Bowbells School Board Proceedings

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 13, 2026

Present were J.R. Aufforth, Adam Jensen, Steven Pfeifer, Tyler Ross, Jill Wettstein, Superintendent Thingvold, Teacher Anderson, and Business Manager Daugherty (Central Regional Education Association). The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by President Aufforth.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Wettstein to approve the Consent Agenda (Agenda, June 23, 2026, minutes, and June 2026 Bills). Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND BILLS: ACT Edu Corp. $81.00; Farmers Union 3211.61; Ameritas 369.48; Farmers Union Hardware 252.27; BCBS ND 5963.70; Fireside Office 47.50; Bernnie Linster 150.00; Hazel Herman 150.00; Bismarck Hotel and Conf. 110.00; Jeanne Johnson 150.00; Bonnie Nielsen150.00; MDU 5544.76; Bowbells Rec Commission 9000.00; Northern Plains Spec. Ed. 2241.75; Burke County Tribune 147.74; Northwest Comm. 345.21; City of Bowbells 1047.15; Planbook 306.00; Colonial Life 219.53; Ryan GMC 2391.76; CREA 6850.00; Steins 94.00; Culligan Water 237.50; TMS 107.20; Dacotah Bank 1990.48; Twotrees Tech 15,603.00; Dakota Fire 20.59. TOTAL $56,782.23.

FOOD FUND: Gray's Dairy $3483.76; SYSCO 1817.10; Magic Wrighter Efunds 34.95. TOTAL: $5335.81.

ACTIVITY FUND: Bismarck Hotel and Conf. $1760.00; Joy Ankenbauer 599.37; Burke Central PS 3337.74; Kenmare PS 1945.95; Dacotah Bank 2012.73; Peony Petals Floral & Gifts 516.88; Farmers Union 900.00; Westhope PS 1913.52; Great Plains Food Bank 251.10. TOTAL: $13,237.29.

Public Comment: None

Student Outcomes: None

Administrative/Committee Reports:

Building committee: Water found under stage and pumped out. Need to look at mitigation solutions. Summer cleaning underway.

Transportation: Two bus inspections completed.

Student Handbook Updates: Sport eligibility policy has been updated, Grades 9-12 English distance learning policy update. Grades 9-12 report cards to be distributed at the end of each semester. The use of AI is now considered cheating. Informational updates regarding pre-school and kindergarten. Addition to allow freshmen and their dates to prom.

Medical Insurance: The 2026-2027 renewal came in with a 22.9% increase. Additional options are being explored.

Old Business.

Motion to approve the second reading of policies AACA, ABEA, DBBA, DEAA, FDE, FF, FFE, FFK, FGA, HBBA was made by Wettstein and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 10:15AM

Reorganization of the 2026-2027 Board: Business Manager Daugherty

The meeting was started by Business Manager Daugherty. Incoming board members, Jensen and Ross have been confirmed, and the oath of office has been administered. Business Manager Daugherty called for nominations for the position of school board president.

Member Wettstein nominated J.R. Aufforth. No other nominations were put forth. Wettstein moved to cease the nominations and cast a unanimous vote for J.R. Aufforth. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was turned over to President Aufforth who called for nominations for the position of school board vice president. Wettstein nominated Jensen. No other nominations were put forth. Members Wettstein and Pfeifer moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Adam Jensen. Motion passed unanimously.

Wettstein and Jensen moved to appoint the Central Regional Education Association as the designated provider for Business Manager Services. Motion passed unanimously. 2026-2027

Committee Members were appointed as follows: The Building Committee will consist of J. R. Aufforth and Adam Jensen, the Transportation Committee will consist of Steven Pfeifer and Tyler Ross, the Outreach Committee will consist of Adam Jensen and Steven Pfeifer, the Negotiations Committee will consist of J.R. Aufforth and Jill Wettstein, the Policy Committee will consist of Tyler Ross and Jill Wettstein, the Finance Committee will consist of J.R. Aufforth and Jill Wettstein, the REA Committee will consist of Steven Pfeifer, the Recreation Committee will consist of Tyler Ross, and the Curriculum Committee will consist of Jill Wettstein.

Motion to approve Pledge of Assets, handbook changes, Gas & Diesel agreements to Cenex, Name the Official newspaper the Burke County Tribune, and name the official depository as Dacotah Bank was made by Wettstein and seconded by Jensen. Motion carried.

New Business:

A motion to appoint Thingvold authorized representative for; Title I Part A, Title II Part A, Title II Part D, Title IV Part A, Title V Part A, Title VI, Title IX, ADA Coordinator, Hot Lunch Review, any other Federal or State programs, and name the new Board President as appeals officer for the Hot Lunch program was made by Wettstein seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carries.

