Jamestown Public Schools
Regular Meeting
Official Minutes

A regular meeting of the Jamestown School Board was held April 20, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the Arts Center. Board members toured the Arts Center and the Culinary Arts classroom prior to the meeting.

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

Guest: Belle Sjostrom

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

Mrs. Bear moved to approve the consent agenda, which consisted of April 7, 2026 regular board meeting minutes, March 9, 2026 health insurance committee minutes, March 31, 2026 Administrators Negotiations minutes, April 15, 2026 finance committee meeting minutes, payment of bills, pledged securities, open enrollment applications for Kindergartner and 8th grade Jamestown students to attend Montpelier Public School for the 2026-2027 school year, and accept foreign exchange students: Anana Badrishvili from Republic of Georgia and Oscar Bukdahl from Denmark. Mr. McKenna seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

The board recognized selections for the North Dakota All-State team. Maggie Stagmiller (Bronze Team), Shane Martin, Marissa Moltzen, and Mia Tyson (Honorable Mention).

Belle Sjostrom, Student Council President, reported on Prom success, upcoming awareness week, spring sports, National Honor Society blood drive, and Student Council elections.

Mindi Schmitz, Arts Center Director, thanked Jamestown Public Schools for the partnership and financial support for the culinary kitchen and Artist-in-Residence program. Cole Carpenter, Education and Exhibitions Director, Arts Center reported on the K-12 art show with over 700 pieces and introduced Lindsay Reyes as the new Artist-in-Residence. President Larson thanked Mindi Schmitz and Cole Carpenter.

Mr. Tweten reported on financial priorities and music program staffing, clarifying past issues and confirming resources for the program. Recommended filling an open position via internal transfer. President Larson acknowledged the recommendation.

Mr. Gehlhar, Deb Hanson, and Levi Hirschkorn reported on the strategic plan progress monitoring, goal 3.2. Mr. Hirschkorn and Mrs. Hanson introduced themselves and their experience with ELEOT observations and Digital Learning. Mr. Gehlhar explained ELEOT observations as part of accreditation, focusing on student experience and conducted by trained educators. Mrs. Hanson described looking for student engagement, risk-taking, and active learning in observations. She added details on scoring, the importance of clear expectations, and student ownership of learning. Mr. Hirschkorn commented on the dynamic range of instruction across secondary classrooms. He discussed improvements, especially at the middle school due to standards-based grading, and the value of observing other educators. They shared insights on how observations impact their professional practice, appreciating diverse instructional strategies and emphasized identifying effective instructional strategies and the shift from passive to active student engagement. Mr. Gehlhar stressed the importance of reflection for practitioners and calibrating observers. Mr. Gehlhar reported Goal 3.2 (digital learning environment), acknowledging it's an aspirational goal and consistently scores low. Goal 3.2 does have challenges, noting national trends and the caution around technology overuse. National average data shows increasing digital tool use in higher grades and JPS scores are slightly below national average for digital learning. Mr. Gehlhar agreed the 3.0 goal is very aspirational and suggested making it an annual goal or reassessing what's reasonable by 2030. Mrs. Bear moved to approve the report and refer Goal 3.2 discussion to the strategic planning committee. Mr. Tweten seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Dr. Lech reported on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), explaining free/reduced vs. CEP, eligibility, financial modeling, reimbursement rates, increased meal participation, and unpaid lunch balances. Board members discussed understanding the financial impact and ensuring the state funds would be adequate if universal meals pass. Dr. Lech recommended referring CEP to the finance committee for deeper study with recommendation to the full board by June 30th. President Larson confirmed the referral to the finance committee.

Dr. Lech provided updates on the Personalized Learning Network case study and Guiding Coalition's work on schedule options, including various stakeholder engagement strategies. He anticipates recommendations in June for scheduling, potentially requiring a board retreat.

Dr. Lech reported on the calendar revisions to shift student contact days to professional learning days for standards-based learning and Infinite Campus transition.

Dr. Lech spotlighted Cavendish Farms' donation of $12,380 to the Angel Fund for unpaid lunch balances. President Larson thanked Cavendish for their support

Mr. McKenna moved to approve the Artist-in-Residence Program Agreement. Mrs**.** Bear seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Grounds provided general fund balance and monthly financial reports for board members to review.

