

# Parents encouraged to look elsewhere for summer davcare

The Groton Area Board of Education evaluated options for its summer OST program. One of the main concerns was safety for the students and staff this summer and the need for sanitizing every area after students were exposed to them. In addition, under the current CDC guidelines, the groups would have to be limited to 10 which would mean more staff would be needed and the staff members would have to be 18 or older. Elementary Principal Brett Schwan was directed to tell patrons they should look for summer nannys or other day care options, due to the uncertainity. "Its a valauble program," said board member Marty Weismantel, "but it's too much of a risk for the district." The board will revisit the need for OST at the May 11th meeting.

The meal program has been serving about 200 meals a day, which is more than anticipated, but it good for those that need it. The USDA is reimbursing the district for meals and that option was extended to the end of June. However, the board discussed the need for the program after the end of the school year. Board members have said people have been willing to step up and donate to the meal program, which is the direction the board will do after the last day of school. The board will also revisit the meal program extension at the May 11th board meeting.

The end of the current school year is getting close the the staff is preparing how to get the material back to the buildings. Once the material is in the building, it will have to set idle for 72 hours before the staff can sort through them. Those living out in the country will need to bring in their materials as there is no safe way for the buses to run the route and have staff collect the materials.

All of the teaching contracts have been signed and turned in. The board approved the contracts.

The paper work is rolling with auxiliary staff members. Joellen Miller resigned as cheer coach.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholich Church held a fundraiser Saturday to help families in need during the COVID-19 outbreak. The following was posted on the SEAS Facebook Page: "What an amazing day at the cookout, we had a great group working together, got to see so many people. Thanks for all the positive feedback.

"Together we had almost \$4900.00 in donations and with expenses taken out, we made over \$4200.00 to help families in need.

"If you know someone in need of assistance, please call SEAS church or email us. Thanks again, it's awesome working together as the body of Christ."

### Silver Skates holds annual meeting

The annual meeting for the Carnival of Silver Skates was held via Zoom meeting on Wednesday, April 22. Many of the board members have volunteered to serve again in their previous roles. We thank Kristie Fliehs for her 5 years of service to this great organization and we now welcome new members, Amanda Sperry and Katie Anderson.

2021 Carnival Board:

Chairperson: Lindsey Tietz Costume chair: Deb Schuelke Communications: Sarah Hanten Secretary: Katie Anderson Treasurer: Dawn Imrie

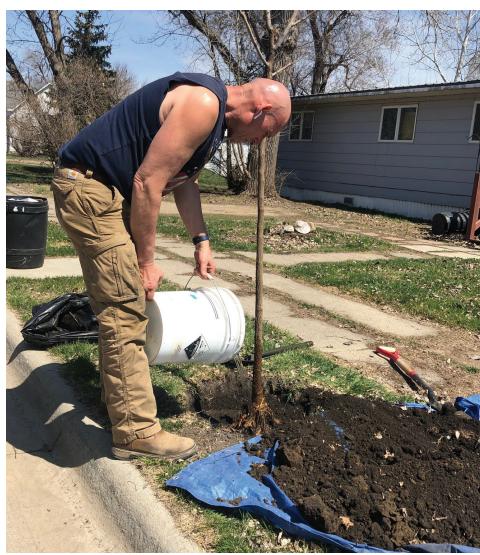
Assistant-chair: Tina Kosel Instructor chair: Coralea Wolter City Liason: Jaymie Overacker

Member at Large: Amanda Sperry



### **COVID-19 Prom**

The GHS Prom was supposed to have been held last night; however, with the COVID-19 outbreak, nearly everything is at a stand still. That, however, did not stop Madeline Schuelke and her prom date, Steven Paulson, from dressing up, maintaining appropriate social distance and getting a few photos taken. It will be like no other prom in GHS history. (Courtesy Photo)



# **Tree Planting Completed**

The planting of trees has been completed in Groton as the city received a tree grant. Paul Kosel is pictured here planting one of several trees along Fifth Street. (Photo by Tina Kosel)







Real Estate & Insurance Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

Office: 605/397-2424 102 N Main St. Groton, SD 57445 Home: 605/397-8565















#### **AUCTIONS**

SPRING LAWN MOWER, garden equipment, recreational and sports auction. May 2, 2020. 10 am. 3 miles east of Sioux Falls, I-90 exit 402. 605-331-4550, auctionzip.com bppage1@ gmail.com

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**GREAT PAYING JOBS! Statewide construction** jobs, \$17.00 - \$23.00 hourly + benefits. Summer or permanent. No experience necessary, great career opportunities. Apply Online www. sdwork.org.

NORTHWEST AREA SCHOOLS in Isabel, SD is seeking applications for the following position: Health Science Instructor: South Dakota certification is required. Work-related experience may count toward certification. NWAS offers competitive salary, benefits, transportation and SD Retirement. Please contact Quinn Lenk, NWAS Director at 605-466-2206, or by email at: quinn.lenk@k12.sd.us position is open until filled.

MEAT DEPARTMENT MANAGER. Family owned, 8 store grocery chain seeking an experienced meat manager in Winner, South Dakota. Great starting salary, health insurance, 401k, and vacation. Please send resume to msteck58@gmail.com.

### FOR SALE

1999 CASE PAYLOADER with bucket. City of Wilmot, S.D. Call 605-938-4811.

### **NOTICES**

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Call the Groton Independent at 605/397-6397 for details.



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# Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C. 1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204



225 Brown County Hwy 19 South Aberdeen: 605/725-4900

## **Brown County** Ord. 160

Habeck Rezoning
ORDINANCE #160 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING

TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-

TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Clarence Habeck is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag

District (M-AG): Lots 1 & 2, "C&L Habeck's 1st Subdivision" in the SW1/4 of Section 27-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (12854 & 12862 391st Ave)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: April 1 and 8, 2020

Passed First Reading: April 14, 2020 Passed Second Reading: April

21, 2020 Adopted: April 21, 2020

Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair Brown County Commission ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.61. 18903

#### **Brown County** Ord. 161 **Miller Rezoning**

ORDINANCE #161 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING

TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-ES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Keith Miller is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter

4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):
"K. Miller Addition" in the
SW1/4 of Section 15-T122N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38514 139th St)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.
Notice of Hearing: April 1 and

Passed First Reading: April 14, 2020

Passed Second Reading: April

2020

Adopted: April 21, 2020 Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 **Brown County Commission** 

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.96. 18904

# **Brown County** Ord. 162

**Hanson Rezoning** 

ORDINANCE #162 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-ES, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY BE IT ORDAINED by the

Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Jeff Hanson is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter

4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "JT Hanson Farm Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 9-T126N-R62W of the 5th P.M.,

Brown County, South Dakota (39698 114th St)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this

Ordinance. Notice of Hearing: April 1 and 8, 2020

Passed First Reading: April 14. 2020 Passed Second Reading: April

21, 2020

Adopted: April 21, 2020 Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair Brown County Commission

Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.96. 18905

### **Brown County** Ord. 163

#### **Hanson Rezoning** ORDINANCE #163

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION
BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-ES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Jeff Hanson is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter

4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "JT Hanson Farm Ad-dition" in the SE1/4 of Section 10-T126N-R62Wof the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (11396 397th Ave)

BE IT FURTHÉR ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: April 1 and

Passed First Reading: April Passed Second Reading: April

21, 2020 Adopted: April 21, 2020 Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair

Brown County Commission ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.96. 18906

# **Brown County** Ord. 165

Meyers Rezoning ORDINANCE #165

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION **BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-**ES, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-

SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Paul Meyers is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended change t lowing described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultura

I Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.16 Heavy Industrial

District (H-1): Lot 2, "Luke's Landing Ad-dition" in the N1/2 of Section 13-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13245 394th Ave)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: April 1 and 8, 2020

Passed First Reading: April

14, 2020 Passed Second Reading: April 21, 2020

Adopted: April 21, 2020 Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair **Brown County Commission** ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.28. 18908

2 \$ Groton Independent \$ Wed., Apr. 29, 2020

### **City of Groton DRINKING WATER REPORT** WATER OUALITY

**Gecretary's Award**The City of Greton has supplied nineteen consecutive years of safe drinking water to the public it serves and has been awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed

We serve more than 1,458 customers an average of 121,000 gallons of water per day. Our water is surface water that we purchase from another water system. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Groton public water supply system is low.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call (605)397-8422 and ask for Hope Block.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

•Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

•Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining,

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

•Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban

•Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environment Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotling (800-426-4791).

Environment Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Groton public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The attached table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2019 The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. The City of Groton public water system purchases 100% of their water from WEB Water Development Association (1089).

