

February, 2024  
www.midkotaschools.k12.nd

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Midkota Public School

# Midkota Messenger

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



## Kindness Matters by: Mrs. Dockter

There are many reasons why I became a teacher. The light-bulb moments and the joy of learning something new together are definitely at the top of my list. But another huge reason why I decided to make this my profession, at the age of 8, was the kindness shown to me by my teachers. There is something that is so life-changing about having someone take an interest in helping you learn and feel safe. I knew right then and there as a second grader, that I wanted to be able to help others feel that same way. Kindness is what I see in personified in teachers and staff all across Midkota! It is definitely part of what makes our school and community so incredibly special. As a principal, I also want to make sure that we focus on passing this core trait onto our next generation, that they may also continue the proud tradition of the kindness that is so prevalent here.



With that in mind, Midkota Elementary celebrated Kindness Week January 22-26th. This is a perfect event to not only emphasize how much kindness can change someone's day or life, but also to create some fun moments in a month that is typically cold and dark. This year we tried to create extra kindness for each other, our HS, and our elderly community members at local nursing homes.



# Ayden Komad

Which school event did you/do you look forward to this year? **Prom**

What was your most listened to driving song on your morning commute this year?

**Parachute- Chris Stapleton**

You can bring any three of your classmates on a cross-country road trip in your family's hatchback: who would you choose and why?

**Kyle for smarts, Butch for entertainment, and James for navigation.**

What's your favorite school lunch? **Chicken Burgers**

Tell us about your most embarrassing in-school memory?

**Jumping off the scaffolding in Building Trades**

What is your dream vehicle? **1970 Dodge Charger**

Write the school rule you wish we had. **Open campus**

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? **Probably farming and trucking**

If you woke up tomorrow and could speak a foreign language, what would it be?  
**Spanish**

What project or assignment challenged you the most as a student? **Helping build the house in shop.**

Describe your senior year in three words. **Short, interesting, and surprising**

If you could create one mandatory course for future seniors, what would it be? **Out of school working**

What was the most enjoyable book you read in high school? **"To Kill a Mockingbird"**

Finish this sentence; "I will always remember..." **Austin Monson, the best teacher ever.**

What community service activities have you been involved with in your town? **None**

What is this year's must have fashion item, in your opinion? **Carhartt sweatshirts**

What sporting events are the most fun to attend? **Why?**

**Elementary boys basketball games, fun to watch**

What club or sport would you add to Midkota if you could? **Ping Pong**

What are your 3 best skills?

**marketing, running equipment, getting tractors stuck**

How does participation in clubs or sports affect your life? **It doesn't**

What's your favorite quote?

**"I can is 100 times more important than IQ"**

What three things would you bring with you to a desert island? **A boat, a lot of gas, and a map.**

What makes you proud to be from Midkota? **A lot of my family graduated from here.**

Which subject prepared you most for life after high school? Why? **Building Trades, taught me many nice skills.**

You are talking to your 8 year old self, what advice do you give? **Drop out of school, start planning on farming.**

What pizza topping describes you and why? **Pepperoni because its basic and American.**



# Mustangs of the Month



Cainen Stangeland

Cainen is the son of Dustin & Tracy Stangeland and has 3 siblings; Emma, Conner, & Kipten. Cainen is involved in Basketball & Cross Country. His favorite pastime is playing sports and his favorite subjects are math and history.

Cainen's future goal is to go to BSC & play college basketball.

Cainen was nominated for his dedication to school and sports, all while showing a positive attitude and kindness towards others.



Alyssa Foster

Alyssa is the daughter of Ted & Ashley Foster and has 3 siblings; Jacob, Anna, and Todd. She is involved in Speech, FBLA, Theater, and Softball. Alyssa's favorite subjects are Math, Science, and American Sign Language.

Alyssa's goal this year is to become fluent in American Sign Language.

Alyssa was nominated for her great work ethic in school and her willingness to help others in a positive way.



Will Spickler

Will is the son of Justin & Sara Spickler and has 3 siblings; Wyatt, Jess, and Watson. Will is active in Basketball & FFA.

