Valley City Public School District #2 Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:30 PM

Call to Order:
President Sherri Horsager called the regular school board meeting of the Valley City Public School District #2 to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, January 21, 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, Jordyn Heck, Courtney Jorissen, Tom Milbrandt and Lance Monson – Construction Engineers. Zoom: Allie Stevens, Kyle Kvamme, Heather Oliveieri – Icon Architectural Group.

Pledge of Allegiance:
-President Horsager led the board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Students and/or Staff Members:
-Mrs. Kyla Fetsch recognized students who were recognized for their performance in the One Act Play. Addison Fetsch and Jossi Zahn received Superior Actor Award and Emily Hoff and Kylie Van Bruggen received Honorable Mention for the Superior Actor Award.

Public Comment:
In accordance with North Dakota Century Code 15.1-09-33, the Board provided an opportunity for public comment. Community members were invited to address the Board on any topic from the current agenda or the preceding agenda.

-No public comments.

Approval of Agenda:
-Mr. Johnson requested we move 8c-i up in the agenda to between 6 and 7.
-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve the agenda with the modification.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion.
-The board approved the agenda as set.

Consent Agenda:
-Bills totaling $308,684.52 (page 5) and the minutes from the December 17, 2025, regular meeting, 12.25 General Fund, and 12.25 Health Fund.
-Motion: Anderson motioned to approve the consent agenda.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion.
-The board approved the consent agenda.

School Facility Project 2028 – Presentation for Icon and Construction Engineers:
-Allie Stevens from Icon reported on the progress of the school design, targeting 100% completion of CD by the end of February. She presented the board with design renderings of the new school.
-Lance Monson from Construction Engineers reported the overall project cost estimate, coming in at $46,339,285, which is higher than approved. The board discussed deduction alternatives and the demolition of the current High School. Board members Anderson and Mathias said the cost of $3.8 million for the demolition of the HS need to be embedded in the cost and look at other deduction alternatives – which could include removal of the weight room, removal of the district office, reduce/remove some classroom space and/or other modifications if necessary.
-The board expressed the demolition of the existing HS as a priority.
-Representatives from both Icon and Constructions Engineers discussed there is still a lot of work to be done, and this is a normal part of the process. They also reiterated that these are just estimates and the bid package will go out in March and due back around April 10.
-Allie noted that the demolition of the HS was always going to be a separate bid package and will go out a later date.
-Construction Engineers plans to start the construction process (groundbreaking) in Mid-May 2026.
-The board authorized the district to share with the community the front exterior rendering of the new school (12th Street view) and provide a brief update.

Reports:
- Finance Committee – Discussions around Enrollment and Staffing Projections for 2026-27, Discussion on the Negotiated Agreement, School Facility Project, District Financial Reports, and Pre-K/Headstart Partnership.
Recommendation: Board approve ordering the appraisal of Washington Elementary School.

Superintendent Report:
-Mr. Johnson provided the board an update on Professional Development, the Winter Weather Plan and the District Calendar for 2026-27, Federal Monitoring Review for the 2025-26 School Year, Pre-Kindergarten Program, School Safety and Security Meetings with the K-12 Students, ND State Superintendent Visit to Valley City Public Schools, Employment Posting for the 2025-26 School Year, and the Enrollment Report.

Items for Discussion and Possible Action:
-Staff Retirement Mrs. Kathleen Horner:
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve the retirement of Mrs. Kathleen Horner at the end of the 2025-26 school year, with the understanding that staffing recommendations will be brought back at a later date.
-Second: Mathias seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present approved, motion carried

-Staff Retirement Mrs. Carmelle Kuehn:
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve the retirement of Mrs. Carmelle Kuehn at the end of the 2025-26 school year, with the understanding that staffing recommendations will be brought back at a later date.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present approved, motion carried

-Business Manager Bonding:
North Dakota Century Code requires that business managers be bonded in the amount set by the school board. Typical bond amounts for comparable school districts are around $200,000.00.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve bonding, Business Manager Jackie Cordie, in the amount of $200,000.00 as required by the NDCC.
-Second: Anderson seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, Aye – Bergan, Anderson, Hatcher and Horsager. Abstaining from the vote, Mathias, motion carried

-Tuition Agreements and Open Enrollment:
First grader – open enrolled to Maple Valley and Fifth grader – Tuition Agreement and Open Enrollment to Maple Valley (student lived and Fingal and moved to Valley City – wants to continue school in Maple Valley.
-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve the two Maple Valley Open Enrollments/Tuition Agreements as presented.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present approved, motion carried

-District Policies – AACA, BAA, BAB and FDE (First Reading):
The policies updates are recommendations from the ND School Board Associations quarterly update.
-Motion: Hatcher motioned to approve the first reading of the four policies (AACA, BAA, BAB and FDE) as presented.
-Second: Anderson seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present approved, motion carried

Policies will return at the next regular school board meeting for the second reading.