019 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants For Groton (EPA ID 0147) Terms and abbreviations used in this table:

- \* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

  \* Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

  \* Action Level(AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples
- \* Treatment Technique(TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU \* Running Annual Average(RAA): Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.
- \*MFL: million fibers per liter......\*pCi/l: picocuries per liter(a measure of radioactivity)
- \*mrem/year: millirems per year(a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
  \*NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units.... \*ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter(ug/l)

Highest

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter(mg/l) \*ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter \*pspm: positive samples per month

			Test Sites >	Date	Allowed	Ideal		
;	Substance	90% Level	Action Level	Tested	(AL)	Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
(	Copper	0.6	0	07/26/17	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
	Lead	2	0	07/27/17	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
					Highest			
					Level			
			Test Sites >	Date	Allowed	Ideal		
:	Substance	90% Level	Action Level	Tested	(AL)	Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
(	Combined Radium *	1	ND - 1	05/23/16	5	0	pCi/I	Erosion of natural deposits.
	Fluoride *	0.48		10/02/19	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
	Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	25.3		08/28/19	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
	Haloacetic Acids (RAA) *	21.10		10/28/19	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
	Nitrate (as Nitrogen) *	0.4		08/21/19	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
	Total triĥalomethanés (RAA)	) 10.5		08/28/19	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
	Total trihalomethanes (RAA)	* 10.06		10/28/19	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
-	Please direct questions rega	rding this in	formation to	Mr Terry	Herron w	ith the	Grot	on public water system at (605)397-8422.

# **Brown County April 21, 2020** Meeting Minutes ARIL 21, 2020 – GENERAL

\* WEB Water Development Association (1089) test result. Published once at the total approximate cost of \$119.61. 18899

MEETING

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Kippley at 8:45 A.M. in the Community Room, Courthouse Annex Basement, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Feickert, Sutton, Wiese, and Fjeldheim. Commissioner Kippley led the Pledge of Allegiance. MINUTES:

Moved by Sutton seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting, equalization and con-solidated board of equalization minutes from April 14th, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the follow-

ing claims:
Professional Fees: Avera St. Luke's \$430.74; BCT \$31.00; Compass Counseling \$1,800.00; Dakota Counseling ing \$1,800.00; Dakota Wood Grinding \$31,522.50; Dependable Sanitation \$24,171.62; GBR Interpreting \$60.00; Tiffany Hanson \$100.00; Kuck Law Office \$171.40; Language Line Services \$240.79; LSS \$179.34; Richardson, Wyly, Wise & Sauck, LLP \$1,130.20; Sanford Health \$100.20; Lybecca Schauaman \$20.00; SD Dept. of Health \$2,500.00; SD Retirement System \$10,148.56; SD Dept. of Reveneue & Regulation \$9,643.57; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$2,740.25; Kristi Spitzer \$1,800.00; Tammy Stolle Court Reporting \$155.55; US Bank \$1,004.86; West Payment Center \$169.95; Yankton Co. Treasurer \$338.40. Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$1,051.72; Groton Independent \$83.55; Phillips Media Market-ing \$50.76; Times-Republican \$16.91. Repairs & Maintenance: Cintas \$124.72; Dakota Doors \$4,997.92; US Bank \$1,065.04; Graham Tire \$35.84; HF Jacobs & Son Construction \$5,286.92; House of Glass \$1,500.00; J & K Painting \$812.53; Ladner Électric \$112.73; Mardian Scrap Recyling \$2,562.50; Pierson-Ford \$69.23; US Bank \$1,065.04; Vosika

Fencing \$988.40; Walth Safety Service \$89.25; Wooden Mallet \$1,800.00. Supplies: 446-Praxair \$312.32; Aberdeen American News \$454.00; Advance Auto \$851.68; American Business \$01.66, Affertical Business Solutions \$51.68; Century Business Products \$719.91; DSG \$121.15; Geffdog \$439.00; GovConnection \$219.51; Heartland Paper \$2,251.33; Kessler's \$42.45; Knight Towling \$150.00; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$12.25; Mathematical Sales \$12.25; Mathe Leidholdt Tool Sales \$12.25; Mat-thew Bender & Co. \$58.44; Men-ards \$96.15; NVC \$26.76; Performance Oil & Lubricants \$311.75; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale \$181.73; Premier BioTech \$162.92; Running's \$180.44; Sherwin Williams \$215.28; Stan Houston Equip. \$13.75; US Bank \$13,787.18; Web Water Bottling Co. \$19.50; West Payment Center \$1,768.18. Travel & Conf.: Scott Bader \$256.46; US Bank \$(41.50). Utilities: Aberdeen City Treasurer \$1,083.95; CenturyLink \$1,160.68; Dependable Sanitation \$513.00; James Valley Telecommunications \$217.10; Midcontinent \$260.00; Northern Electric \$2,350.19; NWPS \$2,428.32; NVC \$3,770.27; US Bank \$723.70; Verizon \$3,464.23. Other: JRWD \$10,717.91; R Clausen Enterprises \$375.00.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

Moved by Fjeldheim seconded by Wiese to approve the fol-lowing HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Acknowledge resignation of Jordan Garlick, Brown County Landfill, full-time; effective May 6, 2020 and approve request to fill vacancy.; Approve hiring of Tyler Richards as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage \$16.65 per hour; effective April 20, 2020; Approve hiring of Paige Smit as Brown County Communications Dispatcher, full-time; starting wage \$16.96 per hour; effective April 20, 2020; Approve payment of retirement award for Joseph Embury in the amount of \$150 before taxes as requirement was met.; Approve payment of retirement award for John Weig in the amount of \$150 before taxes as requirement was met.; All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following abatement: Eugene Face (house gone and removal of solid waste) @ \$112.49. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. WEED AND PEST GRANT

AWARD:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chair sign Weed and Pest Grant Award Letter of Agreement for grant monies not to exceed \$4,500 (50/50 match). All members present voting ayé. Motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** 

2nd QUARTER REPORT: Moved by Sutton, Seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the 2nd quarter report for Emergency Management and personnel action forms for salary adjustments. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried. ELECTION WORKER ON-CALL

Moved by Fjeldheim, second-ed by Feickert, to approve on-call pay for election workers at a rate of \$20. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CONTRACT FOR DOMESTIC HOT WATER STORAGE TANK BID AWARD:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to authorize chair sign contract with Haar Plumbing & Heating, Inc for installation and domestic hot water storage tank and pump as awarded in the bid April 14th. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried. REZONE ORDINANCES ADOPTION: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve second reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 160. An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to rezone certain described property. Applicant Clarence Habeck to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lots 1 & 2, "C&L Habeck's 1st Subdivision" in the SW1/4 of Section 27-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (12854 & 12862 391st Ave). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton- aye, Wiese- aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kip-

pley – aye. Ordinance adopted.
Moved by Sutton, seconded
by Feickert to approve second reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 161: An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to rezone certain described property. Applicant Keith Miller to change the zoning on the following de-scribed property from Chapter scribed property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): "K. Miller Addition" in the SW1/4 of Section 15-T122N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38514 139th St). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert call vote: Commissioner Feickert
– aye, Sutton- aye, Wiese- aye,
Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye.
Ordinance adopted.
Moved by Sutton, seconded
by Feickert to approve second

reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 162: An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to rezone certain described property. Applicant Jeff Hanson to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "JT Hanson Farm Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 9-T126N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (39698 114th St). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton- aye, Wiese- aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kip-

pley - aye. Ordinance adopted. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve second reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 163 An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to re zone certain described property. Applicant Jeff Hanson to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "JT Hanson Farm Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 10-T126N-R62Wof the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (11396 397th Ave). Roll call vote: Com-missioner Feickert – aye, Sut-ton-aye, Wiese-aye, Fjeldheim aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance

adopted.
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve second reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 164: An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to rezone certain described property. Applicants A.) Jamie Jones and Steven Goetz, B.) Bruce Jones and Sandy Jones to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): A.) "Lockwood's Outlot 1" in the NE1/4 of Section 24/T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37963 133rd st). B.) "Jones's Outlot 1" in the NE1/4 of Section 24-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (37965 133rd st). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert aye, Sutton- aye, Wiese- aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance adopted. Moved by Sutton, seconded

by Feickert to approve second reading and adopt the following rezone ordinance: ORD 165: An ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances as amended to rezone certain described property. Applicant Paul Meyers to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.16 Heavy Industrial District (H-1): Lot 2, "Luke's Landing Addition" in the N1/2 of Section 13-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13245 394th Ave). Roll call vote: Com-missioner Feickert – aye, Sut-ton- aye, Wiese- aye, Fjeldheim aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance adopted.

