

Belcourt School District # 7 & 100-297 Grant School Minutes - August 11, 2026

Belcourt School District #7 Regular Board Meeting (Tuesday, August 11, 2026)

David Azure:	Present
Dennis DeCoteau:	Present
Eric Dionne:	Present
Teri LaFountain:	Present
Dallas Morin:	Present
Dr. Wanda Parisien:	Present
Scotty Vandal:	Present

OTHERS PRESENT: Levi Gourneau, Dr. Shane Martin, Duane Poitra, Connie Baker, Kevin Brien, Earl Demery, Danielle Sloan, Brad LaRocque

1. CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Wanda Parisien called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm

2. OPENING PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dave Azure and Scotty Vandal led the group in prayer.

3. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT
Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time. A consent agenda is a bundle of items that is voted on, without discussion. It distinguishes between routine actions not requiring additional conversation and those matters of significant importance demanding each director's attention. A consent agenda requires administrators and directors to: Set the meeting agenda. BCBA - Public Participation at Board Meeting Participation. No comments were made.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION to adopt the agenda as presented. This motion, made by Dallas Morin and seconded by Teri LaFountain, Carried.

David Azure:	Yes
Dennis DeCoteau:	Yes
Eric Dionne:	Yes
Teri LaFountain:	Yes
Dallas Morin:	Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien:	Yes
Scotty Vandal:	Yes
Yes:	7, No: 0

5. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time. A consent agenda is a bundle of items that is voted on, without discussion. It distinguishes between routine actions not requiring additional conversation and those matters of significant importance demanding each director's attention. A consent agenda requires administrators and directors to: Set the meeting agenda.

MOTION to approve the consent agenda items A. through I. as presented. This motion, made by Teri LaFountain and seconded by Scotty Vandal, Carried.

David Azure:	Yes
Dennis DeCoteau:	Yes
Eric Dionne:	Yes
Teri LaFountain:	Yes
Dallas Morin:	Yes
Dr. Wanda Parisien:	Yes
Scotty Vandal:	Yes
Yes:	7, No: 0

A. Designation of the Belcourt School District Homeless and Foster Care Liaison — Levi Gourneau

It is a requirement of Title I law that a staff member of the Belcourt School District be assigned the responsibility of overseeing and managing the Homeless Program and the Foster Care Program (see attached monitoring guidance).

Therefore, I am requesting the approval designation of Debbe Poitra, Federal Programs Team Member and TTPP Director, as the Belcourt School District Homeless Liaison and the Belcourt School District Foster Care Liaison during the 2026-27 school year. Designation of homeless and foster care liaison

B. Approval of TMHS Occupational Therapist

Consultant Agreement (Laura Edwards) — Danielle Sloan

Administration is requesting Board approval to enter into a consultant agreement for Occupational Therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year with Laura Edwards, who was the only individual who submitted a quote to work at TMHS.

Due to the district's rural location and the ongoing statewide shortage of licensed Occupational Therapists, there is a limited pool of qualified professionals available to provide school-based occupational therapy services. The district has actively sought qualified providers to ensure students continue to receive the related

services required under their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and to remain in compliance with IDEA requirements.

In accordance with the district's informal procurement process, quotes were solicited from multiple providers. Two qualified individuals/organizations submitted quotes for consideration. Additionally, the district contacted three other potential providers in an effort to obtain additional proposals:

- **Rolette Rehabilitation** - Contacted by telephone on two separate occasions; voicemail messages were left, but no response was received. No public email address was available for written solicitation.

- **Heart of America Medical Center (Rugby)** - Contacted via email; no response was received.

- **St. Kateri Rehabilitation (Rolla)** - Responded that they do not contract occupational therapy services to outside entities.

Attached for the Board's review are the submitted quote recommended for approval, along with documentation of the district's procurement efforts, including email correspondence. Telephone contact attempts with Rolette Rehabilitation are summarized above, as email communication was not available.

Approval of this consultant agreement will allow the district to continue providing legally required occupational therapy services to eligible students while maintaining compliance with federal and state special education

requirements.

