Valley City Public School District #2 Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 15, 2026 – 5:30 PM

Call to Order:
Board Member Ryan Mathias called the regular school board meeting of the Valley City Public School District #2 to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

Attendees:
-Board Members Present: Sherri Horsager, Darin Anderson, Ryan Mathias, Phil Hatcher, and Tommy Bergan

Others Attending: Superintendent Joshua Johnson, Business Manager Jackie Cordie, Courtnie Lyter, Rob Hunt, and Jordyn Heck

Pledge of Allegiance:
Board Member Mathias led the board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:
Mr. Johnson requested a reorder of the agenda – moving 7 – Reorganization of the School Board to 4 and requested that, instead of having two consent agendas, they be combined into one: 5 – Consent Agenda.
-Motion: Horsager motioned to approve the agenda with the update.
-Second: Anderson seconded the motion
-The board approved the agenda as set

With senior board member Mathias presiding:

Appointment and oath of reelected School Board Members, Sherri Horsager and Ryan Mathias, to a three-year term.

Nominations for President:
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to nominate Horsager for President
-Motion: Mathias motioned to cease nominations for President
-Vote: Motion carried unanimously. Horsager was elected as President

Nominations for Vice President:
-Motion: Mathis motioned to nominate Anderson for Vice President
-Motion: Horsager motioned to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Anderson as Vice President
-Vote: Motion carried unanimously. Anderson was elected as Vice President

Horsager was elected President and Anderson was elected Vice President

Dates, Times, and Locations for Regular School Board Meetings:

- Regular Board Meetings:
  - Third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.
- Two 7:00 a.m. meetings:
  - One in October and one in May.
- School Board Election:
  - Second Tuesday in June.
- June Board Meeting:
  - 13 days following the school board election.
- Annual School Board Meeting 2027:
  - Wednesday, July 21, 2027.

-Vote: Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously

Board Member Committee Appointments:

- Activities Committee:
  - Ryan Mathias, Tommy Bergan (no change).
- Education Foundation:
  - Change: Phil Hatcher as sole board representative.
- Executive Committee:
  - President & Vice President: Sherri Horsager, Darin Anderson.
- Facilities & Grounds / Transportation:
  - Phil Hatcher, Ryan Mathias (no change).
- Finance / Negotiations:
  - Sherri Horsager, Darin Anderson (no change).
- Health Insurance:
  - Sherri Horsager, Darin Anderson (no change).
- Policy Committee:
  - Phil Hatcher, Ryan Mathias (no change).
- Support Staff:
  - Change: Tommy Bergan to serve as representative.
- School Improvement:
  - Sherri Horsager, Tommy Bergan (no change).
- School Safety and Security:
  - Phil Hatcher, Tommy Bergan (no change).
- Negotiation Study with VCA:
  - Ryan Mathias, Darin Anderson, with Sherri Horsager in an indirect role as Board President (mirroring VCA structure).
- Sheyenne Valley Special Education Board:
  - Josh Johnson continues as district representative.

-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve Board Member Committee assignments as presented
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

Consent Agenda:
- Bills totaling $370,230.98 (page 8) the minutes from the June 20, 2026, regular board meeting and the June 30, 2026, special board meeting, the 2025-2026 School District Financial Report, the Pledge of Assets, the Bank Depositories (Dacotah Bank, Bank Forward, Wells Fargo, and First Community Credit Union), designate Superintendent Josh Johnson as representative for the SVSEU Board, designate Superintendent Josh Johnson as Authorized Representative for Federal Programs, designate Superintendent Josh Johnson as the Title IX, ADA, Section 504, and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, designate Principal Chad Lueck as the Homeless and Foster Care Liaison, and designate Principal Becky Goven as the District EL Coordinator, designate the Valley City Times Record as the official newspaper, open enrollment/PS tuition applications, and the Superintendent contract (July 2026 – June 2029).

-Vote: Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously

Reports:
-Negotiations Committee (June 25): Ongoing teacher negotiations with VCEA. Recommendation: A tentative agreement was reached, approved by the board, and contracts were issued and returned for approval at this meeting.

-Facilities & Transportation Committee (July 8): Bus and Vehicle Inventory, Bus Shop, Transportation Financials, Transportation Planning, District 2026-27 Maintenance Plan, Auditorium Committee, and Other Miscellaneous Topics – Update on Practice Fields, Landscaping on the South End of Hanna Field, Finishing Garage at Hanna Field, and Appraisal on Washington Elementary School. Recommendation: Request to Purchase a School Bus

-Policy Committee (July 8): Procedural and Policy Review on Schedule and Program Changes at VCHS, Policy Review on North Dakota School Boards Association (NDSBA) Quarterly Policy Updates and Other Considerations. Recommendation: Policies Listed on the School Board Agenda.

-Executive Committee (July 15): Negotiations Study with VCEA, Administrative Contracts, Proposed Resolution for NDSBA. Recommendation: TBD.

