

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

NOTE FROM SUPERINTENDENT BRANDT DICK

I am beginning my role as the part-time Superintendent at Zeeland School while continuing to serve as CFO at CREA and as the Burleigh County Superintendent of Schools. In my short time working with Zeeland, I have seen the commitment of staff and community members to their school, even as enrollment numbers remain very small. That commitment is commendable and speaks to the value this district holds for those it serves.

As we look ahead, it is important to have open and honest conversations about the future of the Zeeland School District. Part of that process will begin at the **Budget Hearing on September 8 at 7:00 p.m.**, where I look forward to meeting parents and community members. This hearing will not only address financial matters but also begin the difficult discussions about the long-term direction of the district.

REMINDERS:

The McIntosh County Health Nurse will be here on October 7 for flu shots. Forms are attached. Please return them to the school if you are having your child get the flu shot. If you need another form you can pick one up at school.

Boxtops for Education. We use those funds to pay for items for holiday parties and equipment for recess. The process is very simple. Just download the app from the app store, register the funds to go to Zeeland school (ND, not MI) and then use the app to scan your store receipts. The app does everything else. No more cutting and saving of boxtops.

School Photos will be October 1. Watch for forms sent home with your children.



Thank you to everyone who has brought garden produce to school. We all enjoy them and appreciate you thinking of us!



The ND Dept of Health & Human Service's SEAL!ND program will again be visiting our school. This program is intended for children who do not regularly see a dentist. Watch for consent forms that will be sent home with students when we have a date!

Notes from Mr. Streifel

Welcome back to ZPS for the 2025-26 school year. We are excited to be underway and looking forward to another great year at Zeeland Public School. There have been a few changes as Kim Dockter and Jayden Streifel have stepped into the new roles of lead teachers while Dick Brandt is our new superintendent.

We are also happy to bring back our full-time staff of

Kyle Anderson- 4th-5th Grade, 6th-7th Computers, and Athletic Director

Kim Dockter- Lead Teacher (Elementary), K-3rd Grade

Jayden Streifel- Lead Teacher (High School) 6-12 Math and 6-12 PE

Jacob Cline- 6-12 History, Special Ed, K-5 PE

Landy Gayanilo- 6-12 English

Chloe Maravilla 6-12 Science, 6th-7th Health, librarian, Interventionist

As well as bring back part-time staff of

Trudy Wolf- K-12 Music

Lorie Bender- Tech Coordinator

We also have initiated a new cell phone policy where all student cell phones are stored in the office from 8:30-3:30. If you need to get in contact with your child please contact the school office.

Also a quick update on our schedule. Our picture day has been moved from September 17 to October 1. On September 17, Zeeland Public school will be going to Ashley to join Ashley Public School for their Steered Straight Lyceum.

We are looking forward to another year at ZPS and hope you had a wonderful summer.

With all the changes this year if you have any questions feel free to reach out to the school at 701-423-5429 or contact one of us directly

Kim Dockter: kim.k.dockter@k12.nd.us

Jayden Streifel: Jayden.streifel@k12.nd.us

Joyce Scherr: joyce.scherr@k12.nd.us

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. “

John Dewey

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Reading Program Update for the 2025–2026 School Year

For the 2025–2026 academic year, we are implementing a revised approach to our reading program. Students will have the opportunity to earn reading points by reading books either at home or during school hours.

After completing a book, students will let the teacher know what book they have finished. The teacher will then have the student take a 10-question quiz to assess their comprehension. A score of 7 out of 10 or higher will earn them points for that book. The number of points awarded will vary based on the book's length and difficulty level.

Each student will be provided with a reading log binder to track their accumulated points throughout the year. At the end of each quarter, students who meet the designated point goal will receive a prize in recognition of their efforts and achievement. The points needed are listed on the table below.

| | Quarter 1 | Quarter 2 | Quarter 3 | Quarter 4 | End of Year |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 2 nd | 12 | 24 | 36 | 48 | 48 |
| 3 rd | 14 | 28 | 42 | 56 | 56 |
| 4 th | 17 | 34 | 51 | 68 | 68 |

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school or email me.

Thanks,

Kim Dockter

Music News From Mrs. Wolf

The annual Surround the State in Song for Grades 5, 6 and 7 will take place this year on **October 11**. The location has changed. The Jamestown site was moved to Valley City, so we will attend the Bismarck site instead. Letters will be sent home shortly for parents to sign if their child will attend. Letters should be returned to Mrs. Wolf by September 10.

The NDSU ChoirFest for high school students will be **October 5-6**. This is a non-auditioned event for most choirs so students planning to attend should let Mrs. Wolf know. There is one auditioned choir for juniors and seniors. Audition recordings are due by September 12.

The Ployhar Band Festival for high school band students happens **October 23-24** on the campus of Valley City State University. Auditions are due by September 30.

Zeeland FBLA Members Attend National Leadership Conference

Zeeland FBLA members **Jaydan, James, and Avery** recently attended the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California. While at the conference, they competed in their events, participated in workshops, networked with other members, and enjoyed one of their favorite traditions—pin trading.

