

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MADDOCK SCHOOL BOARD
August 7, 2025

A regular meeting of the Maddock School Board was held Aug. 7, 2025. Present: Sheila Lindgren, Justin Maddock, Bryan Kenner, Paul Backstrom and Paul Rice; Shannon Sabbe; and Mr. Allmaras. Guests: Mrs. Elise Kallenbach and Mrs. Heidi Keller.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 a.m.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Backstrom, to approve the agenda as amended: adding G. Tuition Agreements and H. Summer Contracts. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried. Maddock School District #9 Advanced Business

Methods	\$248.43
Amplify	34,069.75
BC Farmers Press	47.25
BrainPOP	4,500.00
CenDak	2,118.70
City of Maddock	2,627.03
Cole Papers	2,123.48
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance	84.30
Communication, Speech, Theater Assn. of ND	200.00
Dakota Truck & Farm Service	869.50
Decker Equipment	1,395.57
DRN	1,813.65
EduTech	40.00
Farmers Union Insurance	17,801.00
Fedex	198.00
Finalsite	672.00
Johnson Ag Resources, LLC	3,410.80
Lakeside Lock & Key	19.50
McGraw-Hill School Publishing	155.91
NAPA Auto Supply	132.97
ND Assn. of School Business Managers	50.00
ND Council of Edu. Leaders	1,595.00
ND Public Health Insurance Trust	360.00
Origo Education	4,524.40
Share Corporation	1,829.26
Software Unlimited, Inc.	4,350.00
TCI	859.00
Thompson's DL Glass & Paint	41.00
Valley City State Univ.	130.00
Wage Works	252.51
Total	\$86,519.01

Discussion was back open on the baseball field. Still exploring options.

Mr. Allmaras gave the superintendent report. Shannon Sabbe gave the athletic director report.

A motion was made by Backstrom, seconded by Maddock, to approve the 2024-25 annual financial report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Kenner, to approve the preliminary budget for the 2025-26 school year. The motion carried.

Dates were reviewed for the 2025 NDSBA Convention. Discussion was held on elementary staffing.

Mr. Allmaras went over roofing quotes for a few different areas of the school.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Rice, to approve Policies BSR 4 and 5, and SE 6. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Backstrom, to approve one tuition agreement and two open enrollment documents. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Maddock, to approve two summer teaching contracts. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to adjourn at 8:10 a.m. The motion carried.

Shannon Sabbe Business Manager

Sheila Lindgren Board President

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MADDOCK SCHOOL BOARD
September 11, 2025

A regular meeting of the Maddock School Board was held Sept. 11, 2025. Present: Sheila Lindgren, Justin Maddock, Bryan Kenner, Paul Backstrom and Paul Rice; and Shannon Sabbe. Guests: Mrs. Elise Kallenbach and Dennette Buckmier. Shannon Sabbe, business manager, presented the public budget hearing.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 a.m.

A motion was made by Kenner,

seconded by Maddock, to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Rice, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried. Advanced Business

Methods	\$498.71
Badlands Environ. Consultants	3,300.00
BC Farmers Press	173.04
Border States Electric Supply	801.41
Cash & Carry Lumber ...	191.10
Character Strong	1,999.00
City of Maddock	7,679.06
Cole Papers	881.53
Culinex	330.00
D & D Roofing	36,200.00
Decker Equipment	168.85
DRN	3,543.65
Ecolab Pest Elim.	168.28
Gopher	676.70
IntegratEd	1,617.60
Johnson Controls	14,004.00
Johnson's Plumbing & Appliance	148.00
Motion Picture	205.12
ND Center for Distance Education	5,429.00
ND Council of Edu. Leaders	400.00
ND Public Health Insurance Trust	45,393.32
Scholastic	148.30
Share Corporation	144.15
Stein Chemical Co.	234.59
Vestis	418.44
Wage Works	1,148.02
Widmer Roel	750.00
Total	\$126,651.87

The board reviewed Mr. Allmaras' principal and superintendent report he sent in an email. He was absent due to Principal Bootcamp.