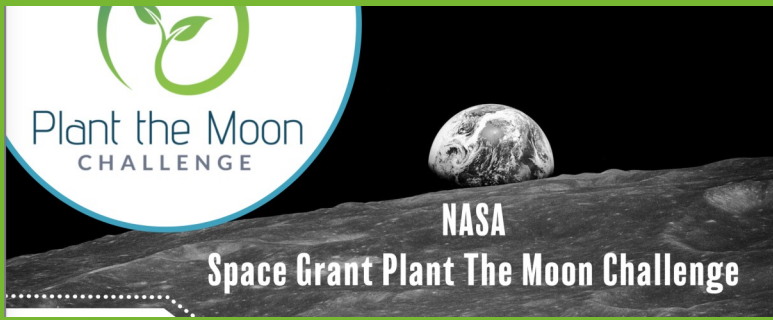
His favorite pastime is working and his favorite subject is math.

Will's future goals are to finish school and get working.

Will was nominated for his excellent work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to help anyone who needs it. Will is a great role model.

Midkota High School "Mustang of the Month" is nominated and chosen by teachers monthly after careful consideration and deliberation. These students demonstrate the values of good citizenship, cooperation and respect for adults and fellow classmates.

Congrats to these students!

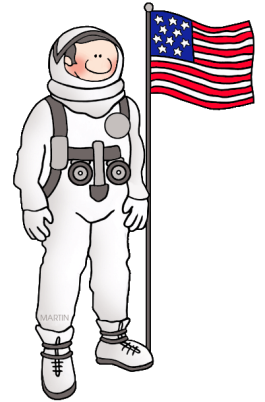


The fourth and fifth graders started the year competing in the Plant the Moon Challenge. Which went well, and they had a lot of fun learning and recording their plants' growth. Along with a few other challenges they worked on. They recently wrapped up this project and it was submitted into the world-wide event.

They will now be working on a new challenge. Nasa National Student Challenge. They will be working on many different projects and submitting them into the national database. They also planted Alien plants and will be recording their growth and will be bringing them home after they have grown. This is going to be a great learning experience for the students.



**You're Invited to**  
**Ms. Larson's 4th Grade**  
**Living Wax Museum**  
**Presented by the 4th and 5th grade classes**



**Our students will be hosting a biographical interactive wax museum honoring influential people from the past and present. You will have the opportunity to "meet" historical and modern day characters chosen by the students. Come hear their character's life story simply by pushing a button!**



**Thursday, April 4th**  
**1:30-2:30 p.m.**  
**Elementary Gym**



# Midkota Seniors!

Midkota Scholarships are available!

Go to the Midkota website: [Home | Midkota Public School \(k12.nd.us\)](https://www.k12.nd.us)

- Select the *menu*.
- Select the *documents* folder.
- Select *student documents*.
- Select the *scholarship* folder.

All scholarship applications are due **April 1, 2024**, to Mrs. Brandt or to the office. Read each application and answer the questions thoroughly. Scholarship recipients will be announced at graduation, Saturday, May 25, 2024.



**The Jacob Johnson Memorial Scholarship** has opened donations to the community. If anyone is interested in donating, we now have an e-donation option in addition to donating via check. Be sure to click into the “Charity” section on the PayPal or Venmo platforms and search for Jacob Johnson Memorial Scholarship. The Venmo account is: [@JJMS-MHS](https://www.venmo.com/@JJMS-MHS)

The Jacob Johnson Memorial Scholarship was established in loving memory of Jacob, son of Keith and Amy Johnson, by the Midkota High School Class of 1992, family, and friends. Our goal is to give a \$1,000 scholarship to a MHS graduate who will attend a trade school or college and whose spirit and academic goals most reflect Jacob’s. A second scholarship may be awarded based on donations and applications received. We hope to maintain the JJMS as long as a graduate from the founding MHS towns apply.

Donation checks can be written out and mailed to:

**Jacob Johnson Memorial Scholarship**

**PO Box 253**

**Carrington, ND 58421-0253**

Our scholarship fund is a tax-free entity, so anyone who donates will receive a receipt/letter for tax purposes.

