

OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOWMAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

The regular meeting of the Bowman County School Board was held on Wednesday October 14, 2020 at 5:00pm in the Bowman County Middle School Commons. Members present: President Stacy McGee, Vice President Andrea Bowman & Board Members Amy Fischer, Randy Gaebe, Camie Janikowski, Trevor Kulseth & Jim Stafford. Others present: Superintendent Wayne Heckaman, Tyler Senn 7-12 Principal, Elementary Principal Mitch Strand (via Teams), Co-Ad Nick Walker & Business Manager Debbie Bucholz.

Guests present: Brandy Getz, John Heinen ND Community Foundation, Jolene Hendrickx, Marisa Lambourn, Courtney Miller, Lori Sola, Mia Stafford, Nicole Walker & Jason Waskiewicz. Others were invited to listen live via remote access.

1. **Call to Order:** President Stacy McGee called meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
3. **Agenda:** Janikowski moved, seconded by Fischer to approve the agenda. Discussion was held. All in favor, motion carried.

Item 9(a) moved up in agenda to accommodate guest.

Bowman School Foundation – ND Community Foundation presentation: John Heinen, ND Community Foundation gave a presentation regarding a possible move of the Bowman School Foundation Inc funds to a fund within the ND Community Foundation. Per Bowman School Foundation Inc. by-laws, directors include President of the School Board, Superintendent and two other members. President McGee, Superintendent Heckaman and Finance committee will meet to further discuss the next steps. Board in favor of pursuing this avenue.

John Heinen, ND Community Foundation, exited.

4. **Routine Board Items:**
 - a. Minutes: Bowman moved, seconded by Kulseth to accept the Regular meeting Sep 9, 2020 minutes & Special Board Meetings Sep 23, Sep 28, Oct 5, Oct 7 & Oct 9, 2020 minutes with the addition of “ND DoH” to guidelines in the motion made by Janikowski on the Oct 9, 2020 Special Board meeting minutes. Discussion was held. All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. Bills: Gaebe moved, seconded by Bowman to approve the district bills. Discussion was held. All in favor, motion carried.
 - c. Financial Reports: Discussion was held. Approved as presented.
 - d. Quarterly Budget vs Actual. Discussion was held. Approved as presented.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Building Committee: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
 - b. COVID-19 Response Team: To be discussion later in agenda.
 - c. Policy Committee: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
 - d. Technology Committee: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
6. **Public Comment:** Public Comment Guidance Statement read by President Stacy McGee. Five community members signed up to comment regarding item 8(a) COVID-19. One community member signed up to comment regarding item 9(b) Technology. No other comments were brought forth.
7. **Administrative Reports:**
 - a. Elementary Principal Report: Written report distributed with school board packet information. Dyslexia Pilot Program committee meeting was held on Monday, October 12. RESP has hired Connie Gaebe to do screenings based on criteria and protocol for Dyslexia intervention. Further discussion was held. No additional items were added.
 - b. 7-12 Principal Report: Written report distributed with school board packet information. Total 7-12 distance learners has varied between 25-35 each day. Further discussion was held. No additional items were added.
 - c. Activities Directors Report: Written report distributed with school board packet information. Further discussion was held. No additional items were added.
 - d. Superintendent Report: Written report distributed with school board packet information. Further discussion was held. No additional items were added.

Marisa Lambourn arrived.

Lori Sola arrived.

8. Unfinished Business:

a. COVID-19

i. Executive Session:

1. Janikowski moved, seconded by Gaebe to hold an executive session for the purpose of attorney consultation regarding potential legal liability related to complaints raised to the district that could result in a reasonably predictable lawsuit or adversarial administrative proceeding per NDCC 44-04-19.1(2) & (5). Roll call vote: Bowman yes, Fisher yes, Gaebe yes, Janikowski yes, Kulseth yes, Stafford yes and McGee yes. All in favor, motion carried. President McGee adjourned open session at 6:00pm. Members present in executive session; President Stacy McGee, Vice President Bowman & Board Member Fischer, Gaebe, Janikowski, Kulseth, & Stafford, Superintendent Wayne Heckaman, Business Manager Debbie Bucholz, Nick Grant- Ebeltoft Sickler Lawyers PLLC (via conference call) & Shea Thomas - Ebeltoft Sickler Lawyers PLLC (via conference call). President McGee called meeting (executive session) to order at 6:06pm. Topic discussed attorney consultation. Executive session adjourned at 7:41pm. President McGee reconvened open meeting at 7:51pm.

Comments were taken from community members regarding COVID-19.

- ii. Academics: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
- iii. Activities: Discussion was held with no motions being made. Admin & Co-Activities Directors will confirm with ND DOH guidelines affecting activities due to changes in risk level of county.
- iv. Transportation: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
- v. Health & Safety Plan:
 1. Discussed with legal counsel regarding ND DoH guidelines including isolation & quarantine guidelines: Janikowski moved, seconded by Bowman to rescind motion from October 9th regarding guidelines for close contact quarantined students. Discussion was held. Roll call vote: Janikowski yes, Gaebe yes, Stafford yes, Fischer yes, Bowman yes, Kulseth yes and McGee yes. Unanimous in favor, motion carried.
 2. Also discussed with legal counsel regarding adding to isolation & quarantine language in Bowman County's Health Safety Smart Re-Start Plan for 2020-2021: Bowman moved, seconded by Fischer to add the following to page 13 under the heading "*Isolation & Quarantine*":

Isolation & Quarantine

o Definitions:

- Isolation – For People who are already sick from the virus. A prevention strategy used to separate people who are sick with the virus from healthy people.
- Quarantine – For people who are not sick but have been exposed to the virus. A prevention strategy used to monitor people who were exposed for a period of time.