Mr. Tweten moved to approve the revisions to the 2026-2027 school year calendar. Mrs. Bear seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved to approve the 2026-2027 ratification of the Administrator Master Agreement. Mr. McKenna seconded the motion. Mr. Tweten reported the administrators chose to make no changes to the current contract to benefit teaching staff. Roll call vote: Larson: yes; Tweten: yes; Gleason: yes; McKenna: yes; Bear: yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved to approve resignations of Molly Fritz and Kathy Burkle at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Tweten seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved to approve second reading of ACCA-BR (Criteria for Granting Parent Offender Privileges to Enter School Property) and amended HCAG-AR(Jamestown Public School district Cardholder Manual). Mr. McKenna seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved to approve tuition agreements for Jamestown 10th grade student to Montpelier for 2025-2026 school year, Barnes County North 2-9th grade students to Jamestown and Montpelier Kindergartener, 3rd and 6th grade students to Jamestown for the 2026-2027 school year. Mrs. Bear seconded the motion. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

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

GENERAL FUND; AMAZON.COM,2,950.84; ANDERSON, JADA,30.00; ANNE CARLSEN CENTER,104,062.96; ARMITAGE, MICHAEL,30.00; BATA, BRANDON,30.00; BCHEX,140.00; CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY,2,113.00; CASHWISE,113.41; CENTRAL VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT,4,300.00; CHAT GPT,80.00; CITY OF JAMESTOWN,5,442.39; COLE PAPERS INC,6,982.01; COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC,620.92; CONNECT TELETHERAPY,66,404.00; CONNELL, JUSTIN,30.00; CRICK SOFTWARE, INC,4,000.00; DACOTAH PAPER CO,562.44; DAIRY QUEEN,100.00; DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH,19,989.30; DAKOTA CENTRAL,1,983.77; DECKER EQUIPMENT/SCHOOL FIX,11,142.35; DELTA AIRLINES,INC,-19.99; DELZER, EDDY,30.00; DOMINO'S PIZZA,243.69; EBAY,307.15; ECKROTH MUSIC COMPANY,192.00; EDUTECH,40.00; ELMA,40.00; FARMERS

UNION COOP OIL CO,93.57; FARSTAD OIL,7,970.99; GEGELMAN, JAMIE,22.34; GEHLHAR, ADAM,176.00; GOOGLE,32.93; GROUNDS, KRISTI,176.00; HAWKINS INC,1,045.14; HEADQUARTERS, THE,129.11; HEINERT, DARBY,30.00; HIGH PLAINS WATER TREATMENT,75.45; HUGO'S FAMILY MARKETPLACE,486.52; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT,882.00; INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS,113.08; INSECT LORE PRODCUTS, INC,27.99; INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY CENTER,55.74; JAMES RIVER SPECIAL EDUCATION,98,155.89; JAMES RIVER TRANSIT,60.00; JAMES VALLEY MULTI DIST,253,676.00; JAMESTOWN PLUMBING HEATING AC,2,735.50; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL,629.09; JAMTGAARD, CODY,40.95; JAMTGAARD, STACY,30.00; JONES, TERRY,30.00; JONNY B'S BRICKHOUSE,384.00; JOSTENS INC,2,322.75; KAPP, DANIEL,30.00; KASTET, RACHEL,32.41; KNOX, ROBERT,30.00; LEAF,2,745.00; LEARNWELL,1,081.50; LECH, ROBERT,30.00; LORIG, JANE,1.53; LYFT, INC,91.21; MARCO TECHNOLOGIES,10,316.90; MARRIOTS ORLANDO WORLD CENTER,3,322.17; MEISSNER, JEFF,1,085.10; MENARDS OF JAMESTOWN,1,135.25; MOLTZEN, SHELLY,146.00; MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES,3,940.41; NAPA AUTO PARTS OF JAMESTOWN INC,75.98; NATL ASSN OF ELEM SCHOOL,56.87; ND ATTORNEY GENERAL,140.00; ND CENTER FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION,390.00; NDCEL,725.00; NORTH DAKOTA EDUCATORS SERVICE,125.00; NORTHWEST TIRE INC,4,465.27; OSLUND, ANDREW,159.42; OTTERTAIL POWER CO,34,645.19; PETTYS, QUENTIN,150.30; PORTSCHELLER, PEG,5,667.00; POSTMASTER,370.00; QUIZNOS SUB,372.27; RAINBOW GAS COMPANY,4,499.68; RAMADA BISMARCK HOTEL,220.00; RECORD KEEPERS,105.76; RECYCLING CENTER OF ND,1,312.00; SANFORD HEALTH EMS EDUCATION,494.00; SCHERBENSKE INC,7,750.00; SCHMIDT, SHERRY,30.00; SCHOOL SPECIALTY INC,194.19; SCHWINGLER, BRITTANY,29.57; SOOPER STOP,228.80; SPACES INC,9,542.00; SPALDING EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL,22.59; STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE,25.00; STEINS INC,122.78; SUN LIFE,312.35; T-MOBILE USA INC,158.05; TEACHERSPAYTEACHERS.COM,7.00; TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CO,937.00; UNITED AIRLINES,40.00; USI, INC,192.33; VILLAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER,5,417.00; WALCH, TIMOTHY,190.60; WALMART,1,538.06; WEX HEALTH INC,292.32; WW GRAINGER INC,1,416.65; Fund Total:,707,728.79; BUILDING FUND; ET SYSTEMS,1,885.09; JAMES VALLEY MULTI DIST,630.00; JAMESTOWN PLUMBING HEATING AC,4,568.81; NORTHWEST IRON FIREMAN INC,2,516.51; TUBS OF FUN!,6,115.00; Fund Total:,15,715.41; STUDENT ACTIVITY; 701 PRINT & DESIGN CO,950.13; ALL FOR KIDZ INC,1,320.00; AMAZON.COM,422.72; ATHLETIC.NET,750.00; BATA, BRANDON,164.00; BISMARCK HIGH SCHOOL,175.68; BRUNO'S PIZZA,300.13; CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL,175.24; COUNTRY GARDENS,308.00; COUNTRY INN & SUITES BISMARCK,-778.00; DAHLBERG, PAUL,401.50; DAKOTA CENTRAL,184.90;

