

DBOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
NORTHERN CASS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 97

Northern Cass Library - Rural Hunter, ND  
Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: Brad Bjerke, Sean Jalbert, Penny Johnson, Chris Murch, Todd Olson, Lori Steffes  
Paige Carlson – Business Manager  
Terry Baesler – Superintendent  
Absent: Michael Lovejoy and Tess J., Learner Board Member

Meeting called to order by President Murch.

Also present: Crysta Schenck, Elementary Principal; Doug Margerum, Secondary Principal;  
Beth Head, Director of Personalized Learning; and Belinda Lawrence via Zoom

President Murch read the Board Norms.

Jalbert moved to approve the agenda as amended. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed  
(Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Mr. Baesler presented the consent agenda. Olson moved to approve the consent agenda as  
presented. Steffes seconded the motion, which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson,  
Steffes).

#### ACKNOWLEDGING GREATNESS

Mr. Baesler presented the Staff of the Year Awardees. Belinda Lawrence, Support Staff of the  
Year, attended via Zoom. Belinda left the meeting at 5:39 PM.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

*No one in attendance.*

#### BOARD EDUCATION

Mrs. Head presented on her position as Director of Personalized Learning.

Administrative reports presented by Mr. Margerum, Mrs. Schenck, and Mr. Baesler. Reports are  
accessible on the Northern Cass School Board website.

#### TEACHING, LEARNING, AND LEARNER ACHIEVEMENT

Mrs. Schenck and Mr. Margerum presented the Winter Assessment results. Mr. Margerum and  
Beth Head left the meeting at 6:20 PM.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board member Olson presented the Building and Grounds committee report.  
Board member Murch presented the Budget and Human Resources committee report.  
Board member Steffes presented the Teaching and Learning committee report.

No meeting held for the Activities committee.

Steffes moved to rescind the list of 244 Northern Cass School District policy documents and that past practice will govern district operation covered by the former policy documents until the board adopts the updated policy documents. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Steffes moved to adopt the 181 listed policy documents on the first reading and waive the second reading to expedite the policy adoption process per board policy BDA. Johnson seconded the motion. Discussion held. Motion passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Carlson shared the upcoming areas for the annual school board election: Rural Arthur & Hunter, Gardner, and Argusville (1-year term). Johnson moved to approve holding the 2026 annual school board election in conjunction with Cass and Traill counties on Tuesday, June 9, 2026. Olson seconded the motion, which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

President Murch reminded school board members of the upcoming Superintendent evaluation due on February 27, 2026. President Murch will collect the results and conference with Mr. Baesler before the March school board meeting.

Johnson moved to approve the Four-Year Old Program approval form for the 2026-2027 school year as presented. Jalbert seconded the motion. Discussion held. Motion passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Jalbert moved to accept letter of resignation from K. Kingsley after the 2025-2026 school year. Steffes seconded the motion, which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Discussion held on special meeting for a School Board Retreat. Add to the March 2026 school board agenda.

Olson moved to approve the General Fund bills as presented. Steffes seconded the motion, which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Steffes moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 PM. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed.

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Chris Murch, President

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Paige Carlson, Business Manager