



Midkota Messenger

September 2023

Mission Statement: *Educating students to be accountable, competent, and confident as they pursue their passion in an ever changing world.*

Website: www.midkotaschools.k12.nd.us

Follow us on Facebook: [Midkota Public School](#)

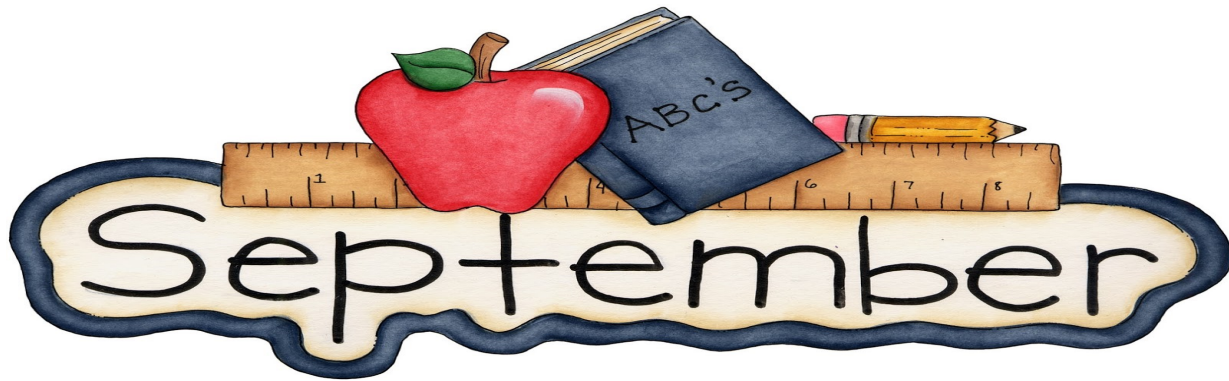
Welcome back Midkota! We have had a few days of school now, and it is so wonderful to have students' smiling faces greet us each day in the hallway and classrooms. There is something so deeply touching about these first few days as we reunite with each other after a few months apart. It melts my heart to watch our staff strengthen student relationships which were begun in past school years or start new ones. These connections take place all over the school, involving each and every staff member. I see students walk down the hall and get a fist bump from our custodian or a high five from a para in the lunchroom. I hear our office ladies ask how a student's summer was or tell them that they like their new shirt. I hear teachers telling students they are excited to have them in their room. These connections we make with students are incredibly important to us, just as they are important to you. The truth is that we are a part of an incredible, special learning community where these connections make us family, the Midkota family. We are excited to spend another year learning and growing together as we make connections, both relational and academic, that will last a lifetime.

~Mrs. Dockter



♥ Welcome to
Preschool!

Midkota Elementary is
excited to have
preschool starting
September 6th.



Words are powerful, use them wisely.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 E: Sub Sandwich & Chili HS: BBQ's	2
3	4 NO SCHOOL Labor Day	5 E: Chicken Gravy & Mashed Potatoes HS: Hotdogs/Polish Sausage/Corndogs	6 E: BBQ's HS: Spaghetti	7 E: Baked Rigatoni HS: Chicken Fried Steak	8 E: Pizza HS: Ribette Sandwich	9
10	11 E: Pizza Hotdish HS: Breakfast	12 E: Chicken Fajitas HS: Lasagna	13 E: Crisпитos HS: Hot Ham & Cheese	14 E: Fish Sticks & Mac-N-Cheese HS: Macaroni Hotdish	15 E: Soup & Sandwich HS: French Dips	16
17	18 E: Taco's HS: Meatloaf	19 E: Hotdogs/corndogs HS: Crisпитos	20 E: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham HS: Orange Chicken	21 E: Pulled Pork HS: Fettucine Alfredo	22 E: Pizza HS: Pizza & Cheese Sticks	23
24	25 E: Pizza Sticks HS: Chili & breadsticks	26 E: Chicken Alfredo HS: Subs	27 E: Breakfast HS: Taco in a Bag	28 E: Meatballs HS: Chicken Bowls	29 E: Soup & Subs HS: Chicken Burgers	30

Changes to the FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid)

This year's FAFSA® has been delayed until December to give the government time to enact several changes, including:

