

**Oakes Public School District #41 Special Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2020**

President Sonia Meehl called the special meeting of the Oakes Public School Board District #41 to order at 7:00 a.m. at the Oakes School Conference Room. President Sonia Meehl was present via Zoom Video Call, and Directors Bill Schmitz, Ryan Rosendahl, Robert Thorpe, and Sheila Nagel were present. Attending via Zoom Video Call Brennan Hack, Greg Dobitz, Tara Steiner, Liz Schieler, Jody Breker, Presley Forward, Jordan Lynch, and Rachel Bruner-Pearce Durick. Also attending, Brandon Bata, Anna Sell, Superintendent Kraig Steinhoff, and via Zoom Video Call Business Manager April Haring.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Teacher Grievance, a claim has been served by Katherine Heimbuch to pursue civil litigation. ND Insurance Reserve Fund has been contacted, and Rachel Bruner from Pearce Durick has been assigned to Oakes Public Schools District for this pending litigation.

Thorpe motioned, Rosendahl seconded to discuss the teacher grievance in an executive session rather than in an open meeting; pursuant to ND Century Code Section 44-04-19.1 for the purpose of attorney consultation for pending civil litigation. Roll call approved.

Members of the public were asked to leave the meeting room or placed in the Zoom waiting room.

Executive session began at 7:01 a.m. with the following members present: Directors Bill Schmitz, Ryan Rosendahl, Robert Thorpe, and Sheila Nagel, Superintendent Kraig Steinhoff, Principal Anna Sell, Principal Brandon Bata, and via Zoom Video Call President Sonia Meehl, Rachel Bruner-Pearce Durick, and Business Manager April Haring.

Nagel motioned, Schmitz seconded to adjourn executive session 7:48 a.m.; the public was invited to return to the meeting, and the open meeting was resumed.

OPS Restart Plan was reviewed with discussion on an update to activities attendance. The language needs to change to align with the ND Highschool Activities Association Guidelines.

Thorpe motioned, Schmitz seconded to approve the amendment for capacity guidelines per ND Highschool Activities Association Guidelines, motion carried.

Additional discussion was held on guidelines for quarantine and isolation and the masking requirements. The current problem is out of the 80 plus students and staff absent from school, about half of those could be in school if masks were worn and the requirement enforced. Superintendent Steinhoff went over the process of getting notified from the Dickey County Health District and determining close contacts within the school based on distance and cumulative time.

Schmitz moved, Thorpe seconded to amend Restart Plan language to state if the student or staff member is masked, whether or not the positive case wears a mask, will not be defined as a close contact and not required to be in quarantine retro-effective December 14, 2020. Roll call approved, motion carried.

Meehl declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

President _____

Business Manager _____