Shannon Sabbe gave the athletic director report.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Kenner, to approve the annual compliance report. The motion carried.

Final budget was presented by Shannon Sabbe. A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Rice, to approve the final budget for the 2025-26 school year. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on the NDSBA Convention.

Discussion was held on the memo of understanding with Maddock Park Board on the baseball diamond.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to approve a tuition agreement. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Kenner, to adjourn at 7:50 a.m. The motion carried.

Shannon Sabbe Business Manager

Sheila Lindgren Board President

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MADDOCK SCHOOL BOARD
October 9, 2025

A regular meeting of the Maddock School Board was held Oct. 9, 2025. Present: Sheila Lindgren, Justin Maddock, Bryan Kenner, Paul Backstrom and Paul Rice; Shannon Sabbe. Guests: Ms. Heidi Keller. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 a.m.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Backstrom, to amend the agenda: add D. Teacher Reimbursement Policy. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried. Advanced Business

Methods	\$1,207.39
Aflac	388.61
Allmaras, Benjamin J.	144.89
Badlands Environ. Consultants	300.00
BC Farmers Press	52.00
BC Schoolmasters	614.00
Best Plumbing	32.65
BSN Sports, Inc.	620.21
Cash & Carry Lumber	154.68
CenDak	8,125.51
City of Maddock	5,038.96
Cole Papers	1,307.43
DRN	1,813.65
Farmers Union Insurance	14.00
Farmers Union Oil Co.	403.00
Golden Rule, The	120.87
H. A. Thompson & Sons	702.65
Harlow's Bus Sales, Inc.	9,294.33
Johnson Control Fire Protection	8,273.46
J. W. Pepper	65.00
Kim's Septic Service	150.00
LR State College	144.00
Maloney-Simonson, Mavis	27.96
McCloud, Shawn	165.00
NAPA Auto Supply	55.32

owners to make arrangements.

A new pilot program, the HuntLink App, is also available and can be used in place of or in addition to the Coyote Catalog for 2025. More information is available at <https://gf.nd.gov/hunting/hunter-landowner-contact>. Landowners experiencing coyote depredation of livestock should first contact the US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services.

The Coyote Catalog will remain active through March 31.

For more information, contact Ryan Herigstad at Game and Fish, 701-595-4463 or rherigstad@nd.gov; or Michelle Mielke, at the Department of Agriculture, 701-328-2233 or mmielke@nd.gov.

ND Council of Edu. Leaders	175.00
ND School Boards Assn.	3,021.69
ND Small Organized Schools	500.00
North Country Heating & Air Conditioning	1,940.45
ND Educators Service Cooperative	200.00
ND Public Health Insurance Trust	24,628.33
Perrin Mobile Medical ...	200.00
Quill Corporation	118.32
Rieger Service	3,636.11
Share Corporation	535.91
Stein Chemical Co.	261.38
Thompson's DL Glass & Paint	272.00
Vestis	418.44
Wage Works	283.70
Total	\$75,406.90

Mr. Allmaras was absent for another meeting. President Lindgren read his report.

Shannon Sabbe gave the AD report.

NDSBA convention is October 9-10. Paul Backstrom, Sheila Lindgren and Justin Maddock are going.

Business Manager Sabbe sent out the superintendent evaluation in an email this morning. Return by October 31.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to approve Policy GP-7. All in favor. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on the new teacher reimbursement policy.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Maddock, to adjourn at 8:04 a.m. The motion carried.

Shannon Sabbe Business Manager

Sheila Lindgren Board President

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MADDOCK SCHOOL BOARD
November 13, 2025

A regular meeting of the Maddock School Board was held Nov. 13, 2025. Present: Sheila Lindgren, Justin Maddock, Bryan Kenner, Paul Backstrom and Paul Rice; Mr. Allmaras; Shannon Sabbe. Guests: Mrs. Kallenbach.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 a.m.