# EXTENDED DAY

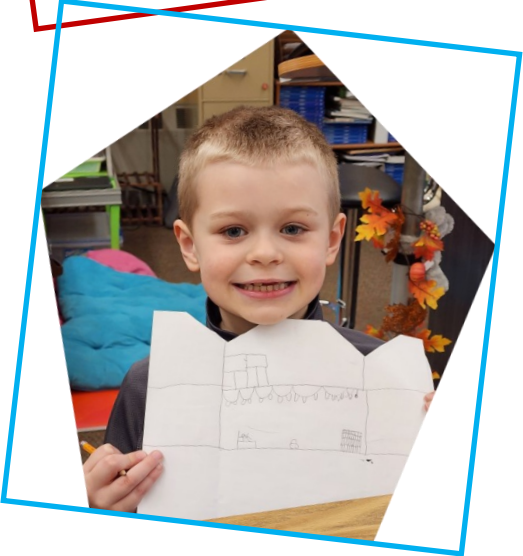


The extended day program is in full swing offering many fun activities. They include STEM, art, career readiness and homework time and homework support. We have had one family night this fall and have another one planned at the end of March. The Stem family nights are open to everyone in the community, and it will be fun to see fresh faces attend.

We are working on recruiting more enrollees at both the elementary and at the high school. There is transportation provided to the main drop off locations to help make getting your child to and from the program more accessible.

Please consider enrolling your child to the elementary or high school program even if they will not be attending every day. It is a great support system for your child, and they will be a part of numerous learning activities.

We will also be starting to take enrollment for our summer program just around the corner. The summer program offers so many learning opportunities from gardening, Language Arts, Math, and numerous other learning experiences.



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## *If I Were Mayor* essay contest

Each spring the North Dakota League of Cities sponsors a statewide, *If I Were Mayor* essay contest. This contest encourages young people to think about public service and future community leadership.

The contest is open to any third grade and seventh grade student living in North Dakota. Each grade is judged separately. Students may submit essays through a teacher or on their own. If I Were Mayor essay contest winners will be announced in conjunction with City Government Week, April 1-5, 2024, each winner will receive a \$150 cash prize and have their essays featured in CITYScan.

Essays should be sent directly to the North Dakota League of Cities. For specifics about the rules and process for submitting essays, visit [www.ndlc.org/essay](http://www.ndlc.org/essay) contact Jennifer at 701-223-3518 or [jennifer@ndlc.org](mailto:jennifer@ndlc.org).

