

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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Attorney for: Katie Weisz, Personal Representative
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MERCER COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DANA JEAN MATTHEIS, DECEASED
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims

within three (3) months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Katie Weisz, Personal Representative of the estate, at 1130 Elbowoods Drive, Hazen, North Dakota 58545, or filed with the Court.
DATED this 8th day of October, 2025.
KATIE WEISZ
1130 Elbowoods Drive
Hazen, North Dakota 58545
Scott T. Solem
SOLEM LAW OFFICE
P.O. Box 249
Beulah, N.D. 58523
Attorney for Katie Weisz, Personal Representative of the Estate of Dana Jean Mattheis, Deceased.
First publication on the 16th day of October, 2025.

(10-16-2025)(10-23-2025)(10-30-2025)

HAZEN PUBLIC SCHOOL REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 8, 2025
HS Room 102
Present at the meeting were board members Brian Nolan, Steph Huber, Laura Zingg, and Marti Raad. Jen Wallender was absent. Also present was Supt. Ken Miller, Principal Trevor Sinclair, Principal Paul Richter, and Principal Jacob Kraft. The guest present was Dan Arens. The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.
Minutes for the regular August monthly meeting were presented. Raad moved to approve, seconded by Zingg. All voted aye. M/C
There were no additions to the agenda and the agenda was set.
Financial Reports: a.) August Financial Statement; b.) August Bills totaling \$90,303.37 JP Morgan, 5,245.87; Home Connection, 9,452.32; MDU, 5,186.78; Active Internet Tech., 975.00; Arbitrator Sports, 430.00; Bill Zingg, 294.00; CDW-G, 81,695.00; City of Hazen, 1,137.68; Curriculum Associates, 69.73; D&E Supply, 1,939.09; Emergent 3, Inc., 2,500.00; Farmers Union Oil, 330.13; Farmers Union Oil, 449.27; Amanda Frank, 100.00; Ashley Frank, 1,440.00; Frontline Tech., 5,967.43; Haga Kommer, 3,000.00; Hazen Star, 234.68; Innovative Office, 55.26; Institute of Art-based Literacy, 518.40; Jodi Driscoll, 100.00; Johnson Controls, 5,613.67; Rebecca Johnson, 130.00; Jennifer Johnston, 150.00; Learning without Tears, 1,291.95;

Nate Leintz, 150.00; Mark's Plumbing, 919.42; Melissa Brandt, 717.15; Menard's, 157.81; Midwest Investigations, 275.00; Tina Miller, 150.00; MDU, 6,168.14; Nasca, 169.28; ND Assoc. of School Business Mgr., 50.00; ND Attorney General, 76.00; NDCEL, 5,009.00; ND School Board Assoc., 895.00; Noel Barth, 250.00; Alison Peterson, 150.00; Renaissance Learning, 2,261.45; Emily Ripplinger, 250.00; Hunter Saylor, 150.00; School Specialty, 630.95; Shanda Leintz, 150.00; Alison Smith, 457.90; Software Unlimited, 7,150.00; Stein's Inc., 275.00; Stroup Insurance, 26,467.00; Studies Weekly, 1,084.15; Tammie Vernon, 250.00; West Dakota Lumber, 1,450.00; Eastern Dakota Corp of Discovery, 7,500.00; Western Dakota Energy Assoc., 200.00; Western Lighting Tech., 818.00.; c.) Transportation Report. Huber moved to approve a-c; second by Raad. All voted aye. M/C
Committee Reports:
There is none to report at this time.
New Business:
Annual Compliance Report: Supt. Miller presented to the board how the school district is in compliance with the eight DPI requirements. Raad moved to approve the report, seconded by Zingg. All voted aye. M/C
Contract Revisions: Raad moved to approve; seconded by Huber. All voted aye. M/C
Coal Hauling Bids: Supt Miller asked the

board for approval to call for coal hauling bids and have them posted in the newspaper. Zingg moved to approve as presented, seconded by Raad. All voted aye. M/C
Title I Budget Amendment: Supt Miller presented the board with the Title Consolidated Application. Huber moved to approve the Title budget revision and the Consolidated Application as presented, seconded by Raad. All voted aye. M/C
Tax Meeting: President Nolan started the tax meeting at 6:00 PM. Superintendent Miller informed the board that he did not receive written testimony in support or opposition of the approved dollars levied at the August school board meeting. Supt. Miller asked the board if they received any written testimony, and the reply was no. President Nolan then asked if anyone present at the meeting wanted to provide testimony regarding the 2025-26 budget. Hearing none, it was the consensus of the board to move forward with the budget that was approved at the August 11th board meeting.
Administrative Reports:
The Principals and Superintendent presented their reports.
The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on October 13, 2025, at 5:30 pm. With no further business, President Nolan adjourned the meeting.
Brian S. Nolan, School Board President
Ken Miller, Superintendent
13 October 2025, Date Approved
(10-16-2025)