LANDFILL CELL 4: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to authorize chair sign agreement between Brown County and Helms and Associates for professional services for project A-7653 Brown County solid waste landfill expansion cell #4. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SLIDEWAYS CLUB:

Members from the Slideways remote control racing club met to discuss having a race track at the fairgrounds. Board directed a contract be drawn and will consider approve when the contract is presented. No action taken. DACOTAH PRAIRIE MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT:

Patricia Kendall, DPM Director met to give 2019 museum annual report. Annual report is on file with the Brown County Auditor.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION:

Emergency Manager, Scott Meints, gave an update on COV-ID-19 response in Brown County. Temporary emergency surge facility is being set up to handle peak hospitalization needs.
WELLMARK CONTRACT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to renew contract with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for county employee health insurance with an overall change in rate of -1.83%. All members present voting aye. Motion

ANNUAL ENROLLMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to move annual enrollment to paperless. Benefits Administration will be through employee navigator at no additional cost. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DRAINAGE BOARD DISCUS-SION:

Board discussed possible drainage board needs. No action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss personnel per SDCL 1-25-2(1). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:35 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

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# **Frederick School April 13, 2020** Meeting Minutes OFFICIAL BOARD PROCEED-

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2 APRIL 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order on April 13, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Richard Achen. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/

Athletic Director Jeff Kosters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg, Business Manager Janel Wagner, and Marty Morlock.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public are allowed three minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members wishing to speak, the board moved on with their remaining agenda items.

Action 19-083 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to approve the agenda with amendment: delete item #9 Coaching Contract. All aye, carried.

Action 19-084 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to approve consent agenda which included the following items as presented: minutes of meeting held March 9, 2020; March 2020 financial report, agency accounts and investments; District bills and March 2020 payroll. All aye,

Dakota Electronics, alarm maintenance 60.00; Dumire, James, repairs 510.00; Econo Lodge North, travel 73.51; Farnam's Genuine Parts Inc, repairs 7.99; Flying J, gasoline 28.00; Fore-man Sales & Service Inc, repairs 72.89; GDI News, publishing 114.07; HP Inc, laptop repairs 225.00; James Valley Telecom-munications, telephone 245.04: z25.00; James Valley Telecom-munications, telephone 245.04; Ketterling Photography, team photos 36.00; Menards, sup-plies 711.12; Merchant Services, online lunch payment fees 51.91; Midstates Group, BBB awards 100.00; Midwest Pest Control, maintenance 64.00; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. electricity Dakota Utilities Co, electricity 4,151.29; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 116.55; Ringgenberg, Jessica, education reimbursement 45.00; Saafe, LLC, bleacher inspection 1,825.00; SD High School Activities Association, rule books 47.00: South Dakota Department of Education, Maintenance of Effort 2,065.00; Steven Lust Automotive, repairs Taylor Music Inc, repairs 0.00; Town of Frederick, utilities 279.19; Tschosik, Paula, family night supplies 161.13; United States Postal Service, postage 670.65. Capital Outlay Fund: A&B Business Solutions, managed print 649.56; Amazon Capital Services, book 6.99; Cole Papers Inc, motor scrubber 38.15; Edmentum, licensing fee 244.40: Software Unlimited Inc, licensing fee 380.00; Wordware

Inc, licensing fee 1,512.00. Special Education Fund: Avera St Luke's, occupational/physical therapy 2,018.80; United States Postal Service, postage 2.40. Food Service Fund: Child & Adult Nutrition, food 119.08; Commu-

The school board recognized receipt of Public-School Exemption Certificate #20-9. Action 19-087 Motion by

Nickelson, second by Achen to approve the Associated School Boards Protective Trust-South Dakota School District Benefits Fund Participation Agreement. Roll call vote: Nickelson, yes; Ellwein, yes; Achen, yes; Hart, yes; Schlosser, yes. Carried. Action 19-088 Motion by

Nickelson, second by Ellwein to approve the South Dakota School District Benefit Fund group health plan elections with the same three deductible options. All aye, carried.
Action 19-089 Motion by Nick-

elson, second by Hart to select Associated School Boards Protective Trust as the school's Workers' Compensation provider. Roll call vote: Nickelson, yes; Ell-

wein, yes; Achen, abstain; Hart, yes; Schlosser, yes. Carried.
Action 19-090 Motion by Hart, second by Nickelson and to approve the Associated School **Boards Protective Trust Workers** Compensation Fund Participation Agreement. Roll call vote: Nickelson, yes; Ellwein, yes; Achen, abstain; Hart, yes; Schlosser,

yes. Carried.
Action 19-091 Motion by Nickelson, second by Ellwein to select Associated School Boards Protective Trust as the school's Property and Liability insurance provider. Roll call vote: Nickel-son, yes; Ellwein, yes; Achen, abstain; Hart, yes; Schlosser, yes. Carried.

Action 19-092 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to ap-prove the Associated School Boards Protective Trust Property Diseases; GBG-Staff Participation in Political Activities; GBGA-District Involvement in Records; GCBDD-Military Leave (use option 2); GCBDE-Family and Medical Leave; GCBDF-Nursing Mothers; KB-School & Community Relations; KBA-Bublis Blatt to Know KBA-Public's Right to Know; KBAA-Public Records; KBC-News Media Relations; KBCA-News Releases; KG-Facility Use; KGB-Public Conduct on School Property; KH-Public Gifts to Schools; KI-Public Solicitations, Bingo, Lotteries and Advertising In the Schools; KIA-Distribution and Posting of Promotional Materials; KK-Visitors to the schools; KMI-Relations With Political Organizations (Public Funds); and KN-Relation's with Governmental Authorities. All

aye, carried. Action 19-094 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to enter into Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for employee matters at 8:20 p.m. All aye, carried. Exit Marty Morlock at 8:20

President Schlosser declared Board out of Executive Session

Action 19-095 Motion by Nickelson, second by Ellwein to approve the 2020-2021 negotiated

agreement. All aye, carried. Action 19-096 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to offer 2020-2021 certified contracts, non-certified Employment Agreements, administrative Contracts; extra-curricular advisor Contracts and coaching contracts. All aye,

The School Board and Administration would like to thank all

nding March 31, 2020General Fund	Capital Outlay Fund	Special Education Fund	Food Service Fund	Driver's Ed Fund	Trust & Agency
eginning checking Balance\$93,239.17	\$272,475.61	\$164,121.00	\$5,658.49	\$669.82	\$46,141.24
Taxes\$31,842.45 Local Sources\$987.35 Intermediate Sources\$386.20	\$31,977.62	\$15,466.12	\$4,441.60		\$7,989.50
Interest\$22.23		±226 72	±6.400.44		\$2.05
Federal & State	\$31,977.62	\$236.79 \$15,702.91	\$6,199.14 \$10,640.74	\$0.00	\$7,991.55
sbursements	\$2,099.68	\$2,676.16 \$16,833.19	\$3,271.68 \$5,930.96		\$6,602.76
otal Disbursements	\$2,099.68 \$302,353.55 \$1,783,634.20	\$19,509.35 \$160,314.56 \$1,246,175.05	\$9,202.64 \$7,096.59	\$0.00 \$669.82	\$6,602.76 \$47,530.03
Interest \$9,714.85 otal investment balance \$456,763.50 nding Balance \$458,865.66	\$1,783,634.20 \$2,085,987.75	\$1,246,175.05 \$1,406,489.61	\$7,096.59	\$669.82	

Claims approved: March 2020 Payroll – General Fund salaries 76,634.79; Special Education salaries 11,041.03; Food Service salaries 3,180.18. EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 24,317.44; AFLAC supplemental insurance 917.74 American Funds, retirement 1,265.02; Delta Dental, insurance 1,693.50; Express Collections, garnishment 503.59; The Standard, life insurance 265.55; Security Benefits, retirement 1,100.26; VSP, vision insurance 276.03; Wellmark, health insurance 17,613.00; SD Retirement 12,819.76; SD Retirement Supplemental, 465.26.

Tot

General Fund: Agtegra, gasoline 3,453.04; Amazon Capital Services, supplies 182.76; Bower's Tree Service, tree removal 1,100.00; Brown County Treasurer, sewer taxes 34.49; Cole Papers Inc, supplies 240.86;

nity Store, food 4.47; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 28.60; School Nutrition Association, membership dues 46.50.