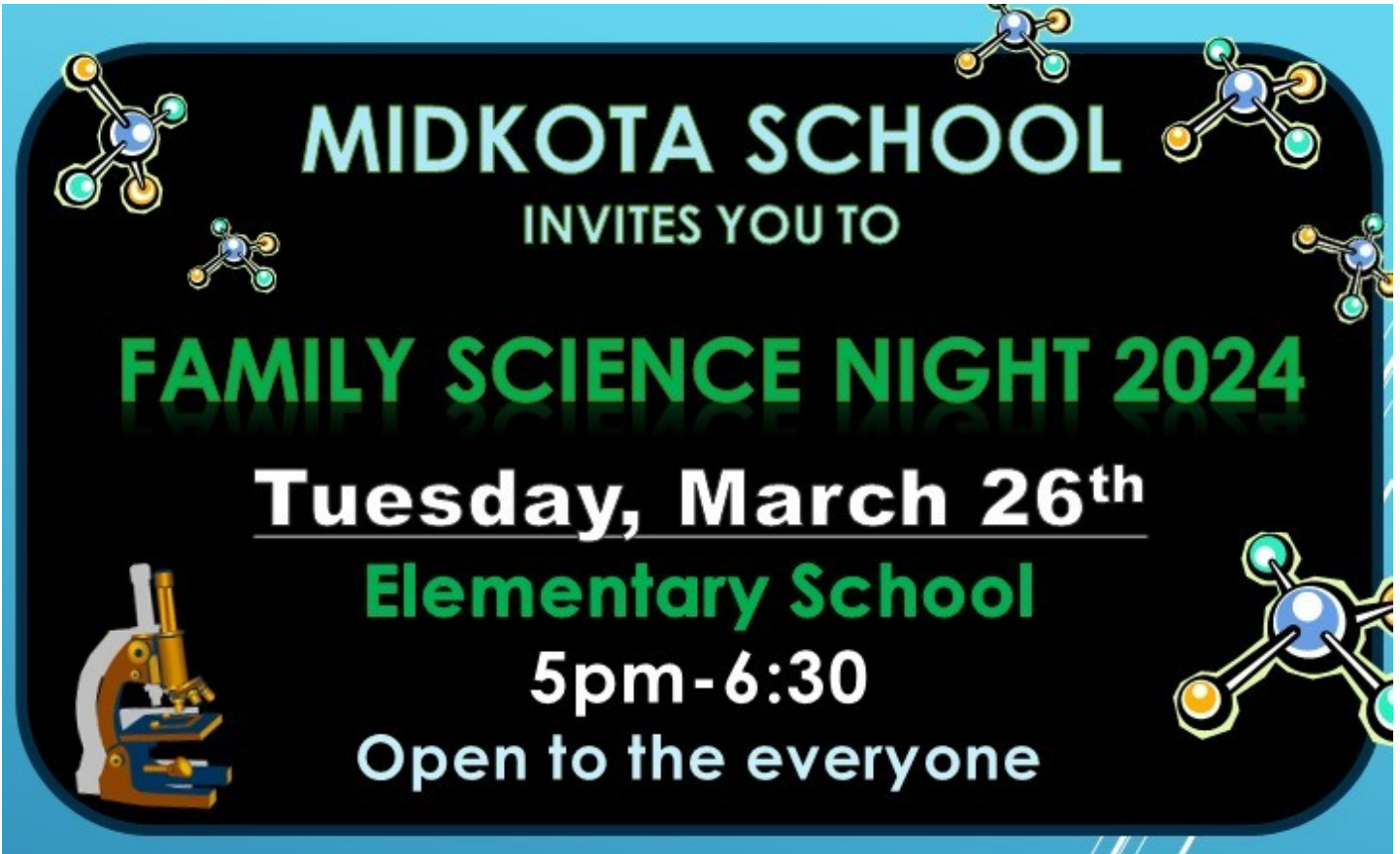


Random acts of kindness  
 Make everyone feel better.