Approval of this consultant will enable the district to continue providing legally required related services to eligible students while ensuring compliance with federal and state special education requirements, as well as Turtle Mountain Community Schools (TMCS) procurement policies and procedures. Attachments were:

Edwards, Laura OT Quote
Heart of America Email Contact
St. Kateri Email Contact
Casavant, Amy OT Quote Page 2
Casavant, Amy OT Quote Page 1
Edwards, Laura OT Consultant Agreement 26_27 SY

C. Approval of TMHS Physical Therapist Consultant Agreement (Elite Physical Therapy) - Danielle Sloan

TMHS Special Education Department is requesting Board approval to enter into a consultant agreement with Elite Physical Therapy to provide Physical Therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year.

Due to the district's rural location and the ongoing statewide shortage of licensed Physical Therapists, there is a limited pool of qualified professionals available to provide school-based physical therapy services. The district has actively sought qualified providers to ensure students continue to receive the related services required under their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and to remain in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

In accordance with the district's informal procurement process, the district solicited proposals from multiple providers. **Elite Physical Therapy** submitted a quote for consideration. Additionally, the district contacted three other potential providers in an effort to obtain additional proposals:

- **Rolette Rehabilitation** - Contacted by telephone on two separate occasions; voicemail messages were left, but no response was received. No public email address was available for written solicitation.

- **Heart of America Medical Center (Rugby)** - Contacted via email; no response was received.

- **St. Kateri Rehabilitation (Rolla)** - Responded that they do not contract Physical Therapy services to outside entities.

Attached for the Board's review are the quote submitted by Elite Physical Therapy and documentation of the district's procurement efforts, including email correspondence. Telephone contact attempts with Rolette Rehabilitation are summarized above, as email communication was not available.

Approval of this consultant agreement will allow the district to continue providing legally required Physical Therapy services to eligible students while maintaining compliance with federal and state special education requirements.

Approval of this consultant will

enable the district to continue providing legally required related services to eligible students while ensuring compliance with federal and state special education requirements, as well as Turtle Mountain Community Schools (TMCS) procurement policies and procedures.

St. Kateri Email Contact
Heart of American Email Contact
TMCHS Elite PT 2026 Contract
Proposal
Elite PT Consultant Agreement
26_27 SY

D. Approval of PSN Occupational Therapist Consultant Agreement (Amy Casavant) - Danielle Sloan

PSN Special Education is requesting Board approval to enter into a consultant agreement for Occupational Therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year.

Due to the district's rural location and the ongoing statewide shortage of licensed Occupational Therapists, there is a limited pool of qualified professionals available to provide school-based occupational therapy services. The district has actively sought qualified providers to ensure students continue to receive the related services required under their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and to remain in compliance with IDEA requirements.

In accordance with the district's informal procurement process, quotes were solicited from multiple providers. Two qualified individuals/organizations submitted quotes for consideration. Additionally, the district contacted three other potential providers

in an effort to obtain additional proposals:

- **Rolette Rehabilitation** - Contacted by telephone on two separate occasions; voicemail messages were left, but no response was received. No public email address was available for written solicitation.

- **Heart of America Medical Center (Rugby)** - Contacted via email; no response was received.

- **St. Kateri Rehabilitation (Rolla)** - Responded that they do not contract occupational therapy services to outside entities.

Attached for the Board's review are the submitted quote recommended for approval, along with documentation of the district's procurement efforts, including email correspondence. Telephone contact attempts with Rolette Rehabilitation are summarized above, as email communication was not available.

Approval of this consultant agreement will allow the district to continue providing legally required occupational therapy services to eligible students while maintaining compliance with federal and state special education requirements.

Approval of this consultant will enable the district to continue providing legally required related services to eligible students while ensuring compliance with federal and state special education requirements, as well as Turtle Mountain Community Schools (TMCS) procurement policies and procedures.

Heart of American Email Contact

Edwards, Laura OT Quote
St. Kateri Email Contact
Casavant, Amy OT Quote Page 2
Casavat, Amy OT Quote Page 1
Casavant, Amy OT Consultant
Agreement 26_27 SY

E. Approval of Minutes

07-14-26 @ Noon

F. Approval of Minutes 07-16-26 @ 7:00

G. TTPP Schoolwide Title I Update - Dr. Shane Martin

In the packet is the notification from the Department of Public Instruction informing us of the following: You have completed your school wide planning year. Attached are your official letter and certificate. Continue to reach out with any questions as you progress with your school wide program.