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Maddock, to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Backstrom, seconded by Rice, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried. Advanced Business

Methods	\$633.64
Aflac	388.61
Amplify	526.40
BC Farmers Press	298.26
Cash & Carry Lumber	154.68
CenDak	8,929.95
Cole Papers	3,910.76
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance	84.43
Harlow's Bus Sales, Inc.	8,667.24
Hearth of America HMO	137.00
Ingenuity RM, LLC	229.50
IntegratedEd	1,617.60
James Bros. Auto Sales	1,509.61
J. W. Pepper	65.00
LR Special Ed	12,019.26
Minot State University	305.00
NAPA Auto Supply	52.19
ND Center for Distance Education	229.00
ND Council of Edu. Leaders	425.00
ND HS Activities Assn. .	50.00
ND Public Health Insurance Trust	24,988.33
Sanford Health Occup. Medicine Clinic	105.00
Scholastic	665.37
Stone's	1,799.44
Vestis	439.36
Wage Works	1,869.62
Total	\$70,100.25

Mr. Allmaras gave his principal and superintendent report.

Shannon Sabbe gave her AD report.

Superintendent Evaluation -- Personal/Professional Goals:

A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Maddock, to rate Mr. Allmaras at "partially meets expectations." Roll call was all in favor. The motion carried.

Leadership Competencies: A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Kenner, to rate Mr. Allmaras at "consistently meets expectations." Roll call all was in favor. The motion carried.

Superintendent Expectations: A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Backstrom, to rate Mr. Allmaras at compliance. Roll call was in favor. The motion carried.

Policy and Strategic Plan Monitoring/Operational Plan: A motion was made by Kenner, seconded by Rice, to rate Mr. Allmaras at compliance. Roll call was all in favor. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Rice, to rate Mr. Allmaras at an overall satisfactory rating. Roll call was all in favor. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on convention updates.

A motion was made by Maddock, seconded by Kenner, to purchase a mini bus from Harlow's for \$49,900 and use 1/2 of the special reserve fund for the purchase. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Rice, seconded by Backstrom, to adjourn at 8:10 a.m. The motion carried.

Shannon Sabbe Business Manager

Sheila Lindgren Board President

John and Edith: A Christmas Story

BY DARRELL HOVLAND

Last year I wrote about the Wellsburg school and the wonderful Christmas programs we used to have. I have heard from many readers who also went to rural schools and their Christmas programs were also very memorable and special. Rural schools all seem to be very similar and I think anyone who ever attended a rural school has pleasant memories of them.

There is one school play or skit that we did in Wellsburg that still stands out in my memories. I was in the 6th grade so it was in about 1961. Mrs. Marion Kramer was the upper grades' teacher and she was a very talented teacher. She rewrote a skit she had found about this Russian couple who were trying to come to America. She adapted it to make it more relevant to our area. I don't remember the name of the original skit, but she renamed it "John and Edith."

Well, it just so happened that we had this couple in our community and their names were John and Edith. John had emigrated from Ukraine, I think, but Edith was born and raised in the community -- in fact, just a couple of miles from where my family lived.

John and Edith were very memorable people and you could even describe them as a little eccentric. They were very nice people, but they had some peculiarities that made you remember them. Of course, I guess you could say that about all of us.

Now keep in mind this was during the Cold War with the Soviet Union. I remember everyone back then was concerned about a nuclear attack from the Soviet Union. Some people built bomb shelters (more like root cellars). County courthouses were designated as bomb shelters, as if they could survive a bomb blast. In school we would have drills in which we would practice what to do during a nuclear attack. We were to crawl under our desks and cover our eyes. Even as young kids we knew that this was a poor idea, and actually the best thing to do during a nuclear attack would be to bend over and kiss your butt goodbye!

But back to the story. The real-life John looked like what you would think a Russian would look like. He was average height but he was stocky, very muscular. He was a farmer and he took pride in hard work. In fact, he seemed to enjoy doing things the hard way, kind of like my dad. His nose looked like it had taken a punch or two, and of course he had this neat Russian accent. I enjoyed listening to him talk; he was very pleasant and told funny stories.