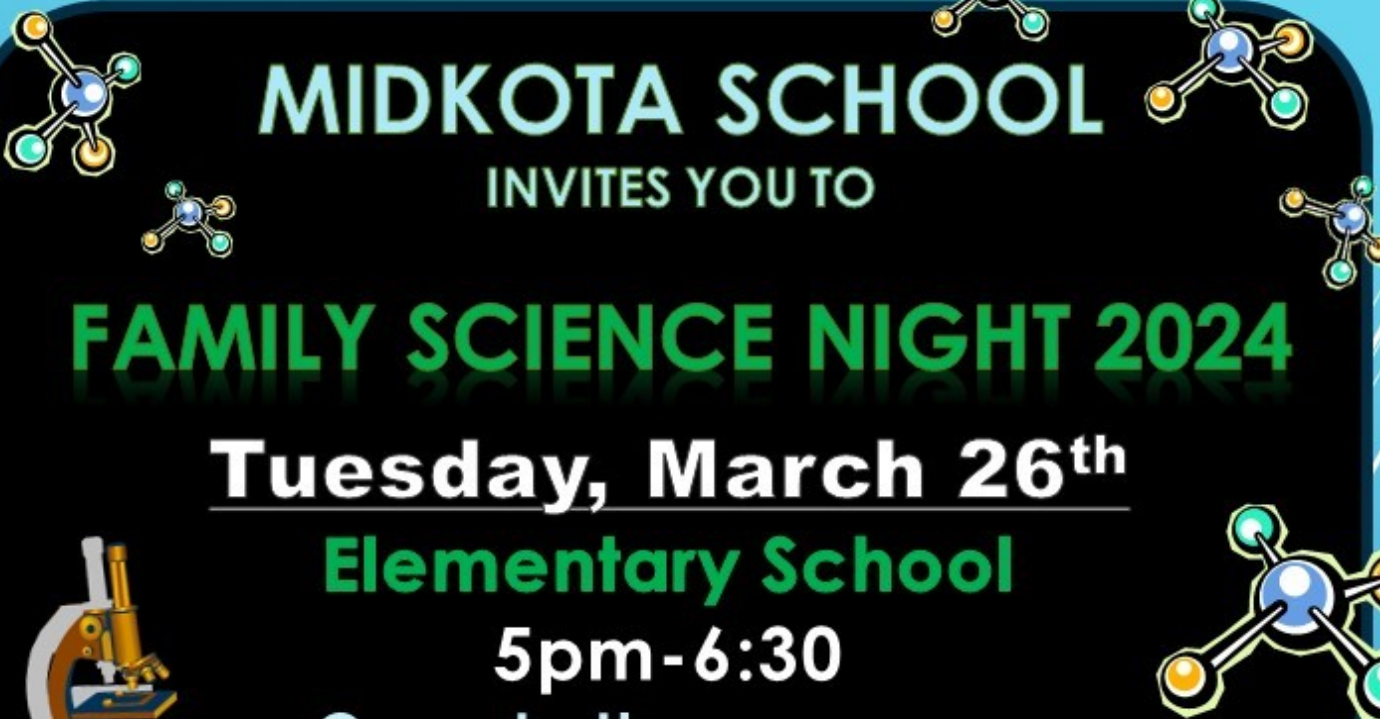


**Su Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

				1 E: Hamburger Hotdish HS: Subs	2 E: Pizza HS: Chili	3
4	5 E: Chicken Strips & Mac-N-Cheese HS: Pizza Hotdish	6 E: Hot dogs, Corn dogs HS: Stew	7 E: Meatballs HS: Hot Ham-N- Cheese	8 E: Chicken Fajitas HS: Tater Tot Hotdish	9 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	10
11	12 E: Spaghetti HS: Hot dogs, Polish Sausage, Corn dogs	13 E: Scalloped Pota- toes & Ham HS: Meatloaf	14 E: Orange Chicken HS: Soup & Sandwiches	15 E: Crisпитos HS: Spaghetti	16 E: Soup & Sand- wich HS: Pulled Pork	17
18	19 <b>NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day</b>	20 E: Stew HS: Chicken Fried Steak	21 E: Chicken Nug- gets & Fries HS: Tacos	22 E: BBQ's HS: Breakfast	23 E: Pizza HS: BBQ's	24
25	26 E: Chicken Burgers HS: Chicken Bowls	27 E: Hotdish HS: Hamburgers	28 E: Turkey HS: Orange Chick- en	29 E: Taco in a Bag HS: Chicken Burg- ers		



**MIDKOTA SCHOOL**  
 INVITES YOU TO  
**FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT 2024**  
**Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Elementary School**  
**5pm-6:30**  
**Open to the everyone**

**North Dakota Envirothon**

Midkota is seeking a five-member team of students grades 9-12 that are interested in participating in the Envirothon May 8-10, 2024, at Crystal Springs located near Medina, ND.

**Please contact Mr. Black or Mrs. Musland ASAP** if you are interested in this great opportunity.

What is the North Dakota Envirothon?

The North Dakota Envirothon is a **problem-solving natural resource competition for high school students**. Teams are generally associated with a sponsoring school, and usually train the entire school year with their advisor or "coach" in preparation for the annual state-wide competition.

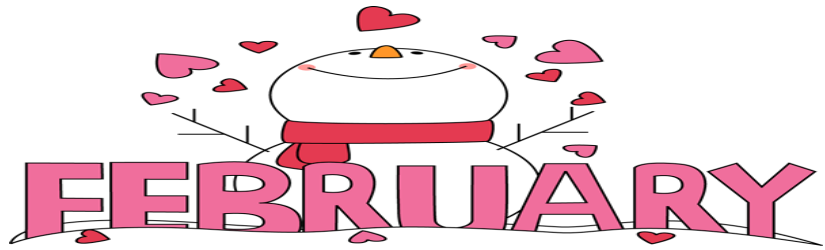


Study resources in the fields of soils, aquatics, wildlife, prairie (forestry and rangeland) and a current environmental issue are assembled by natural resource professionals and provided to the teams. Using these resources, students learn the skills of thinking and working as a team to assess natural resource issues affecting the environment. In late spring, each team has the option to select five members and one alternate to compete at the North Dakota State Envirothon Competition





Failure is when you don't try.



