

Mohall-Lansford-Sherwood Public School District #1

MLS School Board Members:

*Matt Undlin, President
Andy Grondahl, Vice President
Thurstan Johnson
Nathaniel Buynak
Jake Kaufmann
Ben Ethan
Drake Vendsel*



Administration:

*Heidi Newgard, Superintendent & High School Principal
Kelsea Bowers, Elementary Principal
Cody Beck, Dean of Students
Trevor Savelkoul, Athletic Director
Kim Strand, Business Manager*

Meeting Minutes Tuesday September 9 , 2025 MLS School Board Business

Present: Matt Undlin, Andy Grondahl, Nathaniel Buynak, Thurstan Johnson, Jake Kaufmann, Ben Ethen, Drake Vendsel

Admin Present: Heidi Newgard, Kelsea Bowers, Cody Beck, Trevor Savelkoul, Kim Strand

Meeting was called to order by Matt Undlin at 7:07 AM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consent Agenda (Previous Minutes, Financials of all accounts, Bills)

-Board members asked for clarification on some of the bills going out. Nathaniel suggested naming the person that objects to a motion and also pointed out some spelling errors in the previous meeting minutes. Jake motioned to approve the consent agenda, Drake seconded. M/C

Administration Reports

-Elementary Principal

-Mrs. Bowers gave her report on MTSS, and mentioned the teachers have created a pathway to streamline communication and paperwork. She will present in October the data from testing in September.

-Dean of Students

-Mr. Beck reported that 140 students are enrolled in grades 7-12 at MLS. NDA Plus testing starts this month. Yondr pouches, which are the pouches students store their electronic devices in, are going well. After the first week of school, there have been no further issues with students cooperating in using the pouches.

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-Superintendent/HS Principal

-Mrs. Newgard is looking into putting security cameras at the school apartments due to recent events. There are two applicants for the custodian position. Interviews will be scheduled.

-Athletic Director

-Mr. Savelkoul stated the annual athletic director meeting is in Bismarck at the end of September. The new scores table is set up in the new gym. Sports are going well.

Committee and other Reports: nothing to report

Old Business:

-Board reorganization was tabled until proper paperwork can be found.

New Business

-Mrs. Newgard presented the 2024-2025 DPI budget for approval. Andy made a motion to approve the DPI budget. Nathaniel seconded the motion. M/C.

-The final 2025-2026 budget was reviewed, Mrs. Newgard amended the budget for Title I to reflect the grant received. She needed to adjust the elementary budget as well to compensate for the Title I change. Board members asked for clarification on some of the budget items. Andy motioned to approve the final budget, Nathaniel seconded. M/C.

-The 2025-2026 Annual Compliance Report was presented. Thurstan made a motion to approve the report, Jake seconded. M/C

-The 2025-2026 Professional Development Plan was presented. Jake made a motion to approve the plan, Drake seconded. M/C

-The fire and tornado insurance rates remained the same this year. Jake made a motion to approve the rates, Thurston seconded. The board members had a discussion over the rates and coverage. Motion brought to a vote. M/C

-Mrs. Newgard suggested outsourcing payroll to Jenna Nilsen. Jake made a motion to approve Jenna Nilsen to process payroll until the end of the fiscal year. Drake seconded. M/C

-The board discussed whether or not to allow an open campus at lunch for students. Andy suggested an open campus for the older kids. It was decided by the board to not allow open campus for grades Pre-K-11. Continue to allow open campus for Seniors.

-Mrs. Newgard passed out handouts with information on 504's. She also explained the difference between a 504 and an IEP.

-The Lansford Marquee is out-dated and doesn't work properly. After a discussion on different options, Jake motioned to turn off the electricity to the marquee, Drake seconded. M/C

-Pearce Durick has been the district's attorney since 2004. They specialize in educational law. The board discussed using the School Board Association attorneys as well. It was suggested to use both attorneys for big issues to ensure the best outcome for the district and students. Jake motioned to use both Pearce Durick and the School Board Association attorneys as needed for big issues. Andy seconded the motion. Nathaniel amended the motion to add when attorneys are contacted for the big issues, administration will contact the board members to let them know of the contact. The board members will also let administrators know when

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the board contacts the attorneys for any reason. Thurstan seconded the amendment. M/C.

-Motion to approve the original motion with the amendment made by Jake, Andy seconded. M/C.

-Mrs. Newgard presented a permission form for student driving for parents to sign. This form will allow students to drive their own vehicle or ride with another student to and from a school event. Without this permission form signed by a parent, the student must ride in a school provided vehicle to and from school events. Andy made the motion to allow students to drive their own vehicle or ride with another student only if the permission form is signed. Drake seconded. M/C

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Drake, seconded by Andy M/C.

Next meeting will be held on October 14 at 7:00 AM



Matt Undlin, School Board President
MLS Public School District #1



Kim Strand, Business Manager
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