The following reports were presented: A. Jeff Kosters - Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic

Enter Dan Nickelson at 7:27

o.m. B. Jessica Ringgenberg – K-8 C.Dan Nickelson-North Central

Special Education Cooperative Action 19-085 Motion by Nickelson, second by Achen to approve the 2020-2021 SDHSAA Membership Resolution. All aye,

Action 19-086 Motion by Nickelson, second by Ellwein to approve all staff continue to receive contracted wages throughout the remainder of the 2019-2020 aca-

demic calendar. All aye, carried.

and Liability Fund Participation Agreement. Roll call vote: Nick-elson, yes; Ellwein, yes; Achen, abstain; Hart, yes; Schlosser, yes. Carried.
Action 19-093 Motion by Nick-

elson, second by Achen to adopt policies ACAA-Sexual Harass-ment; ACG-Nondiscrimination On The Basis of Handicap/Disability; AGA-Contested Hearings; BCD-School Board & Superintendent Relationship; CA-Administration Goals; CBB-Recruitment and Appointment of Superintendent; CBC-Superintendent Contract/ Compensation and Benefits; CGA-Business Manager Job Description; EB-Safety Program; EDBA-Maintenance and Control of Instructional Materials; EEAD-Special Use of School Buses; EIBA-Indemnification of Employ ees; GBAA-Veterans Preference; GBCBA-Freedom of Expression;

teachers and the janitorial staff for doing a tremendous job with adjusting to the school closure. Your hard work and dedication is appreciated. Congratulations to Boys Basketball team members for being named to the Lake Region Conference All-Conference teams: Isaac Sumption-1st team and Haydn Podoll-2nd team. Isaac was also selected as Region 1B Top Junior player from prephoops.com.

Action 19-097 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. All aye,

Rich Schlosser, President Janel Wagner, Business Man-

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# **Brown County April 21, 2020**

APRIL 21, 2020 – BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZA-TION

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Kippley at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Room, Courthouse Annex Basement, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Sutton. eickert, wiese and Fjeidneim. Director of Equalization Gene Loeschke, Deputy Director Russell Metz, and appraiser Sara

Swenson were also present. Commissioner Feickert nominated Dough Fjeldheim as Vice Chair for the 2020 Brown County Board of Equalization. Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Commissioner Fjeldheim as Vice Chair of the 2020 Brown County Board of Equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion

TAX EXEMPT STATUS Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve partial Tax Exempt Status for the following application: TDAF/Tom Aman, LT 1 BLACKSTONE 2ND SD (2.48AC) (RR ROW) AT 36% EXEMPT. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. APPEALS:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the fol-lowing recommendations from the Director of Equalization: R&R SWISHER LLC S2 SE 34-125-61 EX E 15 RODS & EXS 22 RODS \$836,499, SW 27-125-61 @ \$334,96, and NW 26-125-61 @ \$336,635 to maintain equalization. All members present voting

aye. Motion carried. Moved by Sutton, seconded by

Wiese to approve the following change is value: Susan Hoffman LT 1 PEACEFUL PINES ADD SE 24-124-65 (LT 1 MILLER'S RICHMOND LAKE SD SE 24-124-65) from \$62,830 to \$43,980 to maintain equalization. members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BREAK: Board took a break and reconvened at 1pm. Commissioners Feickert, Sutton and Fjeldheim were present and Commissioners Wiese and Kippley were absent after break

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the follow-ing recommendation from the Director of Equalization: POET BIOREFINING-GROTON LLC (JAMES VALLEY ETHANOL LLC) NW 23-123-61 EX RR & EX HWY @ \$12,870,123 (no change) to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the fol-lowing recommendation from the Director of Equalization: Doug Abeln E2 W2 22-123-61 EX LAND DEED @ \$902,828, Abeln LAND DEED @ \$902,828, Abeln Limited Partnership SW 31-123-61 EX SW & EX ABELN OL A @ \$350,046, E2 NE 29-123-61 @ \$237,090, NW 29-123-61 @ \$418,418, NW 27-123-61 @ \$384,161, SE 20-123-61 EX AJK KRUEGER OL1 @ \$440,439, NE 31-123-61 @ \$430,286, NW 14-122-61 @ \$416,558, NW 6-122-61 @ \$452,649 SW 6-122-61 61 @ \$452,649, SW 6-122-61 @ \$468,680, SW 14-123-61 @ \$339,396, SE 32-125-60 @ (a) \$339,396, SE 32-125-60 (b) \$429,001, N2 SW 21-123-62 (c) \$242,360, NW 21-123-62 (c) EX RD & EX LAND PLATTED (a) \$450,413, SW 34-124-60 EX OL 1 (a) 463,351 to maintain equalization. All members pres-

ent voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following

recommendation from the Director of Equalization: Frederick Seed LLC LT 3 SCHLOSSER-SUMPTION ADD W2 NW 11-127-64 FREDERICK @ \$251,117 to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

GBEB-Employee communicable

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following recommendation from the Director of Equalization: Tom Leidholt LT 1 BK C DROOG 1ST SD S2 22-123-64 from \$399,801 to 395,655 as to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Feickert, seconded

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the fol-lowing recommendation from the Director of Equalization: J&J MCCRANIE LAND LP SW 3-125-61 EX RD from @486,492 to \$460,016, SE 4-125-61 EX RD from \$346,085 to \$311,539, NW 29-126-60 from \$372,154 to \$281,142, SE 1-126-60 from to \$281,142, SE 1-126-60 from \$490,883 to \$380,000, SE 1-125-61 EX LAND DEEDED from \$435,188 to \$400,000, NE 1-125-61 from \$377,367 to \$340,000, NE 4-125-61 from \$395,215 to \$337,405 to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the fol-lowing recommendation from the Director of Equalization: John Zeck NW 31-123-61 EX LAND PLATTED @ \$454,879 (no change) to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded

by Sutton to approve the following recommendation from the Director of Equalization: Eric Nelson LT 9 BK C DROOG 1ST SD S2 22-123-64 from \$344,666 to \$336,220 to maintain equalization. All members present voting

aye. Motion carried.
Moved by Sutton, seconded
by Feickert to approve the following recommendation from the Director of Equalization: Wyatt Scepaniak LT 10 BK C DROOG S2 22-123-64 from \$501,492 to \$496,845 to maintain equalization. All members present voting

aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following recommendation from the Director of Equalization: David Osborn DOK-R SD SE 22-@ \$1,684 (no change), LT 22 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 from \$40,442 to \$37,697, LT 5 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 @ \$1,592 (no change), LT 4 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 @ \$1,684 (no change), LT 1 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 @ \$1,534 (no change), LT 6 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 @ \$1,310 (no change), LT 3 DOK-B SD SE 22-123-64 @ \$1,684 (no change) to maintain equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Sutton, seconded by

Feickert to approve the following recommendation from the Direcrecommendation from the Director of Equalization: HOLMES REAL ESTATE LP SW 20-123-62 @ \$467,512 (no change), S2 NE 31-123-62 @ \$191,820 (no change), SE NW 31-123-62 @ \$117,565 (no change), SE 31-123-62 @ \$462,316 (no change), NE 32-123-62 @ \$445,990 (no change) to maintain equalization. All members present voting ave. Motion carried. aye. Motion carried. ADJOURN:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to adjourn brown county equalization at 3:20 p.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle - County Auditor

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4 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Apr. 29, 2020

# **Groton School April 14, 2020**

Meeting Minutes
UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIS-TRICT NO. 06-6

REGULAR MEETING April 14, 2020

President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The meeting was held on-line via Zoom. Roll call attendance of members present included: Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel. Others present were Superintendent J. Schwan, Principals B. Schwan, Business Manager Weber, staff members Austin Fordham, Desiree Yeigh, Paula Johnson, Brandon Clocksene, Sarah Hanten, and official newspaper editor Paul Kosel.

