

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Special Meeting

Official Minutes

School board special meeting on Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Thompson Community room at the Middle School, 203 2nd 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.

No Guests.

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

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the unpaid bills for the James Valley Career and Technology Center. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Darrin Sievers, School Perceptions, joined by teams to review the referendum survey. The deadline was May 26, 2025 with 1173 responding. The company’s average response rate is 18% and our response was 14.1%. 97% of respondents were in Jamestown. The survey provided good information to analyze but shows the community is not quite ready for us to move forward at this time due to the tough economy and tax increases. The board requested School Perceptions to get a theme analysis of the comments to analyze along with reviewing the neutral voters group further. Those results will go to the facilities committee to review and have a board retreat to discuss how to move forward with the information we received from the survey. No action was taken.

Mr. Steve Veldkamp arrived at 6:21 pm.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the resignations of Amanda Legrey, Larinda Hirschhorn and Natalie Schrader at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the hire of Erin Drown, Steven Heyd and Janneth Bredeson for the 2025-2026 school year upon a successful background check and appropriate licensure.

I, Mr. Dan Tweten 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, Adam Gehlhar, Continuous Improvement Director. On June 5, 2025 at 6:35 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. Rohr.

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.

Open meeting resumed at 8:09 pm.

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