John was a smart man, but he had a simplistic view of things and he would choose what he thought was the simplest way to get things done. For example, when he needed to take his bull to the pasture, which was about a mile away from his barn, he would grab a pail of feed and walk in front of the bull and the bull would follow him. No rope or halter, they would just walk down the road together.

One time my dad needed to borrow a bull, so John loaned Dad his bull. There were no stock trailers back then to haul livestock in, or at least none that we knew of. So John walked the bull over to our pasture, which was about 1-1/2 miles away, and when the bull was delivered, my dad and I met him at the pasture gate. John visited with us for a

Donate to Fairview

Fairview Cemetery is seeking donations for maintenance and upkeep. Send donations to Carla Newman, 2244 51st St. NE, Fessenden, ND 58438.



The Wellsburg all-school reunion in 2000. The teachers are seated in the front row. Mrs. Kramer is fourth from the left, and Darrell Hovland is standing directly behind her in the white cap. Mrs. Kramer passed away in 2025 at age 97.

while and then he walked home again, saying he didn't need a ride. A very simple way to accomplish a task!

Edith was raised on a farm, but it didn't seem she liked farm life all that well. She and John in some regards were very different from each other, but they also seemed to be good for each other. I got the impression that Edith would rather have had a more sophisticated lifestyle. She was a little taller than John, she was always kind of pale-looking and her skin had a light blue tinge to it. I don't know if this was from make-up or some sort of medical condition, but she looked, well, kind of like she was dead.

She smoked cigarettes, and the brand she smoked we called OPs (other people's). She would drive around to the neighbors who smoked and bum cigarettes. She drove a very unique-looking car so you could see her coming, and what made it so unique was the color, although I don't remember for sure what color it was. A two-tone something. I just remember everyone knew her car. John also drove a unique colored pickup so you always saw when he was coming.

Edith belonged to the Democratic party and she enjoyed going to political functions. There was a story about Edith when she went to a Democratic Party social event and John went with her. They were having hors d'oeuvres which was some sort of chicken, presumably the 50s version of chicken wings. Everyone was sitting around on chairs; they passed a plate of chicken around for people to take from and later they sent a plate around to put the used chicken bones on. But when the plate of chicken bones came to John, he thought there was a lot of meat still left on some of the bones so he picked them up and ate the rest of the meat off them! I'm sure Edith's skin color was no longer light blue but more beet red!

In our school play of John and Edith, I played the part of John and my sister Arlyss played the part of Edith, as Arlyss was in the 8th grade and taller than me. In real life Edith was a little taller than John. What we kids didn't know was that Mrs. Kramer had shown John and Edith the play and asked them if it was okay to use their names.

They both agreed it was fine and Mrs. Kramer invited them to the program.

When Mrs. Kramer wrote the play, she felt okay in using the names John and Edith as they never, ever came to any Wellsburg school events. They never had any kids, but if they did go to a school function they went to Heimdall as that town was closer to where they lived.

Before the Christmas program was to begin, someone looked out at the audience and to our great shock, in the middle of the audience were John and Edith! We told Mrs. Kramer, but she wasn't concerned. She knew them very well and she said they would find the whole thing funny.

I don't recall all of the play, but I know it was very funny. The part I recall the best was when John (me) was going to pay for their airplane tickets and I reached into my back pocket to get out my wallet, but it was stuck! I couldn't get it out of my pocket!

My favorite TV star back then was Red Skelton, particularly his character called Clem Kaddiddlehopper. I recalled a scene from "The Red Skelton Show" in which Clem had the same dilemma of having his wallet stuck in his pocket and the funny antics he did trying to get it out.

Because the audience was laughing at my dilemma, I tried to ad lib all those antics and it must have worked out pretty well, because the audience kept laughing. The other cast members stood there with perplexed looks on their faces as none of what I did was in the script.

After the Christmas program was over, the real John and Edith stayed around and visited and said they enjoyed the program. They never let on if they realized they were the actual stars of Mrs. Kramer's story.

The source for this story is my memories.