- The FAFSA® portal is projected to open in December 2023 (delayed from the usual Oct 1 open date)**
- The new FAFSA® form will be shorter (fewer questions)**
- The language on the FAFSA® is more closely aligned with the language on income tax returns**
- The SAI (Student Aid Index) replaces the EFC (Expected Family Contribution) and contains new formulas for calculating eligibility. In particular:**
 - Having multiple children in college will no longer reduce SAI, which may result in reduced eligibility for financial aid for some families.**
 - Qualified 529 distributions from grandparents, etc. will not reduce aid**
 - Education savings accounts will only be counted if designated for the specific student. (ESAs for other children won't be considered.)**
 - Eligibility for the Pell Grant is expanded to families earning 225% of the poverty line (so about \$67,500 for a family of four)**
 - For divorced parents, families will need to report the higher-earning parent (previously, they reported the parent that the child resided with more often)**

FSAID (FAFSA student ID)

All contributors to the FAFSA document will now be required to have a FSAID.

Users with an existing FSAID number can still use the old number.

We will be providing additional information about the changes to the FAFSA as training through the Bank of North Dakota becomes available.



A Big Thank You!

Thank you for continuing to save pop tabs for the **Ronald McDonald** House. Send them up to the 6th grade room and we'll deliver them to Fargo.



You are part of something



September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Sept 12: 7:30a School Board Meeting @ MES			1 9a JV Girls Golf @ Cottonwood Golf Club 7p FB @ GCC vs. Sargent County	2
3	4 NO SCHOOL Labor Day	5 2p SC @ Carrington 4:30p JH/JV FB @ GCC vs. LLM 4:30pVB @ GCC vs. North-	6 Preschool Starts 6th Grade Eco Ed Day 10a JV Girls Golf @ Carrington	7	8 10a Varsity Girls Golf @ Cooper- stown 7p FB @ LaMoure	9 TBA JV VB Tour- ney @ Lakota TBA JH VB Tour- ney @ Carrington
10	11 4:30p JH/JV FB @ Ft. Totten	12 8:30a ASVAB Testing-Jrs.; 10a V Girls Golf @ Leonard; 4p XC @ Crystal	13 Foster County Health @ MHS	14 4:15p XC @ Grafton 5p VB @ MES vs. Harvey/Wells County; V, JV, C	15 10a Varsity Girls Golf @ Maple River	16 TBA Varsity VB Tourney @ Val- ley City TBA JV/C VB Tourney @ New Rockford
17	18 4:30p JH/JV FB @ Hatton	19 4p XC @ Cotton- wood Golf Club 5p VB @ GCC vs. EKM; V, JV, C, 8, 7	20	21 3:30p VB @ GCC vs. MPCG; V, JV, C, 8, 7 4p XC @ Cava- lier	22 7p FB @ GCC vs. Richland	23 11a XC @ Val- ley City; 11A XC @ Enderlin TBA JV VB Tourney @ Langdon; TBA
24	25 3:30p VB @ MES vs. Nelson Co; V, JV, C, 8, 7; 4:30p JH/JV FB @ Enderlin	26 4p XC @ Mayville 4:30p VB @ Hillboro/CV; C, 8, 7	27	28 5p VB @ MHS vs. South Border; V, JV, C	29	30 TBA "C" VB Tour- ney @ Carrington

Special School Board Meeting
Midkota School District 7
June 20, 2023, 7:30 AM
Midkota High School
Glenfield, North Dakota

Board Members Present: President Joel Utke, Shian Hoyt, Bobbi Hoffman
Others Present: Superintendent/HS Principal Ryan Baron, Katie Ellingson,
Present Via Zoom: Louis Halvorson, Preston Hoffman
Absent: Justin Spickler, Veronica Vollmer
President Utke called the meeting to order, and a quorum was established.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve Ancillary Staff Wages for 2023-24 and 2024-25 School Years. Elementary will have one cook. Don't know insurance wages yet. Projected insurance 15,000.

Motion by Hoyt to approve ancillary staff wages for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

Approve contract with Superintendent/Principal Baron for 2023-24.

Motion by Hoyt to approve Superintendent/Principal contract for Ryan Baron for 2023-2024 school year, seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

Approve contract with Elementary Principal Dockter for 2023-24.

