

**DAKOTA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #61-8
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2025
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
DAKOTA VALLEY BOARD ROOM**

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 PM

*** All motions carried unanimously approved unless otherwise indicated.**

The annual meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kistner at 6:00 pm on August 11, 2025. Roll Call indicated the following members present: Hanson, Kistner, Nilges, and Norby. Absent: Thompson. Administrators Superintendent Schmidt, Business Manager Sponder, Michael Oberg, and Linda Steele were in attendance.

Chairperson Kistner welcomed the visitors.

Motion by Nilges, seconded by Norby to approve the agenda.

No new conflict-of-interest disclosures were presented.

Ms. Steele and Ms. Miller presented information on the Panther Academy.

Mrs. Kenney, India Orr, and Emily Olhausen presented information on the National Best Buddies Conference they attended this summer.

Motion by Nilges, seconded by Hanson to approve the consent agenda with the revised minutes from the July 14, 2025 board meeting to include the board reviewing the open meetings law and the South Dakota Attorney General's Office guide to South Dakota's open meetings laws.

Committee Reports were presented. Building and Grounds Committee met on July 23, 2025, regarding long range planning. The Policy Committee met on July 31, 2025, to review recommended policy updates from KSB Law.

Motion by Norby, seconded by Hanson to approve the surplus property for old curriculum.

Business Manager Sponder presented information on the food service program and opportunity for partnering with the City of North Sioux City to provide meals for the senior citizens.

Business Manager Sponder presented information on the high negative balances in food service.

Motion by Norby, seconded by Nilges to approve the bid from Plains Mechanical for \$472,199 for the Middle School boiler replacement/upgrade.

Motion by Norby, seconded by Nilges to approve the following resignations and new hires:

Resignations

1. Marcus Horwood, Asst Girls Soccer Coach

New Hires

1. Julieth Benavides, Night Custodian, Step 8, \$20.22/hour
2. Ghazanfar Haidari, Night Custodian, Step 1, \$18.72/hour
3. Haley Boulware, Head MS Volleyball Coach, Step 1, \$2,319

4. Crystal Clark-Merchant, Alternate School Supervisor, Step 5, \$18.29/hour, Concession Stand Supervisor, Step 1, \$1.353, Head MS Volleyball Coach, Step 1, \$2.319
5. Marlene Nelson, Sped Paraprofessional, Step 10, \$19.22/hour
6. Nick Taylor, Asst HS Football Coach, Step 24, \$4,661
7. Elizabeth Dalton, 3 Act Play Director, Step 15, \$4,059

Motion by Nilges, seconded by Norby to approve the second reading of updated board policies: 2002-Organization of the Board, Board Officers, Check Signing, and Committees, 2006-Complaint Procedure, 3004-General Purchasing, 3004.1-Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds, 3026-Handbooks, 4001-Criminal Background Checks, 4028-Substitute Teachers, 4051-Staff and District Social Media Use, 4056-Resignation of Certified Staff, 5002-Admission of Students, 5016-Student Records, 5035.1-Firearms and Weapons, and 5052-School Wellness.

Superintendent Schmidt presented the first reading to update board policies: 3023-Record Management and Retention, 3036-Purchasing (Credit) Card Program, 3057-Title IX, 4033-Hearing Procedures for Teacher Termination and Nonrenewal, 5001-Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism, 5004-Open Enrollment, 6006-Commencement Ceremony, 6032-Review of Library Media.

Superintendent Schmidt presented the first reading to update handbooks: Staff Handbook, Student Handbook, Activities Handbook.

Motion by Norby, seconded by Hanson to approve Clover as a credit card processing vendor for gate admission and concession stand sales and purchase 4 card readers for \$1,400. Ayes: Hanson, Kistner, Norby. Nays: Nilges

Motion by Nilges, seconded by Hanson to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of North Sioux City for a School Resource Officer.

Superintendent Schmidt shared updates on the Northshore Bypass project, the Elementary School parking lot, and the Elementary School fencing.

Motion by Nilges, seconded by Norby to approve a budget up to \$20,000 for the ES playground fence restoration.

Written administrator reports were received.

Motion by Norby, seconded by Nilges to adjourn at 8:20 pm.

Jill Sponder
Business Manager

Steve Kistner
Chairperson

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