WASHBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT #4
WASHBURN, ND 58577
SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

A Budget Hearing for Washburn School Board was scheduled at 7:30 pm on September 14, 2026. Members present were Rick Tweeten, Sandi Erber, Aaron Solomonson, Luke Retterath, Stacey Scheresky, Jada Holznagel and Joe Sheldon. Superintendent, Penny Veit-Hetletved; Business Manager, Kendra Casavant, Elementary Principal Christina Lussenden, and Beau Eriksson High School Principal. Maintenance Director Ivan Emel also attended the meeting. Mike Leingang was also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The mission statement of Washburn Public School was shared.

Enrollment is currently at 419, which has grown by 82 students in the past five years, with at least five more students expected this year. The student body is 54% male, 46% female; 42% pk -6 Grade, 24% grades 5-7, 34% grades 8-12. Special Ed numbers are not complete yet, but are currently at 12%. Free/Reduced Lunch is variable; currently at 13%. Home educated students in Washburn District is 34 students. 13% of students receive speech services.

The Budget that is presented is based on tax revenue. Valuation of McLean and Oliver Counties increased slightly with an overall valuation of $17,301,246.00.

The 3% cap cost the school district $380,000, and tax relief to companies within McLean County have a $480,024 impact on the school's budget. Tuition Mills are at 7.71, which is based on actual costs to the district. The specials paid to the city equate to .75 mills. Property taxes income total is $2,454,214.81. County income from coal and petroleum taxes is $276,136.00, State Aid is $3,832,095.00 with transportation at $207,989.00. Federal grants equate to $229,230 to include REAP, Title funds, and other federal funds. Last year's ending balance was at a -$127,140, making the projected carryover $122,030 or a 1.81% carryover. Foundation Aid per student is $11,633; Cost of education per student: Elementary PreK-4 is $10,938. Grades 5-7 is $11273.00; Grades 8-12 is $15,013. This does not include the cost of operations and maintenance.

Washburn Public School is operating a budget that is $83,263 higher than last year, with a 13.9% increase in health insurance, three less paras, and a new required elementary math curriculum and other mandates from the legislature.

Scheresky/Holznagel motioned to approve the budget as presented. Tweeten – Aye, Holznagel - Aye, Sheldon – Aye, Erber – Aye, Solomonson – Aye, Scheresky- Aye, Retterath – Aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Attest: Kendra Casavant, Business Manager Rick Tweeten, Chairman

(11-19-26)