

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

Northern Cass School Library
Monday, January 13, 2025 – 5:00 PM

Present: Brad Bjerke, Sean Jalbert, Penny Johnson, Chris Murch, Todd Olson, Lori Steffes
Via Zoom: Travis Moser
Grayson Mitchell – Learner Board Member
Paige Carlson – Business Manager
Dr. Cory Steiner – Superintendent

Meeting called to order by President Bjerke.

Also present: Crysta Schenck, Elementary Principal; Doug Margerum, High School Principal; Sam Johnson, Middle School Principal, and K. Wittner.

Board Norms were recited by President Bjerke.

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

Dr. Steiner provided an update on the items included on the consent agenda. Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda for the following: minutes from December 9, 2024, regular meeting and December 31, 2024, special meeting; General Fund, Activity Fund, Hot Lunch financial reports for December; heating and electric reports for December; and General Fund bills for payment as presented. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrative reports presented by Dr. Steiner, Mrs. Schenck, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Margerum. Learner report presented by Grayson M. Reports are accessible on the Northern Cass School Board website.

Steffes moved to approve the fundraising requests as presented. Olson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

TEACHING, LEARNING, & LEARNER ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Steiner shared an update on middle school studio proposals, the Personalized Learning Institute, and the health science program.

BOARD EDUCATION

Discussion on superintendent evaluation question set

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Moser moved to approve the second reading of policies ACDB - Surveillance and Recording in Schools, BGA - Board Communication with the Public, GAAE - Critical Race Theory, GBEAB -

Work Experience Opportunities, GBEIB - Programs for Learners with Disabilities, and HBAA-E - Federal Fund Expenditures and Inventory Requirements. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

NEW BUSINESS

Building and Grounds committee report: updates from Mr. Laxdal and Officer Nettetstad, building fund update, review of potential building bids, discussion on non-certified termination of 'contract', negotiations training, safety mill discussion, review of 2025-26 school calendar, legislative and programming updates.

Teaching and Learning committee report: new policies for discussion, instructional section of policies to review, literacy specialist discussion, non-certified termination of 'contract', review 2025-26 calendar, programming and legislative update.

Moser moved to approve the first reading of policies: GACB Patriotic Exercises, GBA Curriculum Adoption, GBA-R Curriculum Design & Evaluation, GBEDA Service for English Learners, GDB Interscholastic Activities, GEF Animals in the Classroom. Jalbert seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Budget and Human Resources committee report: update on 2024-2025 budget, safety mill update, programming updates, discussion of non-certified termination of 'contract', storage building update, Steve Hegele feedback from special board meeting, legislative meeting topics, 2025-26 calendar discussion.

Johnson moved to approve the Learner Success Coach position for Level 6-12 for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year to be paid from YASS prize. Steffes seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Activities committee report: winter participation numbers, head volleyball coach timeline, contract language for coaches, fundraising account discussion, wrestling coach request, spring contract discussion, co-op for tennis with West Fargo High School.

Olson moved to approve bid received from Ada Building for the bus barn project for the summer of 2025 to include 2'x8' posts for an additional \$3,000 from the original bid price. Jalbert seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Murch moved to approve financing option through Dakota Heritage Bank for the bus barn project up to \$250,000 for a 5-year term. Steffes seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Dr. Steiner presented draft for the 2025-2026 school year calendar. Murch moved to approve the first reading of the 2025-2026 school year calendar. Olson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Jalbert moved to approve the request to partner with West Fargo High School for Girl's Tennis. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Moser moved to approve the spring coaching contracts for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Olson moved to accept letters of resignation from S. Meehl, Level 1 Educator, and S. Krinke, eSports advisor after the 2024-2025 school year. Jalbert seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

K. Wittner left the meeting at 6:11 PM.

Johnson moved to approve the Letter of Support for the United Way grant related to Career exploration programs as presented. Steffes seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Steffes moved to change the next regular board meeting to February 12th at 5:30 PM in the Northern Cass Library. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Bjerke, Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

Reminder that the board retreat is set for Wednesday, January 22, 2025, starting at 9:00 AM in the Northern Cass Conference Room.

Jalbert moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 PM. Olson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Brad Bjerke, President

Paige Carlson, Business Manager