



Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

Mott-Regent Public School District #1

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Description of the School.....	2
School's Purpose.....	5
Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement.....	7
Additional Information	13

Introduction

Every school has its own story to tell. The context in which teaching and learning takes place influences the processes and procedures by which the school makes decisions around curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The context also impacts the way a school stays faithful to its vision. Many factors contribute to the overall narrative such as an identification of stakeholders, a description of stakeholder engagement, the trends and issues affecting the school, and the kinds of programs and services that a school implements to support student learning.

The purpose of the Executive Summary (ES) is to provide a school with an opportunity to describe in narrative form the strengths and challenges it encounters. By doing so, the public and members of the school community will have a more complete picture of how the school perceives itself and the process of self-reflection for continuous improvement. This summary is structured for the school to reflect on how it provides teaching and learning on a day to day basis.

Description of the School

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

Introduction:

Mott/Regent Public School is located in the southwestern part of North Dakota, right in the middle of pheasant country. The Mott/Regent School District is made up of the towns of Mott and Regent. They are located approximately 16 miles apart. The Mott/Regent School District covers approximately 880 square miles, one of the largest square mile districts in North Dakota. A map is available of the Mott/Regent Public School District upon request at the High School office. Grades K-12 are housed at the Mott site.

Mott/Regent School District Demographic Data:

Mott School District #6 and Regent School District #14 consolidated on July 1, 2001, to form the Mott/Regent Public School District #1. Since May of 2009, the Mott/Regent School District is located in Mott, ND. The school is a K-6 elementary and 7-12 high school. The elementary and high schools are located in separate buildings joined by a tunnel connecting the two buildings. The primary leadership is made up of the Mott/Regent School Board, one superintendent, and two principals.

Mott is located on the scenic plains of rural southwestern North Dakota in Hettinger County. Mott's 2014 population is approximately 786. Mott is a Centennial City and celebrated this milestone in 2003. The estimated median household income in 2015 was \$49,329, the median resident age was 50 years old, and the median housing value was estimated at \$85,039. 18% of individuals are estimated to be below poverty level.

Regent is nestled in the peaceful beauty of southwestern North Dakota. The town was founded in 1910 on the solid steel of railroad lines that forged a community teaming with pride and a strong work ethic. Regent's population in 2014 was 171 residents. Estimated median household income in 2015 was \$53,614, the median resident age was 52 years old, and the median housing value was estimated at \$96,096. 16% of individuals are estimated to be below poverty.

Mott/Regent Public Schools provide a full range of educational opportunities to approximately 230 students from Kindergarten through high school, 121 students K-6, and 109 students 7-12. It also houses a Head Start program with 17 students enrolled. The student population consists of Native American, African American, Caucasian, other Pacific Islander and unclassified. 100% of K-6 students receive School-wide Title 1 services.

District wide, students receive services under the 504 law, economically disadvantaged, and through our comprehensive special education program.

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

Mott/Regent graduation rates (Provided by state data warehouse SLDS):

2016: 90.9%

2015: 87.5%

2014: 100%

2013: 94%

2012: 100%

2011: 95.5%

2010: 96.2%

2009: 94.4%

The Mott/Regent Public School employs approximately 50 staff, teachers, and administrators. All of our 33 teachers and 8 paraprofessionals are highly qualified.

School Programs/Process Data:

The Mott/Regent school board is comprised of seven members. Three board members are from the former Regent Public School District and are elected at large. Four members are from the former Mott Public School District and are also elected at large. Mott/Regent Public School's Board of Education operates under the model of Governance Policy whereby the Board's sole direction of the operational organization is the Superintendent functioning as the Chief Executive Officer. He is the Board's only link to the operational organization, and all authority over and accountability of staff is considered the responsibility of the superintendent. The Board instructs the Superintendent through written policies which prescribe the organizational results to be achieved, describe organizational situations and actions to be avoided, and allow the Superintendent to use any reasonable interpretation of those policies.

Mott/Regent employs one high school principal and one elementary principal. The secondary principal assumes administrative responsibilities in the high school, grades 7-12. The elementary principal assumes the administrative responsibilities in grades K-6. The relation of the principal to the superintendent is cooperative and direct. His/Her primary responsibility is to teachers and students in the improvement of instruction and curriculum. These responsibilities include but are not limited to the following: 1. Implementing policies of the board and the superintendent. 2. Assisting the superintendent in the selection and recommendation of teachers. 3. Preparing necessary reports to the superintendent on the needs and conditions of their departments. 4. Informing teachers of new concepts and developments in their fields. 5. Supervising and keeping the pupil-record system, including grades, attendance, courses taken, extracurricular participation,

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

and making available to colleges and employers. 6. The instructional program 7. Pupil attendance 8. Extracurricular programs 9. Discipline 10. Care of building and equipment 11. Responsibilities to the superintendent 12. Public relations.

