



BELCOURT School District #7 & 100-297 Grant Minutes - May 12, 2026



**Belcourt School District #7
(Tuesday, May 12, 2026)
@ Noon**

David Azure: Absent
Eric Dionne: Present
Teri LaFountain: Present
Allan Malaterre: Present
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Present
Allen Schlenvogt: Present
Scotty Vandal: Present

OTHERS PRESENT: Kevin Brien, Travis LaRocque, Earl Demery, Brad LaRocque, Dr. Shane Martin, Levi Gourneau, Connie Baker, Debbe Poitra, Laurie Elliott and Kevin Davis

1. CALL TO ORDER
Allan Malaterre called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER /PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Duane Poitra and Allen Schlenvogt led the group in prayer.

3. OPEN MEETING COMMENTS (BCBA)
Allen S. asked to have #5. I Business Manager report under the Consent Agenda pulled for discussion.

Shane M. announced the loss of BSD Employee Francis Nelson. He asked that his family be honored during this time of loss, and thanked him for his service with the District. His services will be held on Thursday, May 14th and Friday, May 15th.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA MOTION to adopt the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Teri LaFountain and seconded by Scotty Vandal, Carried.
David Azure: Absent
Eric Dionne: Yes
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Allen Schlenvogt: Yes
Scotty Vandal: Yes
Yes: 6, No: 0, Absent: 1

5. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA MOTION to approve the consent agenda items 5.A to 5.R as presented. This motion, made by Dr. Wanda Parisien and seconded by Teri LaFountain, Carried.
David Azure: Absent
Eric Dionne: Yes
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Allen Schlenvogt: Yes
Scotty Vandal: Yes
Yes: 6, No: 0, Absent: 1

A. TMCS Superintendent/Athletic Director — Dr. Shane Martin
– Title IX Proportionality 3 Prong Test
– What's Happening Around Campus 4.16.26 (1)

B. Approval of Minutes 03-20-26 & 03-21-26 (Board Retreat)

C. Approval Minutes 04-14-26 @ Noon

D. Approval of Minutes 04-22-26 @ Noon

E. Approval of Minutes 04-23-26 @ Noon

F. Approval of the Operation of the Tiny Turtles Preschool Program - Debbe Poitra

A school or district that wants to run a Four-Year-Old Program must apply to the department for approval. Approval is given for two years. The law requires the following:
• A teacher must be licensed by the Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) who has one of the following qualifications:
o Major or minor in Early Childhood Education: Birth — Grade 3
o Elementary Education: Grade 1 - Grade 8 with a Kindergarten Endorsement
o Elementary Education License is no longer issued but appears as Kindergarten - Grade 8 in North Dakota
o Endorsement: Test completed for Early Childhood Education Birth - Grade 3
• Follow all program rules set by the department.
• Meet all local and state health, fire, and safety standards.
• Families can enroll children if they are four years old before August 1 of that school year. A child who turns four before December 1 may also enroll if the family makes a request and

the school decides the child is ready, based on development, learning skills, and other individual needs.

• Pay a nonrefundable \$50 application fee. This fee helps cover the cost of reviewing the application.

State Funding: Students in a regular Four-Year-Old Program are not counted for state aid payments by the superintendent of public instruction.

Program Review: The Department of Health and Human Services may visit and review the program. This includes checking the building, program conditions, and staff qualifications.

Loss of Approval: Approval may be taken away if:

- The program no longer meets the required conditions.
- The program does not follow minimum standards.
- The approval was based on false information.
- The program breaks department rules.

G. Concussion Training — Summer Crissler/Dr. Shane Martin

After reviewing the results of my project and talking with Dr. Martin about the concussion training. Ms. Crissler asked to be considered in presenting to the school board that coaches, assistants, and youth assistants who work with youth in K-6 be provided with concussion training. She believes it is also necessary for all youth programs supported by the Tribal Government to provide concussion training, and would appreciate support in encouraging this across all programs.