**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

				1 4:30p BBB @ GCC vs. Larimore; V, JV, JH 4:30pm GBB "C" @ Pingree	2	3 Archery @ NR Speech @ GCC 1p GBB @ Can-do vs. North Star; V, JV, JH
4	5 4p JH BBB @ MHS vs. Carrington; 8, 7 6pm BBB @ MHS vs. Napoleon; V, JV	6 8th Grade NAEP Testing 4p BBB @ Mayville; V, JV, 8, 7	7 5pm Virtual FAFSA/Financial Aid Night-Juniors/Seniors & Parents	8 NO ASC 9a Jrs-LRSC Career & Tech Ed Day 4p BBB @ Midway; V, JV, 8, 7	<b>9 NO SCHOOL</b>	10 Archery @ St. John's (Jmstn) Speech @ Northern Cass
11	12 GBB Districts @ New Rockford	13 7:30a School Board @ MHS; 4:30p BBB @ MHS vs. Benson Co; V, JV, JH; Senior/Parent Night	14	15	16 Archery @ GCC	17 Speech @ Hatton/Northwood
18 Midkota 3 on 3 Tournament @ MHS & MES	<b>19 NO SCHOOL</b>	20	21	22 GBB Regions @ Mayville State	23	24 Speech @ MPCG
25	26 BBB Districts @ Larimore	27	28 NO ASC	29 1:30p Early Dismissal 2p-8p Parent Teacher Conf. @ MHS GBB State @ Jmstn		

## Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes

### Midkota School District 7

December 12, 2023, 7:30 AM

Midkota High School

Glenfield, North Dakota

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

Others Present: Charla Hoyt, Katie Ellingson-Zimprich, Elementary Principal Linn Dockter, Kristi Halvorson.

Present Via Zoom: Carrie Braaten.

#### 1. Call the Meeting to Order

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Establish a Quorum
- 1.3 Additions to Agenda/Agenda Approval

President Utke called the meeting to order at 7:36 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a quorum was established. With no additions to the agenda, Hoyt motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Halvorson. Motion carried.

#### 2. Reports

2.1 Activities Director Report- Basketball is in full swing. The gym in Cooperstown is unavailable over Christmas break. CO-OP meeting is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup>.

2.2 Elementary Principal Report- The Extended Day program held a STEM night on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Elementary staff completed their book study. Another book study will start in January. The second half of Trauma Sensitive Schools was completed on December 6<sup>th</sup>. December 18<sup>th</sup> the Binford and Glenfield Fire departments are sponsoring Gingerbread Houses Event at the Elementary School held by Theresa Iverson and Sue Bakko. On December 20<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten through Third grade will join GCC at the Cooper Theater for a movie donated by the More for Less thrift store. Grades 4-6 will go to Stri-King Lanes for bowling donated by Bank Forward of Hannaford. Elementary Teacher observations have been completed and High School teacher observations will be completed tomorrow.

2.3 HS Principal Report-14 students attended tutor day. High School Concert had a great turnout. Mustangs of the month have been chosen. Seven students attend the Student Council Convention on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. December 20<sup>th</sup> class parties will be during block one. The student council is planning games and activities for the rest of the day.

2.4 Business Manager Report- Zer Berg has been contacted to put project on hold. Our Auditor is hoping to have our audits completed by the January meeting.

#### 3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Minutes- Regular Meeting November 14<sup>th</sup>, Special Meeting November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- 3.2 November Bills
- 3.3 December Budget

Hoyt Motioned to approve consent agenda. Seconded by Spickler, motion carried.

