

MAY 13, 2026

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 8:00pm in the conference room. Present: Ross Litsey, Lyle Fey, *Amy Schlepp, Corey Ulmer, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Tucker Meidinger. Jordan Jenner was absent.

Motion by Ulmer to approve the agenda. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve the minutes of the April 8th and April 15th meetings as written. Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve payment of general fund bills (\$45,355.44). Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Teresa Dockter explained the last payment will be made on the zero construction bond in June. The payments over the last 16 years have been in a holding account accruing interest. Any interest beyond the \$200,000 due will remain in the building fund—that's estimated to be approximately \$30,000. *Amy Schlepp entered the meeting at 8:04pm. Motion by Litsey to approve financial reports as presented. Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey, second by Ulmer to allow Amy Schlepp to declare a conflict of interest regarding contract approvals. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Litsey to approve contracts/hire notices listed as follows:

Brody Hoffman--\$4,072 (asst WR), Brody Hoffman--\$1,050 (PWWR)

Evan Mellmer--\$4,072 (asst WR)

Matt Schlepp--\$1,050 (PWWR)

Donna Doane--\$19.02/hr (Para), \$17/hr (FFV), \$18.72/hr (Fitness Center)

Teagan Palmer--\$17.68/hr

Tyler Palmer--\$17.68/hr

Teresa Dockter--\$34.20/hr

Sue Buerkley-Wasson--\$22.08/hr

Gerri Kroh--\$21.20/hr

Marlon Lippert--\$23.02/hr

Mike Schumacher--\$20.06/hr

Todd Dockter--\$53.53/trip

Erich Kroh--\$43.26/trip

Fred Newhouse--\$43.26/trip

Larry Schauer--\$35.12/trip

Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ulmer to authorize destruction of records prior to the 2018/19 school year as outlined by the business manager. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt discussed the requirements of the four-year old program: 1) Students must be four years old by August 1 of the school year; 2) Curriculum is aligned with the ND early learning standards; 3) Mrs. Bender will hold 10 hours of family engagement workshops each school year. Motion by Schlepp to approve the four-year old program for the 26/27 & 27/28 school years. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

The Ashley school district moved to approve the consolidated application for Title I, Title II, Title III and REAP funds. Mr. Schmidt (authorized representative) has the board's permission to submit this application. Motion made by Ulmer, seconded by Litsey and motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to accept the resignation from Chris Doane as head volleyball coach. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Janelle Schlosser will be the new speech para. Sami Ketterling will be on maternity leave in the fall. Not able to find a speech teacher to come into the school during that time, so services will be provided virtually. That person will also be the supervising teacher for the para. Cost will be approximately \$6,600.

Mr. Schmidt would like to hire Donna Doane for 2-3 weeks to do some painting—estimated cost is \$1,500-\$2,000. Motion by Schlepp to grant that request. Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to authorize extended contracts for 26/27 for Denise Martz (max 5 days)—estimated cost \$2083 and Evan Mellmer (max 30 days)—estimated cost \$10,518. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt's report: 1) Provided information on Mrs. Bender's summer reading program; 2) Neil Meidinger agreed to drive the Zeeland/Hague route; 3) Received DPI report card—good results; 4) Will offer swimming lessons again next year—weeks of Aug 17th * Aug 24th; 5) Zeeland school will be open on June 15th for closed bids on items for sale.

Mr. Doane's report: 1) Finals complete 5/14, Graduation 5/17, Awards night 5/14; 2) New coaches hired: Kalli Scherbenske-head volleyball, Vince Meidinger-head GBB, Kara Salzer-JHVB. Several assistant positions still need to interview—discussed possibility of just the athletic directors & head coach for those in the future due to scheduling problems with numerous people on the committee. May need to add to co-op meeting agenda; 3) Five individual state track qualifiers & 1 relay team so far, Baseball team is #2 region seed.

Next meeting will be June 15th at 8:00pm. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Litsey. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:22pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President