A motion to appoint Judy Harding as the 504 Coordinator, Homeless Liaison, Foster Care Liaison, and Behavior Health Resource Officer was made by Pfeifer and seconded by Jensen. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the first reading of policies DFAA, CBAA and CBAB was made by Wettstein and seconded Ross. Motion carried.

Motion to set fees for participation and charges for hot lunch for the 2026-2027 at same prices as the previous year was made by Wettstein and seconded by Jensen. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 teacher contracts for Becky Stroklund at

$56,250 and Charity Wrolson at $25,625 was made by Jensen and seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carried.

Motion to set the date and time for regular board meetings on the second Monday at 7 pm each month was made by Jensen and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

Other Items:

The 2025-2026 year-end General Fund balance is $1,508,541.29. Expenditures from the General Fund for 2025-2026 were $2,578,691.86. General Fund Revenue for 2025-2026 was $2,611,867.71.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by President Aufforth at 10:28 am

NEXT MEETING:

DATE: Monday August 17th

TIME: 8 AM

JR Aufforth, President

Business Manager Tarek Daugherty (CREA)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 17, 2026

Present were J.R. Aufforth, Adam Jensen, Steven Pfeifer, Tyler Ross, Jill Wettstein, Superintendent Thingvold, Teachers Cyle Golde and Rebekah Wangler, Team Leaders Kae Ankenbauer and Taylor Melby, and Business Manager Daugherty (Central Regional Education Association). The meeting was called to order at 8:04 AM by President Aufforth.

Motion by Wettstein and seconded by Jensen to approve the Consent Agenda (Agenda, July 13, 2026, minutes, and July 2026 Bills). Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND BILLS: Ameritas Life $369.48; Fireside Office 1805.73; BCBS ND 7761.10; I-State Trucking 2964.67; Bowbells Insurance 19,943.00; JAMF Software 660.00; Compass Health 150.00; Library World 550.00; CREA 750.00; MDU 2405.00; City of Bowbells 1099.14; Menards 323.97; Dacotah Bank 903.05; ND Attorney General 80.00; EDU Tech 40.00; NDCEL 150.00; Emergent 3 Inc 1575.00; Northern Plains Spec. Ed. 4106.70; Farmers Union 437.77 NWC 325.42; Farmers Union Hardware 169.99; Reneissance Learning 6171.00; Farmers Union Lumber 132.32; TMS 110.60. TOTAL: $52,983.94.

FOOD FUND: Magic Wrighter Efunds $34.95. TOTAL $34.95.

ACTIVITY FUND: Eckroth Music $473.89; Quavered 1800.00. TOTAL: 2273.89

Public Comment: None

Student Outcomes: Superintendent Thingvold, along with Taylor Melby and Kae Ankenbauer, Lead Team members, provided a presentation on the results of the spring student testing assessments for reading and math. Overall, students performed in line with the state standards with a large percentage of our students testing proficient and near proficient in both areas of study. New goals for the 2026-2027 academic year were presented for both reading and math.

Administrative/Committee Reports:

Business Manager: Report was presented by Business Manager Daugherty along with a quick overview of the proposed budget for 2026-2027.

Building committee: Repair work on the roof is underway. There is still water under the stage and mitigation fixes are being investigated.

Transportation: New bus driver hired and DOT bus inspections are complete.

Outreach: Fall sports are underway and there is a new Athletic Director at Kenmare and a few new coaches.

Administration: Superintendent Thingvold provided an update on the upcoming school year operations budget and proposed mill levies. An update on the BCBS health insurance increase and plan chosen for the year was provided. Infinite Campus is now live, and training was provided for staff. Total student enrollment for the 26-27 academic year is 103.

Old Business:

Motion to approve the second reading of policies DFAA, CBAA, and CBAB was made by Wettstein and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

New Business:

Motion to approve teacher contract for Kate McClure, $60,250.00, was made by Wettstein and seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the preliminary budget at 60 mills for the general fund, 8.34 mills for board discretionary, 4 mills for the miscellaneous fund, 0.59 mills for the special reserve fund, and 2.36 mills for the building fund with a current taxable valuation of $8,490,139.00 was made by Jensen and seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carried.

Other Items:

2026-2027 Budget hearing at 8 PM on 9/14/2026.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by President Aufforth at 9:20 am.

NEXT MEETING:

DATE: Monday, September 14th

TIME: 8 PM

JR Aufforth, President

Business Manager Tarek Daugherty (CREA)

September 23, 2026