Moved by Weismantel, second Gengerke to approve the agenda with two amendments under Old Business 1a – approve March 23, 2020 minutes and under New Business #10 add SDCL 1-25-2(2) for a student issue as another item for executive session. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Moved by Rix, second Pharis to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: District minutes of March 9, 2020 and April 2, 2020 25 and bills. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary – 175,711.49; FIT – 15,651.30; Medicare – 6,650.46; FICA – 28,436.20; American Funds Service Co. – 542.80; SD Retirement - 28,763.56; HSA Contribution – 100.00; Waddell & Reed – 2,940.00; Horace Mann 1,177.61; Thrivent - 250.00; AFLAC - 3,373.17; Delta Dental

- 3,880.46; SD Supplemental Retirement – 802.29; Performant Recovery, Inc. - 115.31; Groton School Lunch Donation – 138.52; Wellmark – 58,449.00; Reliastar Life – 635.37; Avesis Vision – 262.21; Advance Auto - parts/ oil, 1,293.05; Agency Fund advanced pays, 26,117.28; Allied Climate Professionals – repairs 2,119.92; Amazon - supplies, 1,131.68; Chris Arment - services, 60.00; City of Groton permit, 175.00; Shelley Coats scoring, 1,200.00; Cole Papers supplies, 1,105.36; Roger Colestock – services, 120.00; Dependable Sanitation – garbage, 1,238.00; Dollar General supplies, 40.86; Kristi Ekern

services, 985.00; Groton Chiropractic – physical, 95.00; GDI – legals, 242.80; Groton Rescue donation, 500.00; Justin Hanson - services, 60.00; Hillyard supplies, 1,904.01; Mike Imrie services, 1,020.00; Interstate – batteries, 241.96; JW Pepper – music, 366.05; Bary Keith services, 60.00; Ken's – fuel, 6,636.17; McLeod's - supplies, 106.20; NASSP – dues, 385.00; Northside Implement – repairs, 9,007.15; Northwestern Energy utilities, 1,038.51; Otis Elevator services, 1,301.76; Reporter & Farmer - printing, 32.15; SD Dept of Labor – unemployment claim, 230.00; SDHSAA – rule book, 192.00: Stan Houston supplies, 111.36; Cody Swan-on – expenses, 92.59; Taylor Music - music, 285.04; Trent

\$388,823.65. CAPITAL OUTLAY: A&B Business – print contract, 1,583.01; Agency Fund – advanced pays, 2,320.22; Allied Climate professionals – equipment, 2,577.03; Amazon – drives, 940.26; Dakota Supply - repairs, 1,081.65; NSU – textbooks, 254.38. Total

Traphagen – services, 75.00;

Martin Weismantel - services

1,375.00. Total General Fund -

Capital Outlay – \$8,756.55. SPECIAL ED: Net Salary 27,749.65; FIT – 2,273.52; Medicare – 1,032.38; FICA - 4,414.28; SD Retirement - 4,587.78; Waddell & Reed -200.00; AFLAC - 961.93; Delta Dental – 707.34; SD Supplemental Retirement - 100.00; Wellmark – 10,729.00; Reliastar Life 205.23; Avesis Vision – 74.24; Agency Fund – advanced pays, 59.22; Dollar General – supplies, 13.50; Judy/Gene Williamson mileage, 352.80. Total Special Ed - \$53,460.87.

ENTERPRISE: Fund 51-Net Salary – 5,467.72; FIT – 360.20; Medicaré – 193.66; FICA 828.12; SD Retirement - 604.54; AFLAC – 256.83; Wellmark 1,526.00; Reliastar Life - 3.84; Avesis Vision – 51.74; Agency Fund – advanced pays, 539.58; Cintas – services, 61.34; CWD food, 2,920.91; Dean Foods milk, 935.09; Earthgrains - food, 70.35; Reinhart – food, 5,815.58; US Foods – 3,287.18. Total Fund 51 – \$22,922.68. Fund 3-Net Salary – 1,580.71; FIT -106.72; Medicare - 56.76; FICA 242.66; SDRS - 196.50; AFLAC 163.93; Wellmark – 671.00; Reliastar Life – 23.28; Agency Fund – advanced pays, 310.90. Total Fund 53 - \$3,352.46. Total

Enterprise - \$26,275.14.
AGENCY FUND: Total - \$47,347.99
RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes - 143,156.46; Other Local Sources - 97,738.26; County Sources - 1,856.75; State Sources – 1,587.82; Federal Sources 6,320.52. Total Receipts –

\$250,659.81. Members of the public were allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members requesting to speak, the board proceeded with their agenda items.

Moved by Pharis, second Rix to approve March 23, 2020 minutes. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel

voting aye. Moved by Harder, second Fliehs to approve financial report, agency accounts and investments. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel vot-

Moved by Weismantel, second Fliehs to approve the school transportation and lunch reports. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

Superintendent Schwan reported on COVID-19 issues related to the school district. No action was taken.

The following topics were discussed in administrative reports: Federal Paid Leave Act, state funding, flexible learning plans, Kindergarten roundup and visitation cancelled, school through May 21st with laptop returns, proposed graduation dates, food services meals, SDCNA, Dual Credit registration, E-Learning, elementary book study, Cares Act award, election update and unemployment claims.

Superintendent Schwan discussed Summer 2020 Driver's Education. The two-week classroom presentation would be held on-line. The six hours on driving time would commence in July. No action was taken.

The board reviewed health insurance options for 2020-21. Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to offer the following single/family deductible plans \$1,000/\$2,000, \$2,000/\$4,000 and \$3,000/\$6,000 HSA. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to renew ASBSD Protective Trust Agreement for Health Insurance for 2020-21. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Weber read Property/Liability and Workers Compensation bids from the bid opening on April 13th as follows: Property/ Liability - EMC Insurance, \$92,006; Workers Compensation - First Dakota Indemnity, \$32,474 and Nationwide through ASBPT, \$26,587. Moved by Harder, second Gengerke to accept bid from EMC Insurance for Property/

Liability Insurance and ASBPT for Worker's Compensation Insurance for 2020-21. Motion carried 6-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith voting aye and Weismantel abstaining.

Moved by Gengerke, second Weismantel to authorize membership in the SDHSAA for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Moved by Gengerke, second Rix to approve resignation of Whitney Berner at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Moved by Rix, second Harder to approve resignation of Cody Swanson at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

The board held discussion about advertising a full or parttime music vacancy or eliminating the position altogether. Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to advertise a full or part-time music position for 2020-2021. Motion carried 5-2 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Harder, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye and Gengerke and Pharis voting nay.

Moved by Rix, second Gengerke to approve lane change for the 2020-2021 contract of Julie Frdmann from MS+30 to MS+45 Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

The board took a short recess at 8:48 pm and returned at 8:52 pm.

Moved by Gengerke, second Harder to go into executive session at 8:53 pm for personnel issues pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1), negotiations pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(4) and a student issue pursuant to SDCL 1-25

2(2). Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

President Smith declared the board out of executive session at 9:33 pm.

Moved by Gengerke, second Fliehs to approve open enrollment #20-13 due to special circumstances. Motion carried 6-1 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye and Harder voting nay.

Moved by Fliehs, second Gengerke to hire Greg Kjellsen as HS Math Teacher for 2020-21 with salary to be published in July. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

Moved by Rix, second Weismantel to issue 2020-21 teacher contracts with a return date of April 24, 2020 with final terms to be negotiated at a later date. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting

Moved by Pharis, second Harder to issue 2020-21 off-staff coaching agreements with a return date of April 24, 2020 with final terms to be negotiated at a later date. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to adjourn at 9:37 pm. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote with members Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith and Weismantel voting aye.

M. J. Weber, Business Man-

Steven R. Smith, President The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$164.51.

### MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6 For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending March 31, 2020

General	Restricted	Capital	Special	Pension	Bond	Capital	Enterprise	Agency	District Total
Fund	Gen Funds	Outlay	Education	Fund	Redemption	•	Projects	Fund	Fund
1. Beginning Balance 1,180,146.26	32,052.21	1,572,935.94	193,439.14	0.00	158,345.95	0.00	47,733.16	274,624.46	3,459,277.12
a. cash	32,052.21	1,572,935.94	193,439.14	0.00	158,345.95	0.00	47,733.16	274,624.46	3,459,277.12
b. petty cash0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2. Transfers in									
3. Revenue to date2,911,356.98	0.00	909,929.93	489,177,11	0.00	108,546.19	0.00	229,089.06	680,832,42	5,328,931.69
4. Total accounted for4,091,503.24	32,052.21	2,482,865,87	682,616.25	0.00	266,892.14	0.00	276,822.22	955,456.88	8,788,208.81
5. Transfers out	. ,	, . ,	, , , , , ,		,			,	.,,
6. Expenditures to date 3,292,245.97	0.00	1,355,992.94	536,270.18	0.00	209,136.25	0.00	222,032.99	686,000.82	6,301,679.15
a. encumbrances 0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b. disbursements3,292,245.97	0.00	1,355,992.94	536,270.18	0.00	209,136.25	0.00	222,032.99	686,000.82	6,301,679.15
7. Ending Balance	32,052.21	1,126,872.93	146,346.07	0.00	57,755.89	0.00	54,789.23	269,656.06	2,486,729.66
a. checking799,257.27	32,052.21	1,126,872.93	146,346.07	0.00	57,755.89	(0.00)	54,789.23	269,456.06	2,486,529.66
b. petty cash(0.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	` 0.0Ó	0.00	200.00	200.00
March Receipts79,274.28	0.00	47,331.61	26,356.14	0.00	4,950.50	0.00	20,512.48	72,234.80	250,659.81
March Expenses394,635.15	0.00	10,683.26	96,913.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,287.52	47,347.99	574,867.16
Agency Checking	269,456.06	.,					-,	,-	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
District Checking	1,017,073.60								
Certificate of Deposit	1,200,000.00								
A many and Goods and Harry d	200.00								

### **Frederick Town April 8, 2020** Meeting Minutes

Agency Cash on Hand .....