Motion by Hoyt to approve Elementary Principal contract for Linn Dockter for 2023-2024 school year, seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

Approve June Bills

Motion by Hoyt to approve June bills, seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

Adjournment

Motion by Hoyt to adjourn meeting, seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
Midkota School District 7
June 26, 2023, 7:30 AM
Midkota Elementary School
Binford, North Dakota

Board Members Present: Preston Hoffman, Louis Halvorson, Veronica Vollmer, Justin Spickler, Bobbi Hoffman
Others Present: Superintendent/HS Principal Ryan Baron

Absent: Shian Hoyt, President Joel Utke

Vice-President Vollmer called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM, and a quorum was established. Motion by B. Hoffman to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Halvorson. Motion passed.

2. REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR REPORT:

No report was given.

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT:

No report was given.

SUPERINTENDENT/HS PRINCIPAL REPORT:

Baron gave updates on End of Year activities, transcript updates and schedule preparation. Baron has been working with Iris Brandt to update and clean up transcripts and to review transcripts for incoming seniors to ensure they will be eligible for graduation. The board was also presented with an estimated enrollment for 2023-24.

Baron also gave building updates on the boilers, the fire system, the roof, and elementary building updates. Josh Kohlenda has not finished either boiler and currently neither building has backup heating.

Staffing was discussed. The JH teacher and high school para positions are filled. There is currently a need for the HS Assistant Cook, Student Council Advisor and Prom Advisor. The board was updated on GST's reduction of SpEd staffing in the district from 2 FTE to 1 FTE for the 2023-24 school year. Baron is speaking with GST Director Dr. Reybok about this concern.

Baron was given the OK to pursue potential investment of district funds into a CD at the district's bank if there is no projected need for the funds for the life of the CD.

The July Regular Board Meeting was switched to July 18 due to the June meeting being late in the month.

Superintendent Baron brought a request to the board to be comped for an extended vacation in which he had five vacation days remaining. Eleven days were used. Baron requested to be comped four days and have two days unpaid as he performed work duties while on vacation. The board verbally agreed to the request.

Extracurricular positions were discussed. There may be a need for a Student Council Advisor due to GST reassignment of the current advisor. The DC Coordinators were discussed. Lastly, the need for a Dean of Students at the high school was discussed. It was agreed that the district would discontinue the position at a savings of \$2000 at this time and agree to a possibly daily stipend for an individual who may cover administration for Superintendent/Principal Baron in the event of his absence.

ESSER III funds expended as of the meeting date are \$266,759.07, leaving \$227,889.93. Baron stated his goal is to draw the balance down to \$210,000 to be used for the 2023-24 school year.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by P. Hoffman to approve the minutes of May 9th Regular School Board Meeting and June 20 Special Meeting, and budget seconded by Spickler. Motion passed.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

4.1 Strategic Plan & Jeff Schatz: Board reviewed a proposal from Dr. Jeff Schatz to update district strategic plan, which expires in 2014. Schatz proposal is for \$5,000 plus transportation. Motion by Spickler, seconded by Halvorson to engage Dr. Schatz's services. Motion passed.

4.2 DC Trip Coordinators & Pay: A proposal for salary for DC Trip Coordinators we presented and discussed. Board decided to table any approval until next meeting.

4.3 District Procedures for Team Trips and Funds Allotted from General Fund: A set of procedures was presented by Superintendent Baron based on current contributions by the district, group and individuals in the event of state tournament appearances. The board discussed costs and decided to table any approval until next meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 School Board Election Canvassing: Election results were reviewed from the school board election held on June 13.

Election Results:

GSM Precinct: Bobbi Hoffman - 25 votes

Binford Precinct: Shian Hoyt - 19 votes - Tyler Edlund (*write in*) - 5 votes - Roy AcAvoy (*write in*) - 1 vote

Winner of the GSM Precinct is Bobbi Hoffman for a 3 year term, ending 2026.

Winner of the Binford Precinct is Shi an Hoyt for a 3 year term, ending 2026.

Motion by Halvorson, seconded by Spickler to accept election results as presented. Motion passed.

5.2 Removal of Charla Hoyt as check signer for Midkota accounts: Motion by B. Hoffman, seconded by Halvorson. Motion passed.

5.3 Approval of Katie Ellingson as check signer for Midkota accounts: Motion by B. Hoffman, seconded by Spickler. Motion passed.

5.4 Approval of on line bank access for Superintendent Baron: Motion by Spickler, seconded by B. Hoffman. Motion passed.

5.5 & 5.6 Rescind previously approved Titan Co-Op Agreement for 2023-24 and Approve Revised Titan Co- Op Agreement for 2023-24: Revised agreement contained changes that were agreed upon by representatives from both all districts. Motion by B. Hoffman, seconded by Spickler. Motion passed.