#### 4. Unfinished Business

- 4.1 Building Trades Cabin Updates and Bids Review

Halvorson voted to accept cabin bid for 90,000. Seconded by Spickler, motion passed.

- 4.2 Boiler Updates & Finances-Heater for band room-Discussion to reach out for a quote for heater and labor.
- 4.3 Energy Conservation Grant-Discussion was held on the progress of this grant.
- 4.4 Backpack program/Donation-Discussion was held on this possible donation.

#### 5. New Business

- 5.1 Resignation in Lieu of Discharge submitted by Ryan Baron

Spickler motioned to accept resignation in Lieu of Discharge from Ryan Baron. P. Hoffman seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all voting to accept, no discussion, motion passed.

- 5.2 Compensation and Approval of Kristi as Interim High School Principal

Hoyt motioned to hire Kristi Halvorson as Interim High School Principal. Seconded by Vollmer, Motion carried. Spickler Motioned to compensate Mr. Halvorson \$25,000 for High School principal duties. Seconded by Hoyt, Motion carried.

### 5.3 Salary and Approval of Interim Superintendent Gilbert Black

Hoyt motioned to hire Gilbert Black as Interim Superintendent. Seconded by Vollmer, Motion carried. Spickler Motioned to compensate Mr. Black \$460 per day. Seconded by Hoyt, Motion carried.

Spickler Motioned to compensate Principal Linn Dockter \$5,000 and Business Manager Katie Ellingson \$5,000 for extra duties in the interim. Seconded by Hoyt, Motion carried.

Hoyt Motioned to compensate Charla Hoyt \$2,500 and Iris Brandt \$2,500 for extra duties in the interim. Seconded by Halvorson, Motion carried.

### 5.4 Valuations Northwest Appraisal

Hoyt motioned to approve Valuations Northwest Appraisal without the optional tagging. B. Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### 5.5 Change in academic calendar. Switch Tutoring/PD day from May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup> in order to accommodate for Active Shooter Training.

Hoyt motioned to approve change in academic calendar of switching PD day from May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup> with a 2pm early dismissal on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Spickler seconded, Motion carried.

### 5.6 Student Open Enrollment

Hoyt motioned to approve student open enrollment excluding transportation services. Halvorson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 6. Committee Reports

- 6.1 Budget/Finance
- 6.2 Buildings
- 6.3 Curriculum, Technology, & Staff Development
- 6.4 Sports Cooperative

## 7. Adjournment & Next Meeting

Halvorson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 AM. Hoyt seconded the motion. On roll call vote, motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 9th – 7:30 am, Midkota Elementary School in Binford, ND.

## North Dakota Leadership Seminar (NDLS)

The North Dakota Leadership Seminar will be held in-person on **May 31-June 2, 2024**, at the University of Jamestown in Jamestown, ND.

NDLS is a very different kind of seminar. In three short days, students are exposed to ideas on leadership, community involvement, and volunteerism through interactive sessions with business and community leaders from across the state. It is a motivating, high-energy experience. A wide range of speakers and discussions cover timely topics. Activities include a mock legislative session, team building activities, and the completion of a service project (hours are counted by the high school for Choice Ready).

NDLS brings out a whole new level of leadership in the students by building their confidence and developing critical thinking skills. They develop leadership skills and build strong friendships with other student leaders from across the state. This is a weekend where everyone who attends is not judged for their academic or athletic talents but accepted as individuals.

What type of student should attend NDLS?

Even though this is a leadership seminar, we are not necessarily looking for the most studious or active students, though they are welcome. We are looking for students who want to grow as individuals.

Registration:

**Please contact Mrs. Brandt if you are interested in this opportunity.**

Every high school in the state is eligible to send one sophomore student to this program. There is no cost to the school, the student or his or her family. Students need to register as soon as possible since the registration deadline is March 15, 2024. For more information regarding the program, visit [www.ndleadership.org](http://www.ndleadership.org). Additional information is also available from

Thomas Muscha at 701-341-0195 or via email at [register.ndls@gmail.com](mailto:register.ndls@gmail.com).

# KINDNESS WEEK PHOTOS