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

The August Board Report is attached. It summarizes hiring, resignations, reassignments, and additional duties from July 14th, 2026, to August 11th, 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.

• TMCS, TMMS, TTPP, PSN, OIS, and the Transportation Dept.

o No new hires

• TMHS

o Guidance Counselor
Coordinator: Kandace Desjarlais
Finalists: Jessica Zaste,
Carol Jollie, Jessica Walette, and
Jessica Williams.

• TMES

o Paraprofessional:
Jennifer Poitra

**Finalists: Curtis Ferris
and Raegan DeCoteau**

o SPED Paraprofessional:
Jacklyn Malatterre

**Finalists: Isiah Dionne
and Raegan DeCoteau**

Positions

Advertised/Unfilled/Pending

• Turtle Mountain

Elementary School

o No open positions

• Turtle Mountain Middle School

o In-House Librarian
Position Advertised

o Cybersecurity Teacher
Advertised

• Turtle Mountain High School

o Math Teacher Advertised

Resignations/Retirements:

Acceptance of Resignations: No
Teacher Resignations

Classified Staff Resignations:
Informational only

• Joseph Fleetwood:
TMHS Food Service Worker

Reassignments

As outlined in BSD Policy DFC, all reassignments are made in the best interest of the Belcourt School District and require approval from the staff member, their supervisor, the building principal, the TMCS Assistant Superintendent, and the TMCS Superintendent.

- **Anthony Keplin will be reassigned from TMHS Event Staff to TMHS Food Service Worker.**

I. Approval of Accounts Payable — Earl Demery

The accounts payable for July 2026 are in the packet for review and approval. Vouchers totaled \$1,328,874.87, HS Grant totaled \$105,366.97, and Payroll totaled \$801,922.26 for a total of \$2,236,164.10. Check # 248148 - 248347 Checking Account #1; Check # 16331 - 16355 Checking Account #2 - Turtle Mountain State Bank; Check # N/A Checking Account #3. The recommendation is to approve July 2026 Accounts Payable for \$2,236,164.10 as presented.

6. BE LEGENDARY

A. StudentsFirst - Laurie Elliott

Be Legendary Governance is now StudentsFirst Governance which is presented and supported by the North Dakota School Board Association. All boards within North Dakota can join StudentsFirst to become high functioning governance teams that focus on what matters most, improving student outcomes. During the next board meeting,

we will view the 23 objectives that compose StudentsFirst and discuss how they are similar to Be Legendary and how they are somewhat different.

The Board met Marty who will be the lead coach he is currently the superintendent at Westhope. In the near future this board will reviewed the preliminary data on the path to becoming an exemplary school for the schools in ND. They will do a reflection on achieving the objects which there are 23 items. They will be doing monitoring reports and self-elevation and will align with the Superintendent's goals. Accomplished a great amount of work with Be Legendary. Laurie noted the joy of working with our teachers. Will start the work next month for the monitoring report.

B. Approval of Turnaround Framework for Standard-Based Instruction — Dr. Shane Martin/Claudette Gourneau

When I was in graduate school, one of my assignments was to create a turnaround framework for a low-performing school or district. After thinking about how we can keep everyone aligned, starting with the Board and moving all the way to the classroom, along with conversations with you, Levi, and Laurie, it reminded me of that assignment.

I pulled the framework back out and revised sections to better reflect our district's current focus. I also used AI to help strengthen and organize the content. It is still too long and needs more work,

along with a team to review and work through it, but I wanted to share it as a starting point and see what you think.

This is just an idea of something the district could incorporate. In many ways, we are already doing this work. We **do not** have to use this exact framework, but it may help create better alignment from school to school, keep everyone focused on the same instructional expectations, strengthen accountability, and provide a structure to bring the BIE into work more intentionally.

A Standards-Based Instruction Turnaround Framework is research-based when it includes standards-aligned instruction, formative assessment, data-driven decision-making, strong Tier 1 instruction, MTSS, instructional leadership, coaching, PLCs, continuous improvement cycles, and clear **accountability** at each level. The framework is not meant to replace what we are doing. It could simply help organize and align the work we already have in place.