- o Bowman County School District will follow isolation and quarantine guidelines and directives as set by the ND DoH and the Southwestern District Health Unit. See Appendix for copies of ND DoH's guidelines and directives.

- o As of October 1, 2020, the ND DoH has updated how and when individuals deemed close contacts at school will be quarantined:

- If the individual who tested positive for COVID-19 and the close contacts were always both masked appropriately during the exposure, the close contacts are exempt from being quarantined. However, the close contacts should
 - Wear a mask while around others;
 - Watch for symptoms for 14 days and be tested if symptom(s) occur;
 - If you become aware that you have been potentially exposed, consider being tested for 7-10 days after the last exposure; and
 - Practice social distancing, including avoiding large crowds and gatherings.

- If either the individual who tested positive for COVID-19 or the close contact is not masked appropriately during the exposure or is not wearing a mask, the close contact will need to quarantine for 14 days.
- If the close contact is identified by the ND DoH as a “household contact” of an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, the close contact will need to quarantine for 14 days since their last contact with the contagious individual even if both individuals were always both masked appropriately during the exposure.
- If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, then the individual will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of positive test, whichever pertains and until at least 24 have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms as noted.

Return to school

- When a student or staff member has been isolated or quarantined as directed by the ND DoH or Southwestern District Health unit, they will be allowed to return to school after being cleared by either the ND DoH of the Southwestern District Health Unit.

Discussion was held. Roll call vote: Gaebe yes, Stafford yes, Fischer yes, Bowman yes, Kulseth yes, Janikowski yes & McGee yes. Unanimous in favor, motion carried

3. Also discussed with legal counsel regarding moving to Risk Level Yellow:
 - a. ND Governor Burgum has moved Bowman County to risk level yellow.
 - b. The school district has a choice whether or not to follow the county risk level.
 - c. Yellow risk level requires everyone to wear masks when not social distancing. If 6 feet can be accomplished, no face mask is not required. Mask wearing will likely not be all day for students. A list of classes that cannot social distance will be provide to school board.
 - d. Bowman moved, seconded by Stafford to follow ND Governor Burgum guidance and move the school district to yellow risk level effective Monday Oct 19 utilizing Instructional Plan 2. Discussion was held. Roll call vote: Stafford yes, Fischer yes, Bowman yes, Kulseth yes, Janikowski yes, Gaebe yes and McGee yes. Unanimous in favor, motion carried.
 - e. Additional Procedure: Parents will take temperature daily while administration is looking into alternatives for temperature taking before school on campus.
 - f. Covid Response team will meet to see if Instructional Plan 3 is an orange risk level.
- vi. Essential Personnel: Discussion was held with no motions being made.
- vii. Quarantine Recommendations: Discussions was held, with no motions being made.
- viii. Other: Statement read by President McGee Please give the school board some grace during this ever changing topic. The school board is fact-finding, researching and gathering information from informed people including staff, parents & community. When board members walk into the school door, we check our personal opinion at the door and try to make the best educated decision for 400+ students, 100+ staff and our community, hoping we have done our best to protect and educate our leaders of tomorrow.
- b. Strategic Planning: On hold until after new year. Dr. Schatz is in support of re-evaluating the timing of developing the strategic plan until after the 1st of the year.

9. New Business:

- a. Bowman School Foundation – ND Community Foundation presentation: Earlier in agenda.
- b. Technology long term plan: Comments were taken from community member. Mr. Jahner spoke regarding technology budgeting. School Board is in support of moving forward with purchasing technology within total budgeted amount with the purchasing approval of Superintendent Heckaman. Further discussion was held with no motions being made.
- c. Building Fund CD Renewal: School Board in support of proceeds from Building Fund CD maturity to be deposited in Building Fund account vs investing in another CD due to rates available. Further discussion was held with no motions being made.
- d. Superintendent Evaluation: Due to Business Manager by Friday, October 30, 2020 for compilation prior to next regular board meeting and deadline of November 15, 2020. Discussion was held with no motions being made.

10. Other Items:

- a. Board Directives for Superintendent:
 - i. Admin will work on communication and plan for next week regarding moving to yellow risk level.
- b. Committee Meetings: Building Committee Sep 16–Gaebe, Kulseth & McGee; Policy Committee Sep 17–Janikowski & McGee, Sep 22-Janikowski & McGee; Technology Committee Sep 14 Stafford.

11. Future Meeting Date/Location:

- a. Regular Meeting – Monday, November 9 2020, 5:30pm Bowman County Middle School Commons. Note change in date is due to Veteran’s day being on the regular scheduled date.
- b. NDSBA Annual Convention 2020- virtual

12. **Adjournment:** With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

Stacy McGee, President

Debbie Bucholz, Business Manager