Superintendent Report:
-Mr. Johnson discussed the District Safety & Security Plan for 2026-27, School Registration and State-Mandated Transition from PowerSchool to Infinite Campus, Elementary Back to School Night and 7th grade Orientation (Tuesday, August 18), Hi-Liner Pantry Program, Employment Posting, and the Enrollment Report.

School Facility Project:
-Mr. Johnson provided a construction update. There will be biweekly project updates emailed, posted to the district website, and shared via media/social media.

The road closure plan is to have 12th Street and the shared use path between 2nd and 5th Avenue closed from July 20th through approximately August 19th.
The targeted completion date for the Hanna Field Turf (sponsored by Essentia Health) is August 14th, and we will plan for a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at the first home game of the 2026-27 school year.
The district received the appraisal report for Washington Elementary; it came in at $1,020,000.00. The Facility Committee will review and bring a recommendation at a later date on the Admin Building/Washington Elementary and the Parking Lot North of the High School.

Facility and Transportation Director Report:
- Facility Report- Jordyn Heck provided the board with an update on school facilities, including ongoing heating/cooling work and summer cleaning in progress; five student workers primarily at the high school, with overflow help at Hanna Field and Jefferson. The district completed stucco repairs at HAC (20-year-old exterior), with upcoming LED lighting upgrades at HAC- most work expected to be completed by the first week of August (some window projects finishing end of July/early August).
-Transportation Report – Jordyn Heck provided the board with the transportation fleet overview; the district had approximately 400 activities/events, 2,768 routes driven, which is over 200,000 miles driven on routes. The preliminary 2025-26 transportation expense is approximately $463,000.00, which is down from $590,000 two years ago.

Continuous Improvement:
-Mr. Johnson requested approval for the district's Professional Development Plan for 2026-2027, which was unchanged from last month's presentation.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve the district's Professional Development Plan for 2026-2027
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

Items for Discussion and Possible Action:
-Designation of District Representatives on the SVACTC Board – recommendation to continue with current representatives, Ryan Mathias and Darin Anderson.
-Motion: Bergan motioned to continue with current representatives, Ryan Mathias and Darin Anderson, to serve on the SVACTC Board.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Special Reserve Transfer – recommendation to approve the transfer of $150,411.70 (50% of the allowable amount per NDCC) from the Special Reserve Fund to the General Fund.
-Motion: Anderson motioned to approve the transfer of $150,411.70 from the Special Reserve Fund to the General Fund.
-Second: Mathias seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-School District Handbooks for 2026-2027 – recommendation to approve the Student Handbooks (district and building level) and the Employee Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve the Student Handbooks (district and building level) and the Employee Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year.
-Second: Mathias seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Teacher Contracts – recommendation to approve the teacher contracts for the 2026-2027 school year.
-Motion: Anderson motioned to approve the teacher contracts for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Administrative Contracts – recommendation to approve the administrative contracts for the 2026-2027 school year.
-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve the administrative contracts for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Request for Proposal (RFP) on Fuel for the 2026-2027 – fuel bids were presented to the board, the district received three fuel proposals – Kotaco- $.10 off the pump price per gallon, Petro Serve- $.10 of the pump price per gallon (last year's provider), and Casey's- $.25 off the pump price per gallon with their card fee capped at $35.00 per month, any cards over 20 are at no additional charge, they have 24 hour pumps with diesel available, and confirmed school bus accessibility. The recommendation is to accept Casey's proposal for district fuel purchases (diesel and gasoline) for the 2026-2027 school year.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to accept Casey's proposal for district fuel purchases (diesel and gasoline) for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Request for Purchase of a School Bus – recommendation to authorize the administration to purchase a used route bus at a cost not to exceed $30,000, within the already budgeted bus-purchase allocation.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to authorize the administration to purchase a used route bus at a cost not to exceed $30,000, within the already budgeted bus-purchase allocation.
-Second: Anderson seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

- -Proposed Resolution on Education Funding for NDSBA – Mr. Johnson reviewed the draft resolution to the North Dakota School Boards Association. The resolution discusses declining national standing in teacher compensation (North Dakota ranked 41st by

average salary), the need for increased state funding, and structural changes to better support staff compensation. There will be collaboration with:

- North Dakota United (NDU),
- North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders (NDCEL),
- North Dakotans for Public Education, and
- Local school boards

-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve Resolution Draft #3 and authorize submission to the North Dakota School Boards Association for consideration at the October convention.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Request to Open a New Certificate of Deposit (CD) – the recommendation is to authorize opening a new certificate of deposit (CD) in the amount of $1,000,000.00 at Dacotah Bank with a term of 8 months and the APY of 3.60%.
-Motion: Anderson motioned to authorize opening a $1,000,000 CD at Dacotah Bank for 8 months at 3.60% APY, and to sign necessary bank documents.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-Consideration of Change Orders and Price Request – PR001 – the recommendation is to approve change order PR001, including the six flexible learning/classroom spaces in the secondary wing and the precast exterior finish and dark grout selection.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve change order PR001, including the six flexible learning/classroom spaces in the secondary wing and the precast exterior finish and dark grout selection as presented.
-Second: Mathias seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

-School District Board Policy:

Policy Committee recommended adopting Policy ABAD – Virtual School, consistent with NDSBA model, to support case-by-case virtual instruction procedures reflected in high school programming changes.