H. Ojibwa Indian School Board Report — Angelique Bennett

I. Business Manager Report - Duane Poitra
– FY26 HS Grant Budget for Board Apr 26
– FY26 Monthly Board Report Apr 26

J. TMHS Principal Board Report - Brad LaRocque
TMHS 3rd Quarter Attendance Report

K. TMCMS Principal Board Report - Gaillard Peltier
Please see the attached narrative on our Middle schools testing data.

L. Approval of Tuition Agreements - Duane Poitra

The recommendation is to approve the 3 tuition agreements: (1)-Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch, (1)-Home on the Range of Sentinel Butte, ND, (1)-Prairie St.Johns-LearnWell Education as presented.

M. TMHS GT Classroom Without Walls \$84,770.80 - Brad LaRocque

The purpose is to provide HS GT students with the opportunity to participate in summer enrichment programs that enhance their school year experiences. This GT Summer School Program will be open to all GT students. Students who choose to enroll will be provided an opportunity for educational enrichment experiences within a reasonable land travel distance. The recommendation is to approve as presented using the HS ISEP Monies.

N. Approval to increase the General Fund budget IT Dept by \$718,000 - Travis LaRocque
This is to increase the IT Department Budget by \$718,000.00 for prior-approved network and wireless upgrades school wide. 75% of the amount spent will be reimbursed through a Cybersecurity Grant and 25% General Fund reserve monies.

O. Federal Programs Final Monitoring Report (Information Only) — Dr. Shane Martin

Dr. Martin wanted to provide an update that the District has assembled a team to begin addressing our current federal program needs. Friday has been set aside to begin this work. The team includes: Shane Martin, Superintendent; Levi Gourneau, Assistant Superintendent; Paula Keplin, Data Coordinator/Federal Programs Lead; Claudette Gourneau, Strategic Planning Director; Symone Morin, Business Technology; Earl Demery, Chief

Financial Officer; Debbe Poitra, Tiny Turtles Preschool Director. As part of this transition, oversight of Federal Programs will be removed from Mrs. Poitra's purview. However, Mrs. Poitra has overseen multiple federally funded programs, including Homeless/Foster Care Liaison responsibilities. We would like to keep her involved during the transition to assist with questions and continue serving in specific roles, if allowable. With that in mind, we are requesting guidance on the following:

- Would it be allowable to allocate 20% of Mrs. Poitra's salary to Title I funds for her work supporting homeless and foster care-related responsibilities during the 2026-2027 school year?
 - Would it be permissible to move certain salary and fringe expenditures currently budgeted for FY 2025-2026 into the FY 2024-2025 budget through a formal budget revision?
- We are working to ensure compliance while also planning strategically for the current and upcoming Title I budgets.

Reply from Angie Richter, Assistant Director of Educational Improvement and Support:

Thank you for the update and for outlining your team. It is encouraging to see a comprehensive group in place as you begin this transition.

We appreciate your desire to maintain continuity and keep Mrs. Poitra involved in a supportive capacity. As you move forward, we encourage the district to collaboratively review your needs' assessment, staffing structure, and use of funds.

Rather than focusing on assigning a percentage of an individual's salary to Title I, Part A, we recommend your team:

- o Identify priority student needs
- o Align staffing roles and level of effort to those needs
- o Ensure costs are necessary, reasonable, allocable, and tied to supplemental services
- o As a reminder, Title I, Part A funds should prioritize direct services to students. We previously observed a higher proportion of funds supporting roles not directly tied to instructional services, and we encourage careful consideration of this as you redesign your program. The goal is not to build out percentages to fully fund a position, but to align staffing based on identified needs and program implementation.
- o We also encourage a team-based approach where responsibilities for implementation and compliance are clearly defined and shared.
- o After your team has developed a plan for staffing and programming aligned to your Title I plan, please let me know. We can then coordinate training and technical assistance with your full team.
- o Regarding budget revisions, amendments may be submitted as plans change. However, we recommend waiting until your plan is fully developed to ensure revisions are aligned and intentional.

We appreciate your efforts and are here to support you through this process.

P. Approval of Final Reading KAB2 BSD Parent and Family Engagement Policy — Levi Gourneau

In the packet the KAB2 BSD Parent and Family Engagement Policy for review and approval. This was an item listed in the District's Administrative Report to update as it was outdated at the time of the review. This policy needs to be reviewed annually. The recommendation is to adopt/approve the final reading for the KAB2 BSD Parent and Family Engagement Policy as presented.

