of August 19, 2024 regular board meeting minutes, payment of bills, submission of required MIS01, 02, 03 and PER02 reports, submission of financial reports, 2024-2025 open enrollments: 11 grader to Montpelier Public School and Pre-K to Medina Public School. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Dr. Lech reported on Measure 4 coming up in the election. The measure would eliminate property tax which would impact school districts. The measure would prohibit political subdivision from levying taxes on real or personal property, except for paying off existing bonded debt that occurred prior to the measure's approval. The ND legislature would be required to provide replacement payments to local governments. The measure would establish limits on the amount of debt local governments can incur and restrict them from issuing new general obligations bonds secured by property taxes after January 1, 2025. The government would be required to establish the system in which the funding is provided to political subdivisions based on a floor of the 2024 property tax amounts. To pass this measure a majority vote is needed.

Mr. Gehlhar, Continuous Improvement Director, reported on the strategic plan focusing on Focus 3: Engagement of Learning-Goal 1. Student engagement has percentage goals per level. We are working on closing the gap to meet those goals. We are working on the behavior commitment which we are at 23% with a goal of 10%. Behavioral and emotional challenges in each building and how to improve support beyond our present plan.

Mr. Gehlhar also reported on the strategic plan focusing on Focus 4: Growth in Learning-Goal 1. Reviewing the performance from last year, there have been areas which need more support. Having more definition to the education per department and grade level will help us to grow in understanding and help students grow in their learning. Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the strategic plan report. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Dr. Lech reported on the personal recommendation to replace Ms. Thompson at the High School.

Dr. Lech reported the change orders for JVCTC project will use a large portion of the contingency balance.

Dr. Lech reported on the school accreditation to ensure all schools meet and submit to LEA.

Dr. Lech shared a link to his back to school address for board members to view.

Dr. Lech reported how the parental leave policy was changed to help the birthing parent. Dr. Lech is reviewing the policy to see if there is adequate support.

Dr. Lech did a spotlight on the Elementary Leadership Team. They have demonstrated exceptional commitment by working over the last year on leadership, curriculum development, training and scheduling feedback to improve the outcomes for the students and staff of the elementary schools.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the cooperative agreements with Victory Christian School for Middle School boys basketball and girls wrestling. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp to approve to advertise bids on the James Valley Career and Technology Center projects. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the change orders: 1 for ETS temperature controls, 2 for two additional doors and 3 for credit on door key system. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Grounds reported on the certificates of deposit.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the school compliance reports and submit LEA compliance report. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Meier to approve the hire of Caroline Blumenshine as instructional coach for the High School for the 2024-2025 school year upon a successful background check and appropriate licensure. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten on the amendment to Leave of Absence Regulations DDDDB-AR. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the 2024-2025 tuition agreements for 5-Pre-K, 5th grade and 9th grade Jamestown students to attend Montpelier Public School and for 8th and 9th grade Jamestown students to attend Medina Public School. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.