5. 7 Approve Transportation Contract with Edlund Motors for SY 23-24, 24-25 and 25-26: Increase is 8.22%for routes and 25% for extra-curricular mileages. Details of the contract are on file in the district office. Motion by Spickler, seconded B. Hoffman. Motion passed.

5.8 Approve Consolidated Title Application for 2023-24: Motion by P. Hoffman, seconded by Halvorson. Motion passed.

5.9 Approve hiring of Jessica Johnson as Co-DC Trip Advisor: Board discussed how the arrangement would work. Kristi Halvorson is currently DC Trip Advisor. It is desired to have co-advisors. Board wished to table the topic until next meeting when pay rates are determined.

5.10 Approve hiring of Tricia Breckheimer as Junior High Academic Teacher, commencing with the 2023-24 school year: A committee of for interviewed three candidates. Breckheimer has experience in the district as a long-term substitute. Motion by Halvorson, seconded by P. Hoffman. Motion passed.

5.11 Snow Day Language Proposal: Board discussed a request from ancillary staff that are unable to work hours during Virtual Learning. This includes cooks and custodians. These individuals missed many days due to virtual learning or had to take vacation to get paid. Motion was made by P. Hoffman, seconded by Spickler to grant two (2) days snow day pay to cooks and custodians for school year 2022-23 and also to grant three (3) snow days going forward starting in 2023-24 for cooks and custodians in the event of Virtual Learning. Motion passed.

6 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget/Finance: No report

Annual Meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, Schoolhouse Cafe, Grace City, ND

School Board Annual Meeting Midkota

School District 7 July 18, 2023, 7:30

AM Schoolhouse Cafe

Grace City, North Dakota

Board Members Present: President Joel Utke, Preston Hoffman, Louis Halvorson, Veronica Vollmer, Justin Spickler, Shian Hoyt, Bobbi Hoffman

Others Present: Superintendent/HS Principal Ryan Baron, Katie Ellingson, Austin Monson.

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Utke called the meeting to order at 7:32 and a quorum was established. Motion by Hoyt to approve the agenda, seconded by Halvorson. On roll call vote, motion passed.

(Present Board)

2. Consent Agenda

Motion by Hoyt to approve the minutes of June 26th Regular School Board Meeting, bills, and budget seconded by Spickler. Motion passed.

3. New Business

Supt. Baron and Business Manager Katie Ellingson presented the 2022-2023 Financials as of June 30th. We are awaiting payments. Final Financials will be presented at a later date.

4. Adjournment

Motion by Hoyt to adjourn this portion of the meeting, seconded by B. Hoffman. Motion passed.

(New Board)

1. Call to Order (Business Manager)

The meeting was turned over to Business Manager Katie Ellingson who called the meeting to order with the following Board Members present: Joel Utke, Preston Hoffman, Louis Halvorson, Veronica Vollmer, Justin Spickler, Shian Hoyt, and Bobbi Hoffman. Others present: Superintendent/HS Principal Ryan Baron, Katie

Ellingson, Austin Monson.

2. Annual Meeting Items

a. Organization

i. Seat Elected Board Members

Elected board members Shian Hoyt and Bobbi Hoffman were welcomed.

ii. Elect President for 2023-24

Shian Hoyt nominated Joel Utke for School Board President for 2023-2024. Katie Ellingson called for nominations, hearing none Shian Hoyt moved, Bobbi Hoffman seconded that nominations cease for board president and a unanimous ballot cast for President. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Meeting was turned over to Board President, Joel Utke.

iii. Elect Vice-President for 2023-24

Shian Hoyt nominated Veronica Vollmer for School Board Vice President. Hoyt moved, P. Hoffman seconded, that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot cast for the Vice President. On roll call vote, all voted yes.