Q. Approval of the Consolidated Application Representative (Levi Gourneau) for Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Transfer Funds with BSD — Dr. Shane Martin

This is one of the corrective action items. The minutes from the August 12th, 2025 school board meeting noted approval of the Consolidated Application Budget. It did not specify the specific titles (Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV). The minutes

did not state who had permission to submit the application. The titles were identified in the D01 submission as were the individuals who provided authorization. Documentation from the D01 submission documents the missing elements for D02. Preferred language for these minutes would be read.....The recommendation is The Belcourt School District approves the Consolidated Application for Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Transfer funds with the BSD as presented.

R. NDDPI Corrective Actions Items Required to Ensure the District can meet Federal Program Requirements (Information Only) — Dr. Shane Martin/Levi Gourneau

The monitoring team from the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) has reviewed the district's federal programs monitoring history and documentation. After evaluating the district's multi-year pattern of repeated findings, high-risk scoring, and unresolved fiscal and programmatic concerns, NDDPI has determined that corrective actions are required to ensure the district can meet federal program requirements. While formal re-monitoring will not occur in the next school year, NDDPI will continue to engage in follow-up and require additional documentation to verify improvements. This ongoing oversight will focus on fiscal management, time and effort documentation, internal controls, and supplement-not-supplant determinations.

• Belcourt Public School District must form a Federal Programs Team that includes the superintendent (or designee), principals of Title I buildings, the business manager/finance representative, Title I-funded staff, and the district-appointed federal programs lead.

• The current Federal Programs Officer may not continue to serve in a dual role as Preschool Director and federal programs lead. The district must assign administrative oversight of federal programs to a designated leader who has the capacity to coordinate program implementation and ensure compliance and may charge an appropriate percentage of the oversight to the title programs.

• The Federal Programs Administrative Assistant may no longer be charged to federal funds. This position must be fully supported using state or local dollars.

• The district must maintain updated Title I staffing documentation, including position duties, funding percentages, and justification for all personnel costs in a streamlined manner, according to NDDPI example templates. The team will work with the Title I Asst. Director on expected documentation.

• NDDPI templates—including staffing and funding justification forms, amendment templates, claim submission templates, and monitoring documentation—must be used consistently and accurately as a model to ensure Belcourt's documentation meets state and federal requirements.

• Appropriate members of the Federal Programs Team must attend required NDDPI training that is relevant to this work (i.e., Title I training, Homeless/Foster Care training, EL training, etc.). District leaders who attend must disseminate the information to instructional staff and maintain documentation of internal training to share the most recent best practices and any updates.

• The district must maintain complete documentation showing implementation of federal program requirements, including meeting agendas, minutes, sign-ins, staffing documents, time and effort records, and evidence of monitoring and program implementation procedures according to the Federal Programs Monitoring expectations.

• Claims must include full supporting documentation verifying allowability, allocability, and necessity.
• NDDPI will share individual program requirements regarding the above expectations prior to submission and approval of the 2026-2027 Consolidated Application and before processing claims, as well as following up throughout the year to ensure the district maintains required documentation and demonstrates implementation of the corrective

actions outlined.

• Compliance with federal program requirements is necessary for receipt of federal funds. Continued noncompliance puts the district at risk of increased oversight. NDDPI remains committed to supporting the district in restoring effective, compliant program operations.

6. BE LEGENDARY ITEMS A. Draft Community Engagement (Information Only) — Laurie Elliott

Laurie asked if two board members were interested in sitting on a committee with her to go over the guardrail and self-evaluation process for the board. Discussion followed. Teri LaFountain and Claudette Gourneau will set on the team Community Engagement to work on the items. The next regular board meeting Laurie will be present in person.