In the packet is the turnaround framework and reviewed by the board. Standard Based Instruction aligns school-wide, this system looks progressive. To see the overall outcome of data, we are looking at 3 years. However, within 6/7 months we are already seeing great gains. Levi attached the framework and broke down the steps throughout campus, etc.

The board have roles in this system to align the curriculum. Superintendent Guardrails will align in this endeavor as well. This new alignment will be

BIE/District together.

Levi believes all of this framework has helped our system tremendously.

Discussion followed that included the Parent Involvement/Family Engagement Program.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion: Live Streaming Board Meetings - Travis LaRocque

Livestreaming of our board meetings originated during COVID when we had recommendations and apprehensions of meeting in person. Since COVID, we have continued to live stream our meetings as a courtesy to the public. It has always been advised by our legal counsel not to livestream meetings. The reason being is that it has become a legal record. I personally, in recent weeks, have received a lot of questions about some of our recorded meetings and have been harassed by the public about various technical issues that occur from time to time during the livestream. I would like to bring up the discussion of livestreams and any opinion about possibly ending them for our meetings,

since they are not required and anyone can attend these meetings in person.

MOTION was to table the Live Stream of Board Meetings until the Board Retreat. This motion, made by David Azure and seconded by Teri LaFountain,

Carried.
 David Azure: Yes
 Dennis DeCoteau: Yes
 Eric Dionne: Yes
 Teri LaFountain: Yes
 Dallas Morin: Yes
 Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
 Scotty Vandal: Yes
 Yes: 7, No: 0

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. This motion, made by Eric Dionne and seconded by Dallas Morin, Carried.

David Azure: Yes
 Dennis DeCoteau: Yes
 Eric Dionne: Yes
 Teri LaFountain: Yes
 Dallas Morin: Yes
 Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
 Scotty Vandal: Yes
 Yes: 7, No: 0

*Dr. Wanda Parisien,
 Board President
 Belcourt School District #7*

*Duane Poitra, Business Manager
 Belcourt School District #7*

**100-297 High School Grant
 Regular Board Meeting
 Tuesday, August 11, 2026
 11:30 AM
 Board Room, 1207 William
 Hardesty Street, Belcourt, ND
 58316**

David Azure: Present
 Elmer Davis: Absent
 Teri LaFountain: Present
 Craig Lunday: Absent
 Dr. Wanda Parisien: Present
OTHERS PRESENT: Dr.
 Shane Martin, Levi Martin,

Connie Baker, Kevin Brien, Earl
 Demery, Duane Poitra, Danielle
 Sloan, Dennis DeCoteau

CALL TO ORDER: Teri
 LaFountain called the meeting to
 order at 11:32 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION to adopted the agenda as presented. This motion, made by David Azure and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

Voting Detail:

David Azure: Yes
 Elmer Davis: Absent
 Teri LaFountain: Yes
 Craig Lunday: Absent
 Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
 Voting Summary: Yes: 3, No: 0,
 Absent: 2

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Action(s):

MOTION to approved the Consent Agenda items A. through B (as listed below) as presented. This motion, made by David Azure and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

Voting Detail:

David Azure: Yes
 Elmer Davis: Absent
 Teri LaFountain: Yes
 Craig Lunday: Absent
 Dr. Wanda Parisien: Yes
 Voting Summary: Yes: 3, No: 0,
 Absent: 2

I.A. Approval of Minutes 07-
 14-26 @12:45

I.B. Approval of Minutes 07-
 16-26 @7:15

I.C. Approval of Accounts
 Payable — Earl Demery

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. This motion, made by David Azure and seconded by Dr. Wanda Parisien, Carried.

Voting Detail:

David Azure:	Yes
Elmer Davis:	Absent
Teri LaFountain:	Yes
Craig Lunday:	Absent
Dr. Wanda Parisien:	Yes

Voting Summary: Yes: 3, No: 0, Absent: 2

*Teri LaFountain,
100-297 HS Grant
Board President*

*Duane Poitra, 100-297 HS
Grant Business Manager*