-2026-2027 School District Calendar (First Reading):
-Motion: Mathias motioned to approve the first reading of the 2026-2027 school district calendar as presented.
-Second: Bergan seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, all present approved, motion carried

-Appraisal on Washington Elementary and the Administration Building:
Two appraisal services were contacted, Blackdog Appraisal and Appraisal Services, Inc., out of Fargo. Both appraisal companies noted that Washington Elementary would take longer to sell and be a more complex appraisal. This is partially due to the fact that there may not be a lot of comparable properties. Appraisal Services was the only one to submit a quote on the cost of the

appraisals- $6500.00 for Washington Elementary and $3100.00 for the Administration Building. Recommendation is to approve hiring Appraisal Services, Inc., to complete the appraisal for Washington Elementary and hold off on completing an appraisal on the Administration Building until closer to the time of the sale. The district could obtain a Certified Market Analysis from local Realtors to get an estimated value on the Administration Building.
-Motion: Anderson motioned to approve moving forward with ordering an appraisal for Washington Elementary School using Appraisal Service, Inc., out of Fargo and to obtain a Certified Market Analysis for the Administration Building and the parking lot adjacent to the High School.
-Second: Hatcher seconded the motion
-Vote: Upon poll, Aye – Bergan, Anderson, Hatcher and Horsager. Abstaining from the vote, Mathias, motion carried

Next Meetings Date/Time:
- Regular School Board Meeting – Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 7:00 AM

Adjournment:
- Time: Horsager declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM

Signatures:

President John Horsager

Business Manager _____

Date 02-11-26

January 2026 Bill List					
Payee	Amount		Payee	Amount	
AARON HECK	$ 157.50		Midwest Bus Parts	$ 273.52	
ADVANCED BUSINESS METHODS	$ 11,544.20		MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	$ 2,786.51	
AED EVERYWHERE, INC.	$ 155.47		MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	$ 4,372.36	
AMAZON Capital Services	$ 1,417.92		NAPA AUTO PARTS, INC	$ 1,224.88	
BARNES COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY	$ 317.00		ND ATTORNEY GENERAL	$ 40.00	
Berts Truck Equipment	$ 1,248.34		ND ATTORNEY GENERAL	$ 40.00	
Beth Head	$ 400.00		ND CENTER FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION	$ 956.00	
BITZ TIRE & SERVICE INC	$ 444.08		ND SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION	$ 195.00	
BRENCO CORP	$ 1,245.70		NORTHERN HARDWOOD FLOORS LLC	$ 350.00	
CENEX FLEETCARD	$ 454.86		NORTHLAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES	$ 4,028.92	
CENEX FLEETCARD	$ 273.15		O'Reilly Auto Parts	$ 21.58	
COLE PAPERS	$ 3,930.26		O'Reilly Auto Parts	$ 483.43	
DACOTAH BANK	$ 9,545.65		OCLC	$ 2,000.00	
Dakota Business Solutions	$ 538.00		OpenStax - Rice University	$ 165.00	
DAKOTA ROSE FLORAL	$ 38.95		Petro Serve USA	$ 5,653.00	
DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS	$ 1,085.00		PHOEBE FRANCIS	$ 30.00	
EDGELEY PS	$ 3,750.00		PIZZA CORNER	$ 102.00	
Elan Financial Services	$ 348.54		SCHMITT MUSIC CENTERS	$ 53.99	
ESSENTIA HEALTH SPORTS MEDICINE	$ 4,000.00		SCHOOL SPECIALTY LLC	$ 176.70	
GRIGGS COUNTY CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL	$ 3,750.00		SHEYENNE VALLEY AREA CAREER TECH	$ 107,827.58	
GROTBERG ELECTRIC INC	$ 37.63		SHEYENNE VALLEY MULTIDISTRICT SP. ED.	$ 57,814.08	
HANDY HARDWARE & RENTAL	$ 1,716.26		SMITH LUMBER CO	$ 52.47	
HIGH PLAINS WATER TREATMENT IN	$ 60.50		SOUTH CENTRAL ADULT SERVICES	$ 351.00	
IMAGINE LEARNING, INC	$ 3,168.00		SOUTH EAST EDUCATION COOPERATIVE	$ 1,800.00	
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, LLC	$ 117.04		STACI KING	$ 129.38	
Intellinetics, Inc.	$ 1,996.67		Stoudt Miller, Inc.	$ 793.06	
James Dahn	$ 30.00		VALLEY CITY PARKS & RECREATION	$ 628.37	
Jessica Stoen	$ 400.00		VALLEY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	$ 7,500.00	
JOSTENS INC.	$ 782.50		VALLEY LUMBER COMPANY	$ 79.56	
Justin Thornton	$ 30.00		VC PUBLIC WORKS	$ 15,835.59	
KATIE GORDON	$ 222.74		VC PUBLIC WORKS	$ 4,502.85	
KEITH'S INC	$ 797.20		VC PUBLIC WORKS	$ 17,648.52	
LEAF	$ 1,418.46		VC TIMES-RECORD	$ 46.75	
LearnWell	$ 1,732.00		VERIZON WIRELESS	$ 514.00	
LEEVERS	$ 133.91		VILLAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER	$ 5,000.00	
MARCO, INC.	$ 2,443.28		Wendal Auto Body	$ 5,080.21	
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	$ 287.40		Wendy Torres	$ 110.00	
Total:	$ 308,684.52				