DAKOTA INFLATABLE GAMES,350.00; DAKOTA TROPHY,142.00; DICKINSON HIGH SCHOOL,300.00; EQUIPMENT GUYS, THE,480.00; FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS,1,237.51; FORUM,19.99; GERRELLS SPORTS CENTER INC,1,330.00; GREGG, TRINITY,75.00; GUN & REEL SPORTS INC,199.92; GUSSNER PTO,74.00; HAGER, JAMIE,160.00; HEWITT, KYLE,320.25; HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS FARGO,387.00; JAMES VALLEY MULTI DIST,555.83; JAMESTOWN PARKS & RECREATION,4,660.00; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL PC,0.00; JOSEPH, AMY,209.00; JW PEPPER & SON INC,125.08; LAQUINTA INN & SUITES GRAND,0.00; LAQUINTA INN & SUITES MINOT,2,310.00; MAUCORT, BERNARD,634.50; MENARDS OF JAMESTOWN,219.70; MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL,400.00; NDIAAA,312.00; O'CLAIR, TERRY,332.25; OLIVE GARDEN,736.99; OLSON, TORI,75.00; POPPLERS MUSIC INC,70.00; ROALDSON, JAMES,30.00; SABANOVIC, KEMAL,317.25; SCHONERT, JOHN,461.50; SHEYENNE HIGH SCHOOL,80.00; TRAINING ROOM INC,111.80; VALLEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL,500.00; WAGNER, KEVIN,160.00; WALMART,802.33; WEIS, ASHLYN,75.00; ZERR, TREV,360.00; Fund Total:,22,988.20; HEALTH INSURANCE; HAYS COMPANIES,2,796.00; MEDALLUS JAMESTOWN URGENT CARE,28,174.19; Fund Total:,30,970.19; JAMESTOWN DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS; DOLLYWOOD FOUNDATION, THE,286.31; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL,47.41; NEWMAN SIGNS INC,450.00; Fund Total:,783.72; SCHOOL LUNCH; BADLANDS DISTRIBUTION INC, 122.60; BCHEX 20.00;CINTAS CORPORATION NO 2, 1221.68; CITY OF JAMESTOWN, 2030.13; COCA COLA BOTTLING COMPANY HIGH, 2,559.75; CULINEX, 965.70; DACOTAH PAPER CO, 2,812.89; FREHPOINT BIX PRODUCE COMPANY, 9688.33; HEALTH-E PRO, 5,362.00; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL, 20.90; ND DEPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, 252.40; PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC, 512.72; SALBAR, MELISSA, 30.00; SYSCO NORTH DAKOTA INC, 62,144.61; WALL, CINDY, 30.00; Fund Total: 87,773.71; JAMES VALLEY CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER; ACME TOOLS,119.00; ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS, INC,377.69; AMAZON.COM,1,236.16; AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, INC.,-10.54; BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE,180.00; CITY OF JAMESTOWN,922.93; COLE PAPERS INC,600.02; DAKOTA CENTRAL,363.28; DAKOTA ENGINE BUILDERS INC,69.99; DISTRICT 6 AG ACTIVITY FUND,70.00; EDE, SHANE,91.00; JAMESTOWN PLUMBING HEATING AC,562.75; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL,1,301.05; JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL,1,758.45; JETSTREAM CAR WASH INC,32.88; LIPO-VISUALS INC,168.00; MAC'S INC,0.92; MEDEX SUPPLY,98.00; MENARDS OF JAMESTOWN,2,134.03; MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES,2,263.16; NAPA AUTO PARTS OF JAMESTOWN INC,13.75; NAUMANN, SHEILA,30.37; OREILLY AUTO PARTS,404.00; OTTERTAIL POWER CO,3,149.41; RECYCLING CENTER OF ND,90.00; ROCHELEAU-ECKART, HEIDI,30.00; SAM'S CLUB,659.68; SANFORD HEALTH EMS EDUCATION,45.00; SKILLS USA INC,314.00;

STAMPS.COM,120.99; TRUCORDIA INSURANCE SERVICES,,4,458.00; WALMART,1,942.84; WINGATE BY WYNDHAM BISMARCK,110.00; Fund Total:, 23,706.81.