In addition to the conference, the group experienced some of Southern California's highlights, including visits to **Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, an escape room, bowling, and Huntington Beach.**

The Zeeland FBLA chapter would like to extend a **heartfelt thank you to the community** for the encouragement and support that makes these opportunities possible. To help fund future events, FBLA members are currently selling **Pizza Corner and Brew Pub Pizzas for \$11 each.**

If you are interested in purchasing pizzas, please contact **Zeeland Public School at 701-423-5429.**



September 1, 2024: Zeeland Public School District Parents

FROM: Brandt Dick, Superintendent

RE: Asbestos

Asbestos is an issue that we have been dealing with for many years. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (referred to as AHERA), was enacted by Congress. AHERA was enacted to determine the extent of and develop solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos.

To give you some background, asbestos has been used as a building material for many years. It is a naturally occurring mineral that is mined primarily in Canada, South Africa and Russia.

Asbestos properties made it an ideal building material for insulating, sound absorption, decorative plaster, fire proofing, and a variety of miscellaneous uses. There have been over 3,000 different Products made using asbestos materials. The Environmental Protection Agency began action to limit uses of asbestos products in 1973 and most asbestos products used as building materials were banned in 1978.

We have had our facilities inspected by a certified asbestos inspector, as required by AHERA. Our last inspection for asbestos was March 5, 2024. The inspector located, sampled and rated The condition and hazard potential of all material in our facilities suspected of containing asbestos. The inspection and laboratory analysis record were turned over to Survey, Management and Design. A professional firm certified to develop asbestos management plans.

Survey, Management and Design has developed as asbestos management plan for our school district which includes; this notification letter, education and training for our employees, and a set of plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of the asbestos containing materials, and plans for regular surveillance of the asbestos-containing materials.

A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for your inspection in our office during the regular school hours. I am the Asbestos Program Manager for our School District, and all Inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to me.

We have implemented the asbestos management plan, and we intend to not only comply with it, but to exceed federal, state, and local regulations in this area. We plan on taking whatever steps that are necessary to insure that our students and our employees have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work.

Zeeland Public School
Zeeland Board of Education
(Unofficial Minutes)

The August 11, 2025 at 8:00 p.m. at the Zeeland Public School by President Francis Meier. Board members present Francis Meier, Neil Meidinger, Jennifer Meier, Josh Rossow and Donavon Bender. Others present Adam Wishek, Elem. Lead Kim Dockter, Kyle Anderson, H. S. Lead Jayden Streifel and Bs. Mgr Joyce Scherr. Brandt Dick attended virtually.

Meidinger made a motion to approve the agenda, second J. Meier. All Aye.

With the correction of changing 2024-25 to 2025-26 for Ms. Engelhart to be Title I Sex Discrimination Coordinator, Rossow made a motion to approve the regular July 14, 2025 minutes, second Bender. All Aye. J. Meier made a motion to approve the minutes from the special July 30, 2025 meeting, second Meidinger. All Aye.

The financial reports were reviewed. Rossow made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented by the Bs. Mgr. and payment of the following claims, second Bender.

City of Zeeland 83.91; BEK 105.85; MDU 468.05; DRN 360.00; Emmons Co Record 290.92; Zeeland Oil 45.03; So Central Prairie Sp Ed Unit 6,966.50; Unisom Insurance 13,842.00, Zeeland Activity 317.54 and BCBS 6,282.68. All Aye.

Supt Report – Brandt informed the board that he and Adam Wishek had met about financials.

Bus routes are still being decided depending on number of students.

Title monies will be used for Title and Intervention salary.

At this time Mr. Wishek discussed the bank's proposals to the board. The bank feels that they would like some kind of collateral. Request for titles for buses for collateral. Asking that loan interest payment would be due March 1, 2026, with remaining interest and loan balance due March 31, 2026. Meidinger made a motion to accept the bank's proposal, second Bender and carried unanimously to approve.

H. S Lead Report – August 19 and 20 will be PD days. Mr. Cline passed his praxis for teaching special ed.

Elem Lead Report - Intervention will be discussed with staff.

No Public Comment.

Old Business - Final readings on policies. J. Meier made a motion to approve the adoption of the FDE policy which includes education of special education students with disabilities, second Rossow. All Aye. Meidinger made a motion to approve the adoption of the GACB Patriotic Exercises policy, second Bender. All Aye.

Supt Dick said there is protocol to follow for the selling of the buses bought with ESSER funds. No date on when a share of funding needs to be returned to USED.

New Business – Contract for parttime music was reviewed, Wolf will receive \$54.81 per hour for approximately 75 minutes per day. Meidinger made a motion to approve the contract for part time music for Trudy Wolf, second J. Meier and carried unanimously to approve.

Cell phone policy was addressed. Mr. Steifel shared a template with his suggestions for changes. The policy is a state law and completely bans cell phones for the students from first bell to last bell of the day. He also shared the violations that would involve our students. Only exception is with a medical note from a doctor. Rossow made a motion to approve the cellphone policy with the suggestions from Mr. Streifel, second Bender and carried unanimously to approve.

Supt. Dick went over the per pupil pmt worksheet. As Zeeland gets smaller the state aid will drop also. With drop in enrollment and the 3% cap finances will get tighter.

Preliminary Budget is here for the public to view if anyone wishes to see what the Cert. of Levy looks like and tax dollars. Still waiting to make sure the numbers we received from both counties are true and if anything will need to be changes. All this will be discussed at the public budget hearing September 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be September 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the school.

J. Meier made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second Rossow. All Aye.

ATTEST:

Joyce Scherr
Business Manager

Francis Meier
President