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Fresh look at a fresh year

BY DANIEL ARENS

During a short October meeting, the Hazen School Board took the opportunity to get a fresh photo with their current board members, as well as hearing reviews from local administrators about how the fresh new school year is going. While only High School Principal Jacob Kraft was present at the meeting, all of the administrators provided reports on local happenings. Elementary Principal Trevor Sinclair praised the Hazen Lions Club for helping to organize the second annual STEMDay Gateway to Science event for third to fifth graders. The Hazen High School National Honor Society assists during the day with students running the different mobile exhibits that are brought to the school by Gateway to Science. Sinclair also talked about Hazen Fire and Rescue working with all grade levels in the elementary school Oct. 6-8 on educating them about fire safety and prevention during Fire Prevention Week. He announced that first grade teacher Emily Ripplinger was the recipient of this month's Teacher Trophy. Middle School Principal Paul Richter reported that the current enrollment in the middle school is 146 students, one student shy of the 147 lockers. He said relocating a few additional lockers may be required if more students enroll in the middle school. He also reported on the beginning of

the Lego League season. The school board members praised Richter's engagement with the students, including his DJ skills during the Fall Ball Middle School Dance and his hit Eminem dress up during Homecoming Dress-Up week. Board Member Marti Raad enjoyed the humor of Richter's saying that "engagement (in dress-up) noticeably increased after students learned they would earn one bonus point for each day they dressed up." Principal Kraft gave his update, with FFA, FBLA, FCCLA and Hazen's new HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) chapter participating in fall activities, the latter going to Jamestown for an event next week. "We did have our first few suspensions from cell phone use, but overall it has not been a problem," Kraft said. Kraft reviewed ND A+ State test scores, which showed that Hazen kids were at or above the state average in nearly all individual categories and above the state average in all three overall subject categories (ELA (or English Language Arts), Math and Science). There was lots of discussion about this at the meeting. While the school board members were pleased overall with how the students scored, they questioned the rubric and reporting of the ND A+ system, noting for instance that some students were tested on subject matter they may not have taken classes for (or were in the middle of taking).



PHOTO CREDIT OF DANIEL ARENS
The Hazen School Board took a new group photo, something they do annually. From left to right: Board Members Jen Wallender, Marti Raad, Brian Nolan (chairman), Steph Huber and Laura Zingg.

Board Member Jen Wallender said she thought the information was minimal and not effective for accurately judging where students are at, while saying she would do more research about the program. Kraft said ND A+ is used (as it is looked at by the state), but the school district looks at other tests as well to measure student aptitude. Kraft also talked about small group meetings, including interventions for students needing additional support, student recognition for students identified as "advanced" and a student engagement group that identifies kids who are not active in any school activities and reaches out to make sure they are included and feel connected to the school body. While reviewing the

Athletic Director report from AD Bret Johnsrud, Raad echoed Johnsrud's shoutout to seniors Thomas Wanzek and Courtal Beyer on the football team, which ended the season without a win. The senior class this year is possibly the smallest in Hazen history, while the football team numbers are also very low and injuries further plagued the team. "Ultimately, the team knew this was a year for growth and the Seniors have done an amazing service by continuing to play so we could have a team this year, even knowing the scoreboard would not reflect their effort," Johnsrud said in his report. Other discussion included Superintendent Ken Miller updating the board about a lockdown drill this coming week, Wallender discussing

current initiatives by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction and updates on the recent School Board Association's state convention. At the end of the meeting, the board members took an updated group photo. In other business, the Hazen School Board:
• unanimously approved all bills and quarterly financial statements,
• unanimously approved a coal hauling bid from John Flemmer for \$28.50 a ton, up \$0.50 from last year's bid,
• unanimously approved a request to advertise the sale of a 1993 Custodian Pickup truck, which is not being used since the school district received a new truck last fall, and
• unanimously approved a teacher contract revision for a lane change.

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