Jamestown Public School Board
Regular Meeting
Official Minutes

Jamestown School Board members toured the James Valley Career and Technology Center at 4:30 pm on Monday, February 2,.
Jamestown Public School Board Regular Meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the James Valley Career and Technology Center conference room.

Present: Heidi Larson, President, Dan Tweten, Vice President, Melissa Gleason, Owen McKenna, Jacob Meier, Aaron Roberts, Jason Rohr, Steve Veldkamp, Superintendent, Robert Lech, and Kristi Grounds, Business Manager. Jamie Bear was present by phone.

Guests: Stacy Jamtgaard, Adam Gehlhar

President Larson called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed the audience and Amy Neustel, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the consent agenda which included January 19, 2026 regular board meeting minutes, payment of bills, open enrollments for a Kindergarten and 4th grade students to attend Montpelier Public Schools for the 2025-2026 school year, January 28, 2026 negotiations finance retreat meeting minutes. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason arrived at 5:37 pm.

Mrs. Jamtgaard, Human Resource Generalist, reported on virtual bulletin board for the public on our website. This bulletin board has flyers that are reviewed by Mrs. Jamtgaard in compliance with KAAD policy for approval to post. Prior, the flyers would be approved by her and disbursed in materials sent home with the student. This helps not to overload parent's emails with notifications and reduces the cost of paper. Communication plan for informing families include face book posts on Mondays for district posts and Thursdays are from individual buildings. Discussion to increase communication with staff include a separate bulletin board for staff.

Dr. Lech reported on the board tour of the Career and Technology Center to see the newest updates to new and existing programs.

Dr. Lech reported Interviews for the Louis L'Amour Principal position will be held the week of February 9-13. A recommendation is planned for the next board meeting.

Dr. Lech reported the Capital projects plan is on the agenda with the final revisions.

Dr. Lech reported the superintendent evaluation is due to be completed by March 15th.

Dr. Lech reported the guiding coalition for secondary schedules has reviewed several options and is working on exploring the options more.

Dr. Lech reported on the Administrators 360 feedback tool for professional growth. This feedback is done on a rotating basis.

Dr. Lech reported on being asked to co-lead with State Superintendent Bachmeier and Dr. Alyssa Martin, NDCDE Director, a state task force on virtual education improvements. Their goal is to review and improve guidance and expectations for districts and strengthen outcomes and collaboration in virtual public academics.

Dr. Lech spotlighted the transition house students and program for providing a meal to the community leaders who attended the visit by State Superintendent Levi Bachmeier. The transition house also hosts an outstanding food pantry for families in the district who need support.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Veldkamp to approve the updated Capital Projects Plan and summer projects. Dr. Lech received a defined path for roof repairs in a three-year plan. Once the first 3-year plan is completed several buildings will be completely updated and we will start the next 3-year plan cycle which includes the High School and Career and Technology Center. The facilities committee discussed the outstanding cost of Washington building and an auction of the inventory.

Mr. McKenna moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the notice of intent to consider a petition for recognition of Jamestown Education Association representative organization. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the extended day contracts. A pilot program was created for 2025-2026 to have a teacher in a hybrid role with Instructional coach responsibilities. The pilot determined the amount of time demands associated with the hybrid caused a lack of preparation time and moved essential system work outside the regular instructional/contracted day. This recommendation is to be retroactive from the beginning of the 2025-206 school year. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Meier, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Veldkamp, yes; Gleason, yes; McKenna, yes. Passed 9-0.

President Larson reminded board members to review the superintendent evaluation timeline.

Mr. Veldkamp moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the tuition agreement for a seventh grader to attend Montpelier Public School for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

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 by phone, Steve Veldkamp, Jason Rohr, Owen McKenna, Superintendent Robert Lech, Business Manager, Kristi Grounds and Adam Gehlhar, Continuous Improvement Director. On February 2, 2026 at 6:15 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. McKenna.
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 7:27 pm.

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