Mott/Regent Elementary School provides educational programming for students in Kindergarten through sixth grade. We are currently a schoolwide Title I School providing services for Kindergarten through grade 6. For our population, 5% of all of our students receive 504 services. 14% of the student population receives services through our comprehensive special education program. At-risk kids who do not get a good meal at home qualify for free and reduced meals at high levels in our school: grades K-6: 50% and grades 7-12: 33%. With a combined K-12 free and reduced population of 43%, Mott/Regent serves many at-risk students with challenges that make attaining district proficiency difficult.

Mott/Regent Public School provides a full day Kindergarten program four days a week (M-Th). Grades one-five have one section per grade and Grade six has two sections per grade because of the large numbers and the academic needs.

Some challenges associated with the communities the school serves is the age of the school buildings however, a bond was passed in June 2016 to build a new elementary school including several HS classrooms. The elementary school was built 104 years ago and experiences many of the problems associated with an old building (steps, lack of bathrooms). It has a lack of onsite parking, remote athletic facilities, minimal green space, proximity to highway traffic, lack of ADA accessibility, and a lack of room for expansion. There is a lack of housing in both communities and high rent.

Unique features include a low student to teacher ratio of 15:1. Both of the communities of Mott and Regent offer a small town atmosphere.

School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

Mission Statement:

Mott/Regent Public School will promote learning for all people in a positive, caring atmosphere.

Philosophy:

Mott/Regent Public School exists to provide for the educational needs of the people of the district. In addition to educating the students' intellect, we also strive to address their self-esteem and their individual talents. The school will provide to the best of its ability for the special needs of individual students.

Belief statements include:

1. To maintain a respectful relationship.
2. To provide students with the opportunity to meet basic educational requirements.
3. To aid in the development of each student's abilities and interests through academics and extracurriculars.
4. To help students develop process oriented skills, such as communication, caring, and decision-making.
5. To help students understand and practice the principals of democracy.
6. To recognize the right to an education regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or handicapping condition.
7. Aid the community through adult education.

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Mott/Regent School and Student Goals - adopted April 2016

As a school we will strive to:

1. Provide a safe, positive, healthy learning environment.
2. Provide an academic atmosphere.
3. Encourage communication amongst community, parents, teachers and students.
4. Show respect and sensitivity towards students, staff, and community.

As a student I will strive to:

1. Show respect and sensitivity towards students, staff, visitors, and myself.
2. Show pride for my school, my community, and my fellow students, and celebrate their accomplishments.
3. Show responsibility and self-control in all situations.

Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the school's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Currently Mott/Regent Public School offers the following interventions to meet the diverse needs of our learners:

Title 1 - Mott/Regent has one 1.0 FTE for grades Kindergarten through grade six in reading and Kindergarten through grade four math.

Programs used in the Title 1 Program and District are:

Raz-Kids: (grades K-6) Raz-Kids is an interactive book site for children. It is a program that allows differentiated reading instruction with animated leveled books. Students listen to books for modeled fluency, read books with pronunciation and vocabulary support, and the students are able to record their reading.

Reading A-Z: (grades K-6) This program provides a literary resource including down-loadable books, lesson plans, quizzes, worksheets, and assessments. Our students use the downloaded books during small groups. The books are leveled and are a valuable resource to students and staff.

Pathways to Reading - The focus of this program is phonemic awareness and phonics, the two basic components of decoding, with the intent of preventing students from developing reading difficulties. When students have not mastered the decoding process in grades 3-6, the instruction changes from prevention to intervention.

Title 1 Summer School - Teachers provide instruction for students who need additional interventions in the areas of reading and math during the month of June. This position is funded through Title 1.

Special Education - Mott/Regent has a variety of services and programs that provide instruction for our students. We have 1.2 FTE Special Education teachers, part-time speech therapist and paraprofessional, part-time occupational therapist, part-time school psychologist, and 6 full time Special Education paraprofessionals. A paraprofessional was hired at the high school level to work with ELL and other at-risk students. Student services include one full-time counselor and one part-time Family Education Coordinator.

The Daily 5/Café - This is a framework used during literacy time to develop habits of reading, writing, and working independently using these choices: Read to Self, Working on Writing, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, and Word Work. The CAFÉ system is how teachers deliver instruction within the Daily 5 framework.