7. OLD BUSINESS A. NONE

8. NEW BUSINESS A. Approval of Accounts Payable - Earl Demery

The accounts payable for April 2026 are in the packet for review and approval. Vouchers totaled \$1,829,360.71, HS Grant totaled \$131,129.86, and Payroll totaled \$1,963,423.87 for a total of \$3,923,914.44. Check # 246655 - 247170 Checking Account #1; Check # 16098 - 16114 Checking Account #2 - Turtle Mountain State Bank; Check # N/A Checking Account #3. The recommendation is to approve April 2026 Accounts Payable for \$3,923,914.44 as presented. TMSOA - Feb 17 - Mar 14 Invoice; TMSOA - Feb 17 - Mar 14 Spreadsheet; TMSOA - Mar 14 - Apr 12 Invoice and TMSOA - Mar 14 - Apr 12 Spreadsheet

MOTION to approve the April 2026 accounts payable for \$3,923,914.44 as presented. This motion, made by Teri LaFountain and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

David Azure: Absent
Eric Dionne: Abstain
(With Conflict)
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Allen Schlenvogt: Yes
Scotty Vandal: Yes
Yes: 5, No: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

B. TMCS Assistant Superintendent/ HR Director Board Report — Levi Gourneau

The May Board Report is attached. It summarizes hiring, resignations, reassignments, and additional duties from April 14th, 2026, to May 12th, 2026. Do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions or need clarification.

Positions Hired:

All employment offers are contingent upon the candidate's formal acceptance of the position, successful completion of the required background check, and board approval when applicable. *All teacher hires require board approval.

• **Turtle Mountain Community High School:**

o **TMCS Alternative School Administrator Position**
 Recommendation for Hire: Michelle Delorme

Finalists: Samantha Grant, Barbara Delorme, Michelle Delorme, and Jordan Dionne.

Other applicants: Robert Poitra and Ann Longie
o **TMCHS Health Occupations Teacher**

Recommendation for Hire: Rainy Allery

Finalists: Julia Davis, Rainy Allery, and Lori Gourneau
o **Social Studies/Native American Studies Teacher**

Recommendation for Hire: Chris Azure

Applicants/Finalists: Chris Azure and Sadie Frederick

• **TMCS, TMCS, TMCMS, TTPP, PSN, OIS, and the Transportation Dept.**

o No New Hires

Positions Advertised Unfilled/Pending

• **Turtle Mountain Elementary School:**
o Performance Strategist

SEE MINUTES cont.on page 4B

Elmer Davis: Absent
Teri LaFountain: Present
Craig Lunday: Absent
Allan Malaterre: Present
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Present

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Shane Martin, Duane Poitra, Connie Baker, Michelle Delorme, Brad LaRocque, Earl Demery, Kevin Brien

1. CALL TO ORDER: Teri LaFountain called the meeting to order at 11:43 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA MOTION to adopt the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Dr. Wanda Parisien and seconded by Allan Malaterre, Carried.

Elmer Davis: Absent
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Craig Lunday: Absent
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Yes: 3, No: 0, Absent: 2

3. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION is to approve the Consent Agenda items 3.A to 3.F as presented. This motion, made by Allan Malaterre and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

Elmer Davis: Absent
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Craig Lunday: Absent
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Yes: 3, No: 0, Absent: 2

3.A. Approval of Minutes 04-14-26

3.B. Superintendent/Athletic Director - Dr. Shane Martin
– What's Happening Around Campus 4.16.26
– Title IX Proportionality 3 Prong Test

3.C. Approval of Accounts Payable - Earl Demery

The accounts payable for April 2026 are in the packet for review and approval. HS Grant totaled \$131,129.86, HS Grant Payroll Expense totaled \$877,852.92, and the total HS Contract totaled \$1,008,982.78. Check # N/A Checking Account #3. The recommendation is to approve April 2026 accounts payable for \$1,008,982.78 as presented.

3.D. TMHS Principal Board Report - Brad LaRocque

3.E. TMHS GT Classroom Without Walls \$84,770.80 - Brad LaRocque

3.F. Business Manager Reports - Duane Poitra
FY26 HS Grant Budget for Board Apr 26
FY26 Monthly Board Report Apr 26

4. OLD BUSINESS
None

5. NEW BUSINESS
None

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m. This motion, made by Allan Malaterre and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

Elmer Davis: Absent
Teri LaFountain: Yes
Craig Lunday: Absent
Allan Malaterre: Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
Yes: 3, No: 0, Absent: 2

Teri LaFountain,
Board President
100-297 HS Grant

Duane Poitra,
Business Manager
100-297 HS Grant