Author's note: I will be doing a four-part series of stories about horse sales in North Dakota from the mid 1960s to the present day. Horse sales were funny, dramatic, scandalous, sometimes dangerous and always entertaining. If you have any memories of horse sales you would like to share, contact me at hovlandfam@gondtc.com or 701-351-5401.

Coyote catalog available

The ND Game and Fish Department and ND Department of Agriculture are again opening the Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort designed to connect hunters and trappers with landowners dealing with coyotes in their areas. Landowners can sign up on the Department of Agriculture website, www.ndda.nd.gov. nHunters and trappers can sign up at the Game and Fish website, gf.nd.gov. Anyone who registered for the Coyote Catalog in the past must register again to activate their name on the database.

Throughout winter, hunters or trappers may receive information on participating landowners, and should contact land-

owners to make arrangements. A new pilot program, the HuntLink App, is also available and can be used in place of or in addition to the Coyote Catalog for 2025. More information is available at <https://gf.nd.gov/hunting/hunter-landowner-contact>. Landowners experiencing coyote depredation of livestock should first contact the US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services. The Coyote Catalog will remain active through March 31. For more information, contact Ryan Herigstad at Game and Fish, 701-595-4463 or rherigstad@nd.gov; or Michelle Mielke, at the Department of Agriculture, 701-328-2233 or mmielke@nd.gov.

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT, AMEND, AND REPEAL ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO N.D.A.C. ARTICLES 71-02, 71-03, 71-04, 71-05, 71-06, & 71-08

REGARDING THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM, UNIFORM GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM, DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM, RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE CREDIT, AND DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 1600 East Century Avenue Suite 2, Bismarck, North Dakota. The proposed rules relate to the Public Employees Retirement System, Uniform Group Insurance Program, Deferred Compensation Plan for Public Employees, Highway Patrol Retirement System, Retiree Health Insurance Credit, and Defined Contribution Plan. The proposed rules implement statutory changes made during the 2025 legislative session, clarify current administrative processes, and ensure consistency in administration within the various plans administered by NDPERS.

A copy of the proposed rules may be requested by writing to PO Box 1657, Bismarck, ND 58502, e-mailing NDPERS-info@nd.gov, or calling 701-328-3900. Written comments on the proposed rules can be mailed to PO Box 1657, Bismarck, ND 58502 or emailed to NDPERS-info@nd.gov. Oral comments can be submitted by calling 701-328-3900. Comments received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 2, 2026, will be fully considered. If you plan to attend the public hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System at the above telephone number or address at least seven days prior to the public hearing.

Dated this 9th day of December, 2025.

Rebecca Fricke
Executive Director

ISO: City Council Person

Join the Minnewaukan City Council!

The City seeks a dedicated resident to help shape our community's future. Must be a U.S. citizen, qualified city elector, 18+, and have lived in Minnewaukan for at least nine months. To apply, send a letter of interest to the City Office.

Serve your neighbors—make a difference today!

Contact: Audray J. McCollum
Auditor, City of Minnewaukan,
PO Box 192, Minnewaukan, ND
58351
701-473-5735

Career Opportunities

NORTHERN PLAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Billing & Member Service Supervisor - Cando

Our cooperative is seeking a full-time Billing & Member Service Supervisor to drive the success of our billing, payments, and member inquiry operations out of our Cando office. Candidates must possess excellent office skills with great customer service. This position oversees and performs the daily operations, resolving complex issues, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in the billing process. **Apply by Dec. 31, 2025.**

Journeyman or Apprentice Lineworker - Maddock

NPEC is looking for a full-time Journeyman/Apprentice Lineworker to join our Maddock Line Crew. Lineworkers are responsible for building, maintaining, and repairing overhead and underground electric distribution lines in a safe and efficient manner within accepted operations standards. **Apply by Jan. 12, 2026.**

NPEC offers competitive salary & benefits package, including health insurance, 401k, pension, and paid vacation. For a full description of responsibilities and how to apply visit: <https://nplains.com/job-opportunities>

EOE

NORTHERN PLAINS Electric Cooperative