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) - Mott/Regent has started to implement PLCs. Educators meet regularly, share expertise, and work collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students.

Reading Small Groups - Mott/Regent has a team of individuals to provide interventions for students who are not making adequate progress in reading or to provide enhancement to those students accelerating in reading.

Step Up to Writing - This hands on program uses multisensory activities to teach writing, reading comprehension, and listening and speaking skills with a step by step approach that enables all students to gain skills at their own pace. K-12 teachers were trained in the Step Up to

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

Writing Program.

Math Small Groups - Mott/Regent has a team of individuals to provide interventions for students who are not making adequate progress in math or to provide enhancement to students accelerating in math.

IXL.com - Currently grades K-6 have implemented the IXL program which provides comprehensive, standard-aligned math and language practice for the elementary students both at school and at home. Students are able to log on to the program and practice math and language skills at their grade level. Students are motivated through interactive games and rewards.

Moby Max - The elementary classrooms have added Moby Max as another method for students to improve their skills.

Classroom Jeopardy & Active Expressions- Classroom Jeopardy and Active Expressions are available to K-12 to challenge and motivate students. This program offers the opportunity for teachers to have content tailored to the curriculum and students' ability, allowing continued success in the classroom.

Graphing Calculators - Currently grades 9-12 implement the TI-84 Plus Silver Graphing Calculators. These calculators allow students to understand and review procedures through the basic operations of the TI-84 Plus Silver Calculators.

Dual Credit/ITV classes - A variety of classes are offered via ITV and also as dual credit to our sophomores and seniors. Students who meet course requirements may take classes for dual credit. These classes are taught by qualified faculty or by a partnering high school. This arrangement allows the students to earn both high school and college credit while still in high school.

Testiv - The guidance counselor uses Testiv to help prepare high school students for standardized tests such as the ACT.

Career Planning - Grades 7-12 meet throughout the year to discuss careers and college plans. The 7th and 8th graders attend Discovery Day. The 9th and 10th graders attend the Career Expo and Scrubs Camp. College representatives visit to talk with 11th and 12th graders. We utilize RU.Ready.nd.gov, Career Outlook, and the Career Resource Network.

Olweus Anti-Bullying Program - This anti-bullying program is implemented school wide. Classroom meetings are conducted bi-monthly. Consequences have been developed for any bullying situations.

Below the Line Behavior Forms - This behavior form has been implemented K-6.

Wildfire Academy - The Wildfire Academy is staffed by teachers and paraprofessionals and is available to students in grades 1-6 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week. Wildfire Academy for grades 7-12 is also available to students three days per week.

Mentoring Program - The school is involved with the state mentoring program and also has an internal mentoring program.

Schoolwide Technology Updates - iPads are available for K-6. Laptops are available for 7-12. Kindles are available for K-12 through the library. All classrooms are equipped with active boards and projectors.

Breakfast Program - The breakfast program was started in the fall of 2013. It currently serves approximately 20-40 breakfasts to students and staff.

Progress Monitoring -- Progress of individual students, especially at-risk and ELL students, is routinely monitored.

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

Safety and Security

Cameras, buzzer doors, emergency lighting, and a phone system have been installed to improve safety and security at Mott-Regent Public School.

Differentiating Instruction:

The school has developed a comprehensive professional development plan targeted on differentiated instructional practices. The evidenced plan includes professional development embedded in the organization, including book studies and instructional coaching supports, and professional development outside of the organization, including workshops targeting differentiated instruction. The school has secured funding for iPads which will be used in on-level student centered instruction.

The National Geographic Bee is an annual competition organized by the National Geographic Society, designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. Students from 10,000 schools across the United States are competing in the 2017 National Geographic Bee for a chance to win college scholarships and the glory of being the National Geographic Bee Champion. Mott/Regent has competed in the National Geographic Bee for 8 years. This year we have a student participating in the State National Geographic Bee. Mott/Regent has had a State Qualifier 6 of the 8 years we have participated.

Hettinger County Spelling Bee. This starts as a school competition for grades 5-8. The top four students, no matter what grade level, comprise the team. The team then advances to the Hettinger County Spelling Bee. There they compete with the team from New England. The Mott/Regent team for the 2017 meet took 1st place honors. The winner and runner up advance to the state competition. Katrina Messmer and Callen Kruger represented Mott/Regent and Hettinger County at the North Dakota State Spelling Bee held in March 2017.

Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. (FBLA-PBL) is the premier student business organization in the world. Each year, FBLA-PBL helps over 230,000 members prepare for careers in business and business-related fields, with over 60 chapters in North Dakota alone. Mott-Regent High School's FBLA chapter was reignited in 2014 and will have a student serving on the ND FBLA State Officer team during the 2017-2018 school year as the State Parliamentarian.

Mott/Regent hosts an annual Welcome Back family night. Mott/Regent will provide a meal of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and all the trimmings.

Mott/Regent Public School is having Parent/Family Night. All K-6 students, parents, and siblings are invited to attend a fun-filled evening. The intent of Parent/Family Night is to participate in literacy and math activities and strengthen the skills of students through the power of family interaction.

We have instituted and strengthened several avenues of parent, family, and community involvement:

- Back-to-school family picnic
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Elementary and High School newsletters
- School website <http://mott.nd.schoolwebpages.com> includes classroom sites that include lesson plans, schedules, etc. It also has links to DPI and other educational sites.
- Emergency alert system
- Digital signs in both communities
- Wildfire Academy
- PowerSchool

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

- Surveys and comments
- Parent/Family Night
- Gearing Up For Kindergarten
- Title 1 annual parent meeting and review meeting
- Reading Month activities such as guest readers
- Volunteer Survey coordinated by Title 1
- AYP letter and report sent to parents
- Grandparent Day
- Classrooms visit the Care Center monthly and for special occasions such as concerts, Halloween costume parade, etc.

Mott/Regent writes a yearly grant for the Gearing Up For Kindergarten program. This program provides families with an intensive educational experience that combines preschool learning activities for pre-kindergarten children with adult education opportunities for parents. The program was researched and developed by NDSU. The student class includes playtime, centers, read aloud and basic readiness skills. Parent classes are held at the same time and include: sleep and nutrition, math skills, literacy and social and emotional development. The ten week class is specifically for incoming students to Mott/Regent.

Acalympics - This is a region wide competition where high school students go and compete in a group question and answer competition on high school curriculum.

Quiz Bowl - a regional competition where four students compete on a buzz in system on a variety of questions from all curriculum areas in high school.

Distance Learning - Mott-Regent High School offers online classes for students to challenge themselves with new classes as well as use the system for class recovery or scheduling conflicts. OdysseyWare and the North Dakota Center for Distance Education are the two methods used.

Team Scholar Award - The girls basketball team has earned the NDHSAA Team Scholar award for having a team GPA of 3.20 or higher in each of the last two years.

Passed Bond - The communities of Mott and Regent jointly passed a bond issue to build a new addition to our school which will include a new elementary, lunch room, administrative offices and computer labs. The bond was for 8.69 million dollars and will be completed by August 2017.

Speech Team - This year, the Mott/Regent Speech team had 19 members in Grades 7-12. Students were able to attend 10-14 tournaments and compete against peers from Class B or Class A schools from around the state in various literary interpretation and public speaking events. Over the course of the season, 14 students received awards at regular season meets and four of these students advanced to State Competition.

Junior High Band - Winter and Spring concerts, participation in Big Muddy Band Festival in Mandan, interested students audition for Junior High All-State Band.

Junior High Choir - Winter and Spring concerts.

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

High School Band - Region X Instrumental music - large group, small group, and solo participation; Winter concert; Northern Plains Music Festival and North Dakota All-State auditions/participation for interested students, jazz band/Cafe Concert, pep band, State Music performances for eligible students.

High School Choir - Region X Vocal music - large group, small group, and solo participation; Winter concert; North Dakota All-State auditions/participation for interested students; Concordia College Choir Fest participation; North Dakota All-State, State Music, swing choir/Cafe Concert.

MATHCOUNTS-Mott/Regent students placed at the county, region, and state levels in the 2017 MATHCOUNTS competition. On Friday, February 17th two teams of Mott/Regent 7th and 8th graders competed in the Hettinger County MATHCOUNTS competition. Trophies were given to the first place team and the top 3 individuals in the competition. One of the Mott/Regent teams placed 1st as a team and one eighth grader placed 1st amongst all the competitors while another placed 3rd. Following the county competition, all scores were sent in to establish how students placed in the region and to determine which teams and individuals would continue at the state level. Our Mott/Regent team placed first in the region and moved on to compete at the state level. Also, Mott/Regent's 1st place county winner tied for 1st place in our region as an individual. On March 6th, Mott/Regents team competed at the State MATHCOUNTS Competition held at the Ramkota in Bismarck. All students did an excellent job representing our school. One even brought back a medallion placing 17th in the state as an individual out of 167 contestants!