Motion carried.

b. 2023-2024 Appointments

i. Hoyt motioned to appoint Katie Ellingson as Business Manager. Halvorson seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

ii. Hoyt motioned to appoint Superintendent Baron as GST (Griggs/Steele/Trail) Multidistrict Educational Services Representative, GWN ITV (Great Western Network) Representative, Title I, REAP, Title IV, ADA, DOT Drug & Alcohol Safety, Section 504 and Title IX Contact Person. Vollmer seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

iii. P. Hoffman motioned to appoint Ms. Linn Dockter as Homeless Liaison Contact Person. Vollmer seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

c. 2023-2024 Designations

i. Hoyt motioned to designate Nadine Julson as 2023-2024 Auditor. Vollmer seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

ii. Spickler motioned to designate Farmers & Merchants Bank as Official Depository of Funds for the General Fund, Hot Lunch Fund, and Activity Fund and authorize the Superintendent and Business Manager to invest funds. Seconded by Hoyt. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

iii. Hoyt motioned to designate Official Newspaper as Griggs County Courier. P. Hoffman seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

iv. Motion by P. Hoffman to designate Katie Ellingson as NDSBA Policy Liaison. Seconded by Spickler. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

d. Review

i. The board reviewed the Bonding of School District Officials and would like us to look into this further.

ii. The board reviewed the Pledge of Assets and found them to be adequate.

e. Meetings

Hoyt motioned to approve the schedule of meeting dates and locations for 2023-24 as the 2nd Tues of month at 7:30 am. Spickler seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

f. Committee Assignments

Halvorson motioned to keep current Committee Assignments. Seconded by Spickler. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

3. Mission Statement and Values

Vollmer motioned to Approve Mission and Values. Seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

4. Reports

Activities Director Report-Sports kickoff at GCCC coming up on August 1st, concussion testing July 26th-August 1, Sanford increasing their price for testing. We are looking at a different alternative. Girls Golf begins on August 1st, Football begins on August 3rd, Volleyball and Cross Country begin on August 14th, Elementary Girls Basketball begins on August 24th . No bussing will be provided for practice for Elementary.

Business Manager Report – Katie went to SUI Training and training with Amanda Bina. The board was informed of the progress on the Annual report and building payment.

Elementary Principal Report-Nothing to report at this meeting.

Superintendent/HS Principal Report-Supt. Baron provided an update on the boilers. Supt. Baron was approved to work four ten-hour days in the summer. A tentative schedule was shared with the board. Supt. Baron presented a computer policy for taking care of our devices.

A motion was made by Hoyt to approve the presented computer policy. Utke seconded. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 DC Trip Coordinator Pay-Board Decided to table.

5.2 Approve the hiring of Jessica Johnson as co-DC Trip Coordinator-Board Decided to table.

5.3 District procedure for team trips and funds allotted from general fund-Discussion on raffles, contacting business for donations, and fundraising. A procedure was not decided upon.

6. New Business

- 6.1 Hoyt motioned to approve the High School Handbook language changes/additions for 2023-24. Seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.
- 6.2 Hoyt motioned to approve the proposed Activity & Hot Lunch Fees for 2023-24, leaving them the same as 2022-2023. Seconded by Vollmer. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.
- 6.3 The board reviewed the MOU/Requests of Lisa Jorde. No action was taken at this time.
- 6.4 Midkota Foundation needs a 503C form completed. Supt. Baron will complete the 503C.
- 6.5 The Greenhouse was discussed. Supt. Baron will discuss further with Mr. Black.
- 6.5 Halvorson motioned to approve the hiring of Renae Gilbertson as PreSchool Paraprofessional, commencing with the 2023-24 school year. Seconded by Hoyt. On roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion passed.
- 6.6 23-24 Preliminary Budget

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Budget/Finance-no report
- 7.2 Buildings-no report
- 7.3 Curriculum, Technology, & Staff Development-no report.

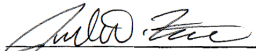
8. Dates to Remember

- 8.1 Student Registration Days – August 14 (Binford PM) and August 15 (Glenfield AM)
- 8.2 In service Days for Staff – August 21 & 22
- 8.3 Back to School Night – August 22 (5:00-7:00 pm)
- 8.4 School Start – August 23

9. Adjournment

Hoyt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by B. Hoffman. On roll call vote, motion passed.

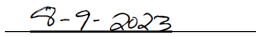
Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 8 – 7:30 am Midkota High School – Glenfield, ND



President



Business Manager



Approved

Midkota Staff Members would like to give a huge "Thank You" for the bouquets that showed up on our desks the first day of school! We feel so appreciated and ready for a bright school year!



MIDKOTA SCHOOLS - Superintendent/ HS Principal— Ryan Baron
Elementary Principal—Linn Dockter

Elementary: 203 Curtis Ave W.~ Binford, ND 58416 ~ 701.676.2511

High School: 81 School Ave ~ Glenfield, ND 58443 ~ 701.785.2126