-Motion: Hatcher motioned to adopt Policy ABAD – Virtual School on the first reading and waive the second reading to expedite the policy adoption process per Board Policy BDA. The policy adoption date is July 17, 2026.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

Policy Committee reviewed NDSBA Quarter 4 2025 and Quarter 1 2026 amended policies. Changes were largely: language clean-up, clarifications, cross-reference updates. The recommendation is to approve the amended policies.

Policy:
AACA – Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
ACCA – Sexual Offenders on School Property
ACEB – Hazing
BDAB – Saving Clause
BDBB – Retaining an Attorney
DBBA – Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs for Employees
FAAD – Tuition Agreements
HBAA – Federal Compliance
HCAA – Purchasing
KAAA – Visitors Access and Communication in Schools

-Motion: Mathais motioned to amend the listed policies that already exist in district policy, as presented, with corresponding updates to related administrative regulations and exhibits. The policy amendment date will be July 17, 2026.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present agreed; motion carried

Next Meeting:
-Special School Board meeting on August 6, 2026, at 5:30 PM
-Annual School Board retreat on August 6, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the TBD.
-Next regularly scheduled school board meeting is set for Wednesday, August 19, 2026, at 5:30 PM.
-Public Tax Hearing is set for Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

Adjournment:
- Time: Horsager declared the meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Signatures:

President Jh Horsager

Business Manager

Date 08-19-26

July 2026 Bill List					
Payee	Amount		Payee	Amount	
AARON HECK	$	163.12	KEITH'S INC	$	685.00
ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS	$	8,020.26	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	$	511.55
AMAZON Capital Services	$	389.54	LEAF	$	1,418.45
AMAZON Capital Services	$	981.70	LEEVERS	$	181.06
APPLE INC.	$	95,039.50	MARCO, INC.	$	2,443.28
Appraisal Services, Inc	$	6,500.00	Marjorie Anderson	$	340.00
BIO CORPORATION	$	139.81	MCGRAW-HILL SCHOOL EDUCATION	$	5,979.21
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY COMPANY	$	16.05	MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	$	321.21
CENTRAL AVENUE CHIROPRACTIC PC	$	125.00	MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	$	82.83
CITY OF VALLEY CITY	$	22,500.00	NAPA AUTO PARTS, INC	$	843.64
COLE PAPERS	$	14,447.16	ND SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION	$	1,285.00
CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES LLC	$	436.80	NDASBM TREASURER	$	50.00
DACOTAH BANK	$	9,545.65	NORTHLAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES	$	80.61
DACOTAH INSURANCE	$	65,944.00	O'Reilly Auto Parts	$	629.31
DAKOTA ROSE FLORAL	$	68.00	OpenStax - Rice University	$	180.00
ECKROTH MUSIC	$	3,064.12	PATRICIA KLEIN	$	69.93
EDGELEY PS	$	6,000.00	Petro Serve USA	$	3,767.88
EDPUZZLE	$	3,497.00	POPP BINDING & LAMINATING INC	$	1,404.00
ELAINE JENISON	$	49.66	PROJECT LEAD THE WAY	$	950.00
Elan Financial Services	$	6,982.27	QUALITY ALIGNMENT AND BRAKE CENTER	$	2,340.73
Elan Financial Services	$	502.18	Read Side by Side	$	425.00
Fargo Freightliner	$	412.33	RENAISSANCE LEARNING, INC	$	15,072.00
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC.	$	4,698.18	RJ'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.	$	884.54
FRONTLINE EDUCATION	$	12,264.72	Sanford Health OccMed	$	244.00
GRIGGS COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL	$	6,000.00	SEESAW LEARNING, INC	$	5,800.00
GROUND TO SKY	$	400.00	SMITH LUMBER CO	$	839.44
HANDY HARDWARE & RENTAL	$	619.16	SOFTCHOICE CORPORATION	$	3,670.10
HIGH PLAINS WATER TREATMENT IN	$	78.25	Superhuman Platform Inc.	$	6,296.95
IMAGINE LEARNING, INC	$	3,168.00	VALLEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	$	12,000.00
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, LLC	$	239.24	VALLEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	$	5.00
Instructional Empowerment	$	2,500.00	VALLEY LUMBER COMPANY	$	202.98
INSTRUCTURE, INC	$	8,925.07	VALLEY OFFICEWORKS	$	4.52
Intellinetics, Inc.	$	2,995.00	VC PUBLIC WORKS	$	901.82
JAMF SOFTWARE, LLC	$	9,570.00	VC PUBLIC WORKS	$	1,865.34
JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD	$	1,218.00	VC TIMES-RECORD	$	442.00
			VERIZON WIRELESS	$	513.83
Total:	$	370,230.98			