Total all Funds ...... 2,486,729.66

Town of Frederick April 8, 2020 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday April 2020 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7 PM. Attending the meeting were chairman R. Scott Campbell, board members Troy Millard and Jeff Kosters, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Diane Bruns and Mariah Heine, utility manager Rich Bakeberg, Titan Bar and Grill owner Bruce Johnson, and Ted Dickey of NECOG briefly, by phone.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved with a motion by Millard/Kosters.; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Kosters; motion carried. The April accounts payable was approved with a motion by Kosters/Campbell; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL \$1,746.43; A. Gunther wage EBL \$42.95; American Solutions supplies FO \$145.54; Badger Meter meter fees Wtr \$115.70; Century Bus Products printer lease & copies Gen'l \$98.91; Community Store supplies Mun. Bldg. \$48.60; D. Bruns CC \$134.83; D. Bruns wage + OT FO \$1,721.04; Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$4,292; EFPTS Fed. Taxes Gen'l/ FO/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr \$889.34; FDC Econ Dev \$1,200; FU Oil

Co propane EBL \$286.44; Frohling Law Office letter WWP \$371.25; GDI minutes WWP/ Gen'l \$108.73; J. Kosters wage Gen'l \$138.52; JM Electric, Inc. lighting Mun Bldg \$954.20; JVT phone/svc/int FO/EBL/Wtr/ Gen'l \$374.65; M. Cox wage EBL \$319.07; M. Heine wage FO \$922.50; R. Bakeberg wage St/ Wtr/Swr \$286.28; R. Bakeberg veh. Allow St/Wtr/Swr \$75; R.S Campbell wage Gen'l \$207.79; SD Department of Health coliform test Wtr \$15; SD Dept of Rev Sale Tax Grbg \$79.64; T. Millard wage Gen'l .....\$138.52; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; US Treasury Gen'l \$11.39; WEB Water Wtr \$2,960.87

WASTEWATER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Dahme's Constr Co Inc. Pay request #1 \$147,509.09; NECOĠ Admin fees \$14,000; NECOG Legal fees \$5,000 OLD BUSINESS

Rich Bakeberg provided a utility report. No reports for Frederick Forward or Historical Society. The Emma Burnham library will remain closed until further notice. The town offered a letter of support to the Frederick Development corporation for a grant application to build senior living facilities. There are some address numbers that were changed in the Frederick area. A community member will be sent a second letter in relation to cars in their yard. They will be removed if the nuisance is not abated by the next meeting. In these uncertain times, a discussion was held on the effect Covid-19 might have on the city. The Board suggests we all use common sense and follow CDC guidelines. The city will not

implement any more stringent

restrictions at this time. Past due utilities will be addressed on a per meeting basis. The city will seek advice and information on ordering trees for Simmons Park. Ted Dickey joined by phone briefly to confirm the payments going through with the CDBG grant this month as it pertains to the wastewater project.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the annual report and accepted to approve with a motion by Kosters/ Millard; motion carried. The first quarter library report was accepted with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried The possibility of opening a CD with excess funds was tabled to discuss in May. It was discussed that Frederick Forward has hosted a clean up day in April. The city discussed bringing a dumpster to the city. This will be decided at the commissioners' meeting this coming Tuesday, April 14. Should the county landfill remain open, the city will try to have a dumpster available for city residents to utilize.

Motion to adjourn made by Kosters/Millard at 8:30 PM. M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer Published once at the total approximate cost of \$40.26. 18900.

## **Brown County** Roofing Bid Notice NOTICE TO ROOFING CON-

TRACTORS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the

Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market

Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M on May 5, 2020, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Project – Remove existing rubber roof and install a new rubber roofing system on the Brown County Courthouse..

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown

County Auditor, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 and be marked on the envelope.

"Brown County Courthouse Roof" to be opened on May 5, 2020.

PROPOSAL GUARANTY: No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a certified check, a cashier's check or bank draft, for 5% of the amount of the bid, such check to be issued by either a state or a national bank and payable to Brown County, or in lieu thereof a bid bond for 10% of the amount of the bid, such bond to be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in South Dakota and pavable to Brown County.

PERFORMANCE BOND: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that

the proposal has been accepted, and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with

Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is

exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

Copies of the specifications are on file at the Brown County Maintenance, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 and obtained at no charge. Phone: 605-626-7124. ATTFST:

Cathy McNickle Brown County Auditor (0422.0429)

Published twice at the total \$44.08. 18883

## Brown County Ord. 164 Jones/Goetz ORDINANCE #164

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-ES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title

4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by A.) Jamie Jones and Steven Goetz, B.) Bruce Jones and Sandy Jones is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): "Lockwood's Outlot 1" in

the NE1/4 of Section 24/T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37963 133rd st)

B.) "Jones's Outlot 1" in the NE1/4 of Section 24-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (37965 133rd st)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this

Notice of Hearing: April 1 and

Passed First Reading: April 14, 2020 Passed Second Reading: April

21, 2020 Adopted: April 21, 2020 Published: April 29, 2020 Effective Date: May 19, 2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair Brown County Commission

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$20.24. 18907

# Cheer someone up! Send a balloon! **Groton Daily** Independent

21 N Main 605-397-NEWS (6397) Delivery in the Groton area

Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Apr. 29, 2020 ♦ 5

# S.D. students suffering loss of learning during school closures

**Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch** 

Millions of American schoolchildren, including tens of thousands in South Dakota, are suffering a loss of learning and reduced exposure to instructional rigor now that schools across the country have closed because of the COVID-19

Despite the best efforts of administrators, teachers and parents to engage in remote learning with students, the mass closures of school buildings across the country will undoubtedly lead to an educational gap for many children, with consistent research showing that elementary students, low-income students and those with special educational needs likely to face the biggest drops.

Public and private K-12 schools began closing across the country in March as concern grew over potential spreading of they are at home. Photo: Courtesy Sioux Falls schools the coronavirus.

As of mid-April, South Dakota and more than two dozen other states had decided schools would not reopen again during the spring semester. National experts and state and local educators acknowledge that remote learning, either by computer or through paper take-home packets, will not be as effective as in-class learning.

"There is recognition that flex learning opportunities are not necessarily offering the same quality as traditional, face-to-face instruction," Mary Stadick Smith, deputy secretary of education in South Dakota, wrote to News Watch in an email. "Certainly, there are teachers and students who are proficient and can excel in an online environment, but for many teachers and students, this is a new world.

Stadick Smith said the state has urged school districts to focus on "essential" learning during the school closures. She said academic standards for the state's roughly 136,000 public school students remain in place, though the state will not administer annual assessments for English, math or science and has waived its requirement that districts report student attendance levels to the state.

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem urged the temporary closure of public schools in mid-March, and then on April 6 announced that the state's 670 public schools would not reopen for the rest of the school year and that all teaching would occur remotely. The 80 or so private school systems in South Dakota, with about 15,500 students, have also followed suit.

Concerns over learning loss and online absenteeism are plaguing school districts across the country, potentially affecting learning for millions of young Americans.

on a global scale: According to an April 3 announcement by UNESCO, at least 35 countries around the world had canceled school because of the virus, affecting nearly 300 million stu-

second-largest public school system in the U.S., with about 750,000 students, reported in April that a third of students were not logging in to online learning platforms and that 13% of students had not had any online contact with a teacher nearly a month after schools closed.

Administrators in South Dakota's two largest districts — in Sioux Falls and Rapid City acknowledge that a small percentage of students and their parents have not yet been contacted by teachers or administrators since schools closed in mid-March.

Among other potential setbacks, the nationwide school closures could significantly exacerbate the "summer learning loss" or "summer slide" that typically occurs in the time between



Teachers are using online technology to more directly connect with students during a time of school closures. In this case, R.F. Pettigrew Elementary School first-grade teacher Nicole Highby used a YouTube video to read to students while

when students depart schools for the summer break to when they return in the fall.

Duke University education professor Harris Cooper, one of the nation's foremost experts on the summer learning slide, said the learning losses will result from students spending nearly double the amount of time away from the classroom this year in comparison with a typical 10-week summer break.

'I can't imagine it's going to do anything other than slow down learning; they're just not going to get the material as well or hold onto it as long," Cooper said.

Cooper was the lead author on a groundbreaking 1996 study that confirmed that children suffer a loss of learning during the summer break, and that the level of loss differs by school subject, student age and family income level.

