

Dakota CUSD #201

Board Meeting Summary

April 2019

4.23.19 Board Meeting Summary

The Dakota School Board conducted the organizational meeting on the 23rd. Below is a summary of the meeting.

New board members seated

Based on the results from the April 2nd election, the following were seated to the Dakota School Board:

- Tom Liszka (4 year term)
- Jesse Milks (4 year term)
- Carie Panoske (4 year term)
- Eric Stiegler (2 year term)

The remaining board members are currently in the middle of four year terms which include: Colette Binger, Karen Kleckner and Heidi Meier.

Election of Officers

The newly seated board's first task was to elect board officers to two year terms. The following board members were elected:

- Karen Kleckner, President
- Colette Binger, Vice-President
- Carie Panoske, Secretary

Board meeting dates and times set

The newly seated board also established meeting dates and times for the next year. Meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Dakota Elementary library. The exceptions to those dates are July (no meeting); August (2nd Tuesday due to no July meeting and start of school year); and November (2nd Tuesday due to the annual school board conference).

Outgoing board members recognized

The board recognized Holly DiModica and Scott Hillman for their distinguished service to the Dakota School Board and district. Holly served for six years, while Scott served for four.

Administrative Reports

3rd quarter financial summary

Mr. Mathers provided the board with a summary report on the district's third quarter finances. He shared that both revenues and expenditures are in good shape relative to the budget.

Principal Reports

Dakota Elementary principal Jeff Milburn reported on the following items:

- Conducted a "soft" lockdown safety drill
- Conducted state testing for grades 3-6
- Administered pre-school training using "play-based" assessment
- Conducted ARC training (reading) for staff, which constituted the 18th training over two years.
- Several staff members participated in threat assessment training at Highland College

Dakota JH/HS principal Jason Grey reported on the following:

- 25 seniors attended the Colony Brands Career Expo with each receiving a \$350 scholarship.
- 10 students attended the Highland College Quickstart Registration Day. Students were able to take entrance examinations and register for fall courses.
- Dakota juniors and seniors are enrolled in over 40 Highland Colleges courses for the fall semester.
- 35 students are currently registered for CareerTec programs for the next school year.
- 7th and 8th grade students took the state assessment. The state science assessment was also administered.
- Advanced Placement exams for biology and U.S. history will be given on May 10 and 14.

Approved the 2018-2019 Keep Dakota Proud! Plan

The Board reviewed and approved the 2019-2020 Keep Dakota Proud! Plan which acts as the district's improvement plan. The plan has been reviewed over the past several months and directs the district's resources to ensure continuous improvement including but not limited to: instructional programming, facilities, technology and staffing.

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Reviewed and placed updated board policies on display

The board reviewed the most current issue of policy recommendations from the Illinois Association of School Boards. Many of the recommendations reflect changes in school code or the impact of recent court cases. There are a couple of new policies which address retirement severance payment for educational support staff and behavioral threat assessment. The policies will be on display with the possibility of being adopted at the May 21 board meeting.

Approved adoption of English Language Arts (ELA) textbooks for grades 7-9

Mr. Grey reviewed the process and recommendation for a new ELA textbook for grades 7, 8, and 9. Teachers evaluated several textbooks and determined that the Pearson ELA program would most effectively meet the academic needs of students. The textbook program will be implemented in the fall.

Approved application for administrative cost cap waiver

Prior to the start of the regular board meeting, the board conducted a hearing for the administrative cost cap waiver. The waiver is necessary due to an increase of over 5% in the current budget over last year's expenditures. The board approved the waiver application during the regular portion of the meeting.

Reviewed the status of district's violence prevention/emergency planning program

Mr. Prusator provided an update on the work of a district level Violence Prevention/Emergency Planning team which consists of parents, law enforcement, elementary staff, JH/HS staff, administrators and two board members. He reviewed the framework of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) recommendations and the district's progress on those recommendations.

Approved Dakota Career Readiness Plan

Mr. Grey shared the background on the development of the Dakota Career Readiness Plan. Members of the JH/HS staff and administration worked with CareerTec to meet the plan requirements, which is a component of the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Approved Request for Proposal (RFP) for parking lot repair, sealcoating, restriping and construction of blacktop behind Dakota Elementary School.

Mr. Mathers reviewed the scope of work in the RFP, which is included in the Keep Dakota Proud! Plan. Once the bids are received and evaluated, the administration will make a recommendation on moving forward.

Approved Personnel Recommendations

The following personnel items were approved by the board:

Person	Recommendation
Sandra Mennenga	Accepted resignation effective end of 2018-2019 school year
Doug Visel	Accepted resignation as Varsity Club Advisor
Allie McCallups	Accepted resignation as freshman volleyball coach
Michelle Brashaw	Employed as elementary cook
Jamie Fuchs	Approved leave through September 27, 2019
Diane Lawson	Employed as superintendent/board secretary

The next regularly scheduled Dakota School Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Dakota Elementary School Library.

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