March 25, 2026
Dike, Iowa

The Dike-New Hartford Board of Education met on this date at 5:00 p.m. for the Budget Hearing with Lotts, presiding and members Badker (virtual), Horner, McCarter and Petersen. Also present was administrator Stockdale.

Visitors present included Travis Druvenga, Brian Petullo, Tom Textor, Chad Bixby, Waylon Bern, Cody Eichmeier, Chris Thompson, and Amy Seitz.

The agenda was approved on motion of Horner and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The board discussed different options for setting our total tax rate. The total tax rate of $14.65 (the same as the initial posting of $14.65) will be published for our Budget Adoption Hearing on April 15, 2026 at 5 p.m. The rate could be adjusted at the April 15, 2026 meeting pending any school funding changes during the state of Iowa legislative session.

The Resolution Authorizing the Redemption of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2020, Dated July 1, 2020, Levying a Tax for Fiscal Year 2027, and Authorizing the Expenditure of Debt Service Cash on Hand for the Redemption of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2020, Dated July 1, 2020, was approved on motion of McCarter and second of Petersen. Vote all aye.

Being no further business, the public hearing adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

The Dike-New Hartford Board of Education met on this date at 5:07 p.m. for the regular monthly meeting with Lotts presiding and members Badker (virtual), Horner, McCarter and Petersen. Also present was administrator Stockdale.

Visitors present included Travis Druvenga, Brian Petullo, Tom Textor, Chad Bixby, Waylon Bern, Cody Eichmeier, Chris Thompson, and Amy Seitz.

The regular meeting agenda was approved on motion of Petersen and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

Minutes of the February 17, 2026 regular meeting were approved as written on the motion of Horner and second of Petersen. Vote all aye.

Focus on Learning - Mr. Druvenga and Mr. Petullo presented the District Career and Academic Plan to the board. The District Career and Academic plan is for grades 5-12 and is an attempt to ensure that all students graduate with a clear postsecondary plan and that the district is providing students with career exploration and learning opportunities throughout their time in school.

Principal, Technology, Building & Grounds, and Athletic Reports were reviewed with no action taken.

The student teaching agreement with Morningside College was approved on motion of Horner and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The three-year student teaching agreement with the University of Northern Iowa was approved on motion of Petersen and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

The 28E agreement with Grundy Center Community School District to share a Buildings & Grounds Director was approved on motion of Horner and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The board discussed adding a new high school assistant boys track coach position due to the increase in the number of student athletes compared to 2025. A total of 77 athletes have joined the team for the 2025-26 season. An additional position was approved on motion of McCarter and second of Petersen. Vote all aye.

Resignations were approved on motion of McCarter and second of Horner:

- James Gronewold - JH Baseball Coach
- Curt Johnson - JH Head Boys Wrestling Coach
- Chad Gerbracht - JH Football Coach

Vote all aye.

Contracts were approved on motion of Petersen and second of McCarter:

- Justin Davie - DNH JH/NH Elementary AD/At-Risk/Health Teacher
- Allissa Harbaugh - Dike Elementary 4th Grade Teacher
- Nick Durnin - HS Assistant Track Coach (0.5)
- Austin Maske - HS Assistant Track Coach (0.5)

Vote all aye.

The renovations to the existing DNH junior high football storage shed were approved on motion of Horner and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The AEA Purchasing Contract for the 2026-27 school year was approved on motion of McCarter and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

The Local Government Risk Pool for Natural Gas contract for the 2026-27 school year was approved on motion of Petersen and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The first reading of policies 102, 102.E1, 102.E2, 102.E3, 102.E4, 102.E5, 102.E6, 102.R1, 710.1E1, 710.1E2, 710.1R1 was approved on motion of Horner and second of Petersen. Vote all aye.

The quotes from EPIC were approved on motion of McCarter and second of Petersen to purchase new furniture for the high school math classrooms and the high school library. Vote all aye.

Bills of the General, Activity and Nutrition funds were approved for payment on motion of McCarter and second of Horner. Vote all aye.

Financial Reports of the General, Activity and Nutrition funds were approved as presented on motion of Horner and second of McCarter. Vote all aye.

The 5-year facility plan was reviewed with the board to discuss both current and future projects for the district.

Other items of discussion with no action taken included a legislative session update and an update on current fuel prices and how that may affect the district. Being no further business, the board transitioned into the exempt session for negotiations at 6:30 p.m.

Following the regular meeting, the board held an exempt session for negotiations. The exempt session adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

APPROVED: _____ _____

Christa Lotts, President Kayla Sabbah, Secretary