Cooper and his team reviewed 39 other studies in a process called meta-analysis and found that the summer loss was equal to about one month of grade-level leaning that took place

"I can't imagine it's going to do anything other than slow down learning; they're just not going to get the material as well or hold onto it as long."

-- Duke University professor Harris Cooper

during the school year — meaning that student scores on standardized tests were noticeably lower at the start of the fall semester than when students left school in the spring.

The analysis also found that summer loss The pandemic is also upending education was more detrimental to math skills across all student age groups and populations, and that low-income children also suffered a loss of reading skills. The analysis found that subjects in which learning is more procedural, such as spelling and math, in which new skills are built The Los Angeles Unified School District, the on previous knowledge, were more susceptible to sliding over the summer break.

> The study also showed that low-income students, who may have less parental involvement in their education and fewer educational and reading materials at home, were more susceptible to summer learning loss. According to the state, about 36% of South Dakota public school students receive free or reduced-price lunches, a commonly used indicator of poverty

> Losing classroom instruction time was more detrimental to younger students, who are still developing the skills needed to do well in school now and in the future, the study found.

> "Those differences in the earliest grades may have the greatest impact on a child's academic trajectory," Cooper said. "It puts kids on a different track."

The school closures during the pandemic may have an unknowable level of learning loss because they have created the potential for an unprecedented double-whammy of negative outcomes.

"There's two kinds of loss here there are some things they are going to forget and there's some things they won't ever get exposed to," Cooper said.

Educators say the extended lapse in classroom learning could also increase the educational gap between highachieving students, especially those who are highly motivated and who benefit from strong parental involvement, and students who struggle with learning for any reason.

"The criticalness of parent involvement has certainly increased," said Valerie Seales, director of teaching, learning and innovation in Rapid City.

Keeping students engaged a challenge

Beyond the potential for extended learning loss, the other major concern during the pandemic is whether students are tuned in while learning from home and whether efforts by school districts and teachers to engage with students are effective.

Accurately monitoring student engagement and tracking online absenteeism has been difficult for school districts across the country, including in South Dakota, where administrators and teachers had to scramble just to develop any form of remote learning platform and lesson plans when the pandemic hit.

Most districts are relying on teachers to make sure all families with students were contacted in regard to education and to monitor whether individual students are staying engaged. While teachers try to stay in touch with students, there is little they can do to guarantee students

> are not playing video games, watching television or just hanging around during daytime periods they would otherwise be in class.

> As of mid-April, the Rapid City Area Schools had no engagement-tracking mechanisms in place but hoped to launch a system soon, district spokeswoman Katy Urban said.



**Harris Cooper** 

In Sioux Falls, officials say that 87%

of students were considered to be engaged in schooling as of early April, with 82% being reached by teachers through online formats such as Zoom and Google Classroom or by I-phone, and 5% through paper packets that must be picked up daily or weekly by parents, according to Doug Morrison, director of research, innovation and accountability for the district.

Morrison said he does not expect that students will suffer long-range learning setbacks from the school closures. He said the educational process for children occurs along a continuum in which teachers are constantly assessing student achievement, adjusting teaching methods to reach students as best they can, and then helping those who have fallen behind to catch up.

"We have these kids for 13 years, and we got three quarters of the school year in," he said. "Certainly there is some learning that will be missed or be delivered in a different way in

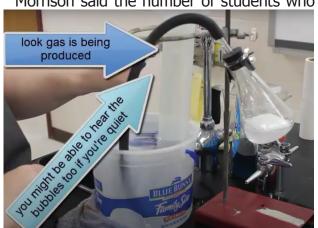
#### Continued from previous page

the last two months, but I wouldn't necessarily say the sky is falling. Is it ideal? No, but I look teachers have gone to great lenghts at the positives from my perspective."

Morrison said teachers in the district have been heroic in their efforts to create new remote lesson plans from scratch, stay engaged with students on a daily basis and find innovative ways to communicate with students and help them learn in a crisis. Some students, particularly at the high school level, were already adept at learning online, and teachers at all levels may be mastering new skills to use technology to reach students.

"I have no doubt we'll see some slide, but I don't think it's going to have a significant longterm impact," Morrison said. "If you look at it, 87% of our kids are actively learning in this environment, either online or in paper packets or whatever, and that's really phenomenal if you think about it."

Morrison said the number of students who



Teaching science remotely has been challenging for teachers, but has also led to innovative methods. Jane Martin, an advanced placement chemistry teacher at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, used photos with descriptive markings to show her students how to do an experiment at home. Photo: Courtesy Sioux Falls schools

are not fully engaged in learning and the 3% who have not been reached at all by the district are in line with chronic absenteeism rates during a normal school year.

But the 87% engagement figure reported by the district doesn't provide a full picture of the effectiveness of teaching and learning during the pandemic, said Tony Martinet, president serious challenges, Sundberg said. of the Sioux Falls Education Association, which represents about 800 teachers.

Martinet said the district is using a "relaxed" definition of engagement during the school closures, one that may not reflect the difficulty students have in learning from home and the the day, so we can see when they're not getchallenges teachers have in working remotely with students.

be modified at the current time," he said. "It means that when students are presented with learning opportunities, that they are trying. They've relaxed it a little bit, so for a student to be engaged, are they logging on, or connecting in some way, or turning some work in? It's not that they're completing every part of of the intangibles that come from learning in the process, but that they're engaged in some a classroom, said Seales, the Rapid City adelement of that."

Martinet said teachers feel that the district has given them a good framework for remote teaching while also allowing for adaptation and innovation. He said he is most concerned that the current learning environment has worsened long-standing inequities in education related to income, family situation or language ability.

be difficult for families in which parents work in essential fields and must leave the home each day, sometimes making older children ages are finding it difficult to juggle the differresponsible for the care and education of their younger siblings.

"Some of the frustrations are around equity issues; are we giving the same opportunities with multiple teachers, it can be pretty overto all students?" he said.

Families that did not have computers or online access were provided devices by the potential for summer learning loss and have school district, and some internet providers tried to minimize its impact, both through

around the state have given free service to families.

The Sioux Falls district and its to reach students who may be more vulnerable to learning loss during the pandemic, said Teresa Boysen, assistant superintendent of academic achievement.

Boysen referred to teachers as the "rock stars" of the district, and said many are working to find unique ways to teach students who need extra help. Some are teaching science without using in-class experiments, while others are seeking ways to improve programming.

lower-income students and those pandemic. Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch whose primary language is not Eng-

lish, which includes about 2,800 of the district's roughly 25,000 students. She acknowledged that in some cases, remote learning will not be as effective as in-class, more personalized instruction.

"How do you do a cooking class or a science experiment when you don't have those things at home?" she said. "And when we think about the lack of access to that second language, they aren't having that practice like they were because there's nine weeks' loss of daily instruction and just being around that language."

Rural school districts in South Dakota are facing some of the same challenges as more urban districts, but their transition to remote learning may have gone more smoothly in some respects, said Chip Sundberg, superintendent of schools in Gettysburg in Potter County.

Parents of all of the 231 students in the district have been contacted, so all students are in communication with their teachers, Sundberg said. A survey right after the school closure found that only five families did not have internet access, so after making some arrangements for service, engaging with students online has been efficient, he said.

The district also does not have a great need to teach English as a second language, and while poverty is present in the district — 27% of students receive free or reduced-price lunches — income issues have not presented

Still, remote learning creates a gap in the ability of teachers to reach rural students who have learning challenges or who may not have strong educational support at home.

"We typically see our kids seven hours out of ting what is happening with the learning, and we've got kids that are in home situations that "Their standard for engagement has had to aren't the best for anybody," he said. "We're missing those opportunities to have those conversations with the kids that are struggling."

### Coming back from a crisis

The focus on teaching only "essential" topics and standards will certainly diminish some ministrator.

"There are students that may end the school year right where they would have had they been in school, self-motivated, self-directed learners who are probably faring better than those students who needed more interaction with their teachers face to face," she said.

Rapid City, which is home to a handful of high-poverty schools, has faced challenges For example, he said, remote learning could in equipping all families with computers and internet access.

Furthermore, parents with children of varying ent types of remote learning that are occurring at different grade levels, said Seales.

"If you're a parent that has multiple students

School districts have long been aware of the



Lynelle Asher packs boxes with food at the students' reading skills through online Feeding South Dakota distribution center in Pierre on April 7. She said volunteering is a way Boysen said teachers are aware to fight back against COVID-19 and help people that it may take extra effort to reach who are struggling to make ends meet during the

> summer-school programs and through assessments and teaching adjustments made at the start of the next school year.

> She said teachers are aware remediation may be needed when students return to school after the pandemic eases, hopefully by the fall.

