

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD  
Regular Meeting  
Official Minutes

School board meeting on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Thompson Community room at the Middle School, 203 2 Ave SE, Jamestown, ND.

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

President Larson called the meeting to order and welcomed the audience, Jason Linz, Jamestown Video and Jane Lorig, Office Assistant.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the consent agenda which consisted of October 20, 2025 regular board meeting minutes, payment of bills, September 8, 2025 Health Insurance Committee meeting minutes, October 20, 2025 Professional Development Committee meeting minutes, October 21, 2025 Sick Leave Bank Committee meeting minutes, and October 23, 2025 James Valeey Career and Technology Center Administrators Advisory meeting minutes. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Veldkamp arrived at 5:39 pm.

Mr. Justin Connell, Middle School Assistant Principal, reported on the ND Academic Progression. We are strong in ELA writing. We are above state average in Math. English we would like more growth. We are above average in Science. The state has changed testing in science from 11<sup>th</sup> graders to 10 graders. Standards in Science has more writing and reading. Mr. Gehlhar reported the standards have different platforms, sub-categories and lot of steps to support proficiency scores. North Dakota achieves high scores in standards proficiency.

Dr. Lech reported the calendar committee reviewed staff survey responses and identified high priorities in the recommended calendars for the next two years. Committee surveys will assess perceptions of staff and influence district-level actions. The survey will be conducted annually with multiply committees across the district to see if they aligned with the district strategic plan goal 2.3.

Dr. Lech reported a team led by Stacy Jamtgaard created a pathway to honor support staff of the year and teacher of the year. They created a procedure and timeline which is shared with board members. Teacher of the year will be determined in the fall to align with the ND Teacher of the year timeline. Support staff of the year will be determined and honored in the Spring. Teacher of the Year nomination forms are in the District Office and nominations will be closed November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Lech reported on a planning meeting to bringi After School Program to Gussner Elementary. Intention to start as soon as January 5, 2026 with 10 student commitments.

Dr. Lech reported on the progress of developing a communications plan for JPS. Goals:1 - Position of JPS as a district of choice, 2 - Strengthen transparency, 3 - Establish a regular cadence for modern and effective communications to promote JPS, 4 – Educate and engage stakeholders. The goal is to have the district communications plan in place by January 6, 2026. It would be wise to expand the communications plan

to include a three-year time horizon. This would allow us to prioritize short-term strategies and build towards longer-term goals.

Dr. Lech spotlighted support staff who serve critically important roles in filling needs of our students. We currently have 4 staff members who retired from teaching and returned as paraprofessionals: Beth Fritz, Scott Fritz, Mari Stilwell and Mark Ukestad. Thanks for your continued commitment to Jamestown Public Schools.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school district calendars. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

President Larson reminded the board members to make a motion of satisfactory or unsatisfactory per section of the superintendent's evaluation. President Larson reviewed her evaluation meeting with Dr. Lech noting it was one of the highest scores he has received.

Mr. Roberts moved, a satisfactory rating for Section 1 Goals and Vision setting score 3.68, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Meier, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved, a satisfactory rating for section 2 Board Relations score 3.74, seconded by Mrs. Gleason. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Meier, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, a satisfactory rating for section 3 Human Resource Management score 3.58, seconded by Mr. Meier. Roll call vote: Larson, yes; Meier, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Meier moved, a satisfactory rating for section 4 Curriculum and Student Support Services score 3.50, seconded by Mrs. Bear. Roll call vote: Meier, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved a satisfactory rating for section 5 Community Relations score 3.38, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp. Roll call vote: Meier, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, a satisfactory rating for section 6 Operations and Resource Management score 3.63, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp. Roll call vote: Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Meier, yes; Roberts, yes. Passed 6-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the first reading of Policy BBA(School Board Elections and Terms of Office, rescind policy BBA(School Board Membership), Review of BBC-E(School Board Application), second reading of GABE(Human Trafficking and Exploitation, Prevention and Awareness Education), second reading of ACBD-AR (School Medication Program Regulations), second reading of ABAA(School District Organization Plan), and second reading of ACCB(Protection for Student Victims of Sexual Offenses). Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the tuition agreements for Pre-K , 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend Barnes County North for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

No further business, President Larson adjourned the meeting.