Math Meet-On April 21st, Mott/Regent competed in the 2017 Math Meet at Richardton. Students in grades 4-8 did an excellent job representing our school. Team members worked very hard at practices to prepare. A 1st place medallion was brought back by a 4th grader. In 6th grade, two students placed individually - 1st and 3rd. The 7th grade placed 3rd as a team and had an individual place 2nd. An 8th grader also placed 4th as an individual. All participants can be proud of the time and effort they put into preparing and competing at this year's math meet.

Curriculum Committee - A curriculum committee was established in the fall of 2016. The committee consisted of elementary and high school principals, two elementary teachers and three high school teachers, the k-12 media specialists, two parents, two board members and the superintendent. The committee decided to request assistance in the process to develop curriculum for the district. Peg Portscheller, a nationally known curriculum consultant was brought in to lay the foundation for power standards work. Later the district hired two individuals from the Bismarck Public School System to help further develop the power standards into I can statements and unpack the standards. The staff worked during early release time and on their own time to write their grade level curriculum in math. The high school teachers wrote their curriculum specific to their content area. The Curriculum was presented and approved by the Mott/Regent School Board on May 9, 2017. The committee was granted one paid day at the end of May to work further on their curriculum by the school board. The school will continue to work on the math curriculum and develop rubrics and assessments for the curriculum. Another subject area will be selected by the committee for continued work for the 2017-18 school year. The administrators will receive training to monitor the implementation of the curriculum through instructional rounds. Committee reports are provided to the school board at each monthly meeting.

Finance Committee - A finance committee was established in the fall of 2016. The committee consisted of three board members, the elementary and high school principals, the superintendent, the business manager, one staff member and two community members. The committee reviewed the budget, line item by line item for a better understanding of the budget. Other items the committee worked on include developing a scholarship criteria committee for a donation of \$185,000.00, the food service department, transportation expenditures, athletics and other activities and overall revenue and expenditure information. Finance reports are provided to the school board at each monthly meeting.

Policy Committee-- A policy committee was established in the fall of 2016. The committee consisted of three board members, the

Executive Summary

Mott-Regent Public School

elementary and high school principals, the Superintendent, two high school teachers and one elementary teacher. The committee meets bi-weekly to review policies required by the North Dakota School Board Association. The required policies were cross referenced with the current Mott/Regent policies in order to get a complete look at what is required in policies in a legal status and what is in place currently. The policies were reviewed in their entirety, changes were made when applicable and recommended to the school board. The board reviews the policy in a first and second reading to ensure review by all board members. Once the policy is approved by the school board they are posted on the school district web-site. The committee has almost completed the review of all required policies. They will decide if they want to review any recommended or supplemental policies from the North Dakota School Board Association and any Mott/Regent policies not covered in the review process thus far.

Building Committee - The Mott/Regent School District established a building committee to assist with recommendations to the board pertaining to the construction of a new elementary school. The committee consists of three board members, two building principals, the superintendent and two staff members. The committee has met on a bi-weekly basis. The building will be ready for occupancy on August 15, 2017.

Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

In the spring of 2013 the Mott/Regent School Board began a feasibility study to determine the options for repair or replacement of our current school buildings. Options presented to the public included a complete remodel of the existing two buildings, to build a new elementary building and remodel the high school, or to build a new building to house both schools on a new site.

A bond referendum to build a new building to house both schools on a new site was voted on June 2014 with the vote failing.

In the fall of 2014 KPE, Engineers, Architects, and Forensic Experts, was hired to continue the feasibility study to repair or replace the current school building.

In 2015, a citizens group called Vision for the Future, which provided honest ideas and positive direction about the needs of the school district facilities, was formed. This group considered how teaching and technology has changed and how to best make sure the students of Mott/Regent are prepared for future success. The Vision for the Future group focused on students and their learning environments while listening to taxpayers in the Mott/Regent School District as they expressed their concerns.

Focus Groups were formed, consisting of 10-15 people and typically lasting 60 minutes, to gather information in fast-paced, brainstorming sessions. They encouraged open and honest discussion through asking questions, without rushing to judgment, in order to utilize the information gathered to help taxpayers determine the optimal solution for the school district.

After a year of hard work, the Vision for the Future group proposed a plan to the school board to build a new elementary school and update the current high school facility. Taxpayers, community members, patrons will be voting on the bond issue in June 2016.

In June 2016 a bond referendum to build a new elementary was voted on and passed.

In August 2016 the ground breaking of the new school took place.

In August 2017 the new school building is proposed to be opened with the 2017/2018 school year opening in the new building with students.