

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
Regular Meeting  
Official Minutes

School board members, Jamie Bear, Owen McKenna, Dan Tweten, Heidi Larson, Melissa Gleason, Jacob Meier, Steve Veldkamp attended a Standard Based Learning workshop session with panel of Mrs. Jada Anderson, Mrs. Jennifer Gall, Mrs. Kelly Bauer and Mr. Tony McIntyre in the district office conference room at 4:30 pm. Dr. Lech and Mr. Gehlhar were also in attendance.

School board meeting on Monday, May 5, 2025 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, Dr. Robert Lech, Superintendent and Kristi Grounds, Business Manager.

Guests: Jenny Michalenko, Brody Ziegler, Jamie Ziegler, Nick Ziegler, Mindi Schmitz, Michelle Linz, Samuel Perleberg, Breanna Read, Darwin Perleberg, Gabi Oberg, Autumn Roberts, Lori Roberts, Laura Wies, Amy Stegmiller, Maggie Stegmiller, Margery Kavlie, Garreth Kavlie, Isabella Hasbargen, Shawn Hasbargen, Emily Trevithick, Nicholas Welborn, Amber Linz, Shar Trevithick, Anya Lenhart, Dave Lenhart and Addison Marker.

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

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the consent agenda which consisted of April 21, 2025 regular board meeting minutes, April 30, 2025 James Valley Career and Tech Center Advisory meeting minutes, March 10, 2025 health insurance committee meeting minutes, payment of bills, summer school staff revision, submission of fresh fruit and vegetable grant for Louis L'Amour and Gussner Elementaries, settlement agreement with Alyra Jones and open enrollment application for 6<sup>th</sup> grade Jamestown student to attend Pingree Buchanan Public School for the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

The board recognized students with achievements in speech, drama, choir, band and orchestra. Congratulations on the job well done.

President Larson read the thank you from the Shelley Anderson Family for the plant.

Dr. Lech reported on Strategic Focus 1: Culture of Learning Goals 3 and 4. Each building level had a variety of activities to target parental involvement and culture growth. Each grade level held events to enhance engagement and belonging. Dr. Lech applauded a fantastic job on to commitment to the wellness of the student body. Dr. Lech thinks he should be more descriptive on the criteria. Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the Strategic Focus 1: Culture of Learning Goals 3 and 4. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Ms. Mindi Schmitz, Director of the Arts Center, reported on updates to fundraising for the additional programs. The culinary kitchen will be ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of next school year. There will be other culinary classes or options for the public as well. The art therapy program is piloting in an elementary school which is going well. Ms. Schmitz also reported on the artist in residence program for students K-6 grade.

Dr. Lech reported it is teacher's appreciation week and thanks the teacher's for their dedication to Jamestown Public School students.

Dr. Lech reported on the meeting on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm to have a community facility survey review. This meeting will go through the questions selected for the survey and comments.

Dr. Lech reported on the request from the City of Jamestown for a letter of support for the Renaissance Zone. This program has redevelopment and revitalization of property in this zone.

Dr. Lech reviewed legislative bills.

Dr. Lech spotlighted Mrs. Tiffany Dooley who was named 2025 Middle Level Student Council Advisor of the Year. Congratulations Mrs. Dooley.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp to approve the letter of support for the Jamestown Renaissance Zone. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the Artist in Residence Program agreement in the amount of \$32,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the resignation of Jennifer Redfearn at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried. The board thanks her for her service to our students.

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the hire of Kathy Klemetsrud for the 2025-2026 school year upon a successful background check and appropriate licensure. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the amended policies DGGA(Professional development), FGDB (Student Handbooks), KACA (Patron complaints), KACB (Complaints about Personnel), KACB-E (Personnel Complaint Form) and KADA (Weapons Prohibition on School Property). Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp to approve the tuition agreement of a Jamestown 6<sup>th</sup> grade student to attend Pingree Buchanan Public School for the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

I, Mr. Owen McKenna believe that discussion with our negotiators and developing a strategy relative to the School Board's position in this matter in open session would have an adverse fiscal effect on the negotiations position of the Board. Therefore, I move: That the Board enter into executive session, That the following members and negotiators be identified as being present:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Melissa Gleason, Heidi Larson, Dan Tweten, Jamie Bear, Steve Veldkamp, Jason Rohr, Owen McKenna, Superintendent Robert Lech and Business Manager, Kristi Grounds. On May 5, 2025 at 6:25 pm that only the following topic will be considered in executive session: NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES

That the legal authority for the executive session is: SECTION 44-04-19.1 OF THE NORTH DAKOTA CENTURY CODE. That the executive session be recorded. Seconded by Mr. Tweten.

Conflict of Interest is declared by Mr. Aaron Roberts, because his wife is a teacher and Mr. Jacob Meier, because his wife is a teacher.

Mr. Rohr moved, seconded by Mr. McKenna to allow Mr. Roberts and Mr. Meier to attend the executive session. Roll call vote: Gleason, no; McKenna, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Tweten, yes; Veldkamp, yes. 6-1. Need unanimous vote. Motion failed. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote on convening executive session for negotiations. Motion carried.

Open meeting resumed at 7:16 pm.

There being no further business, President Larson adjourned the meeting.