"Certainly, I think we're all going to have to bear in mind when we start the next school year the loss of these nine weeks. It isn't going to leave our students in the same starting point had this not occurred," she said. "The typical transition into the school year, and the startup where you take the time to try to establish the classroom environment and meet the social and emotional sides of student needs, I think that's going to look different in the next year due to the monumental amount of time that we've been out."

Trying to remotely teach elementary-age children in an urban neighborhood has been both challenging and rewarding, said Kirk Zeeck, principal of Anne Sullivan Elementary School in Sioux Falls.

Opening and maintaining strong lines of reciprocal communication with parents and students has been the biggest educational challenge for teachers so far, especially with students whose first language is not English, Zeeck said.

His school has about 600 children who speak about two dozen different languages; about 75% of students receive free or reduced-price lunches. In addition to teaching those children remotely, Zeeck and his staff are also responsible for providing daily breakfasts and lunches to those who arrive at a drive-up distribution point (meals are also provided to community members who show up).

Reaching students with learning challenges or disabilities has been difficult for his staff, Zeeck said. For example, a school reading specialist who has a caseload of 30 to 40 students has been able to reach only about 15 to 20 of those students regularly, he said.

But most teachers have had success connecting with students; he said teachers with a classroom of about 25 children have typically stayed in communication with about 20 of those students.

Zeeck said students aren't learning every minute or hour they are at school, so teachers and parents are considering that when creating and executing lesson plans. He added that stresses at home during the pandemic can also create barriers to learning. As a result, he said, teachers are encouraging parents and students to put in two good hours of learning time at home each day.

"You can't replicate the instruction in the classroom, that's for sure, but we're doing our best," he said.

Zeeck said he has seen unexpected benefits from the pandemic in that teachers are able to better assess what works and what doesn't, to expand their creativity and to value more deeply their ability to provide students with a well-rounded education.

"However devastating, this is for teachers a wonderful opportunity to boost your creativity

### **Continues on next page**

#### Continued from previous page

and go into the most incredible creative learning opportunity of all time," he said.

Some teachers are videotaping themselves conducting lessons, while some parents take pictures of their child's homework and text or email it to teachers to maintain a strong connection and accountability.

Parents and children, he said, are also using the time in isolation to better understand the value of education and what it means to their futures.

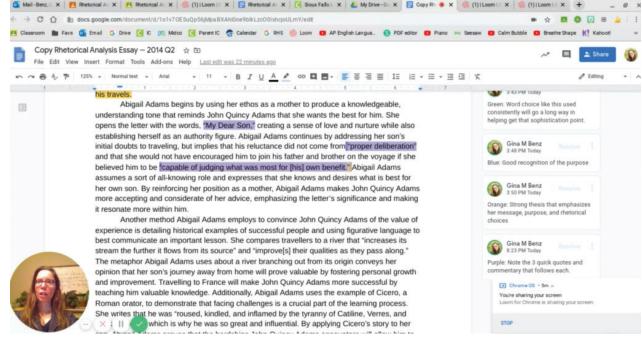
"If you look for a silver lining, this step back, this staying at home, it's given them a chance to think, 'What do I, as a third-grader or fifthgrader, what do I really want to do with my life, how can I be a good citizen in our community?"

Sioux Falls school officials said they will not hold students back a grade solely due to remote learning and will generally allow students to maintain the class grades they had when schools closed.

Stadick Smith said the state and school districts will work together to catch students up when things return to normal and that individual districts may seek solutions that are unique to their schools and populations.

"School leaders and we here at the state are starting to have conversations about the expected learning loss and the best ways to address it when the appropriate times comes,"

Cooper, the Duke researcher, said school



A side benefit from the school closures is that some teachers are becoming experienced in the effective use of technology to connect with students remotely. This screenshot shows Roosevelt High School advanced placement English teacher Gina Benz using the video service Loom to discuss a literature assignment with **students in real time.** Photo: Courtesy Sioux Falls schools

**Groton City** 

**April 21, 2020** 

**Meeting Minutes** 

on the above date at 7:00pm at

the Community Center for their

second monthly meeting with

the following members pres-

ent: Wells, Blackmun, Cutler,

McGannon, Babcock and Mayor

Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Hope Block, and

One 3-year soda bid contract

was received from CocaCola.

The bid was reviewed, and approved on the condition that due

to the Coronavirus, the City may

not use the services this year.

Moved to approve the bid on

the conditions by Blackmun and

seconded by Wells. All members

Public comments were wel-

The minutes from the previ-

ous meeting were approved on

a motion by Blackmun and sec-

onded by Babcock. All members

by McGannon to authorize the

following bills for payment. All

salaries; Executive, \$323.20,

Administrative, \$3,316.22,

Public Safety, \$8,866.05, ; Public

Works, \$8,407.86, ; First State Bank, \$7,130.26, SS and WH ; First State Bank, \$466.66, HSA

contributions; Dakotaland FCU,

\$1,050.00, Employee savings;

SD State Treasurer, \$10,286.12, Sales tax 3/20; SD Supp Retire-

ment, \$570.00, Employee retire-

ment; James Valley, \$2,400.00,

Commercial lighting rebate;

Jacqueline Wagner, \$500.00, HWH rebate; JGE, \$769.58, Broom repairs; ,\$447.12, Repair oil leak; Specialty Manufacturing,

\$20.16, Hot square rod; James

Valley, \$555.25, Utilities; SD One

Call, \$8.40, Fees January thru

March; Kens Food, \$124.55, Gas,

paper products, water; Heartland

Waste, \$7,962.57, Garbage haul-

ing 3/20; Heartland Consumer

Western Area Power, \$54,985.10,

was approved on a motion by

Babcock and seconded by Cutler.

Moved to table the consider-

ation of Ordinance #734 Amend-

ing 4-4-1 Removing Fowl Restric-

Options for remote City Coun-

cil meetings were discussed

in the event the Coronavirus

outbreaks gets worse. For now,

the meetings remain in person at the Groton Community Center.

onded by Wells to adjourn into

executive session for personnel

and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3)

at 7:39pm. All members voted

aye. Council reconvened into

Moved by Blackmun and sec-

onded by Wells to adjourn the

meeting at 7:45pm. All members

regular session at 7:45pm.

Moved by Babcock and sec-

tions. All members voted ave.

The March finance report

Power, \$21,437.19, Powe

All members voted aye.

Power 3/20

members voted ave.

Moved by Wells and seconded

Payroll, \$20,913.33, Employee

comed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1,

but none were received.

The Groton City Council met

April 21, 2020

Paul Kosel.

voted ave.

voted aye.

districts should consider drastic steps to help students catch up, including delaying student promotions to the next grade until a couple of months after school resumes. He also suggested the upcoming school year could be extended by 30 days or more to provide additional instruction time to help students get back on track with educational standards.

> That would certainly cost more money and require teacher contracts to be adjusted in the coming year, but the need to erase learning losses in an entire generation of students would be well worth the cost,

> "All of this is costing money, but if you think about the long-term costs of a generation that is not going to have the same skill set as they should when they leave school, there will be a cost to that dispersed over time," Cooper said. "We're going to pay for it -one way or

Cooper said.

another.'

# **Groton City** Notice of

Voter Registration NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration for the City of Groton Election to be held on June 2, 2020, will close on May 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal at www sdsos gov or call the Brown County auditor at 605-626-7110.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.sdsos.gov.

Any voter who needs assisinformation and special assis-

Scott Hanlon, Mayor Hope Block, Finance Officer tance in voter registration. Hope Block – Groton City Published once at the total ap-

voted ave.

proximate cost of \$24.55. 18896

### **Brown County Notice of** Voter Registration NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR

VOTER REGISTRATION Voter registration for the Primary Election to be held on June 2, 2020 will close on May

18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the county auditor at (605) 626-7110.

Registration may be com-pleted during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.sdsos.gov.

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration.

Cathy McNickle - Brown County Auditor

(0429.0506)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$25.27.

### **Groton School** Notice of **Voter Registration**

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIS-

TRICT NO. 06-6 Voter registration for the Groton Area School District School Board Election to be held on June 2020 will close on May 18, 2020. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the Brown County Auditor at (605) 626-7110, the Clark County Auditor at (605) 532-5921, Day County Auditor at (605) 345-9500, Marshall County Auditor at (605) 448-2401, or Spink County Auditor at (605) 472-4580

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact your county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.sdsos.gov.

Voters with disabilities may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration, absentee voting, or polling place

Michael J. Weber, Business Official

Groton Area School District Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$27.17.18910 (2t. Apr. 27 & May 4, 2020)



tance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor for

Finance Officer (0429.0506)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.98.