

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
December 21, 2016 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Jen Seliger at 5:30 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Kevin Blake, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, and Jen Seliger. Board members absent: Eric Geiss and Linda Yingling. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Dale Bergman, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor; Joan Krohn, Director of 4K/Early Childhood/Head Start; Shannon Murray, High School Principal, Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Eric Becker, Elementary Principal; Doug Coddington, Elementary Principal; Dawn Nonn, Elementary Teaching Principal; Student Board Representatives Trevor Stadler and Rachel Rell; approximately 29 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

Proulx left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

President Seliger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Geiss present at 5:32 p.m.

The following were recognized by the Board of Education during recognition: Jon Gruetzmacher, who made 1st Team All-State offensive lineman. Katie Zelinski, who was selected to the WIAA State Tournament Volleyball Team and was chosen as Honorable Mention All-State in Volleyball. Beyond Crayons Grant Recipients that took the time to apply for this grant for the betterment of our students! Lynn Kurth and Prairie River Middle School (PRMS), who was chosen as one of the recipients of the Innovative Educator Grant offered through Wisconsin Public Service Foundation. PRMS was selected as one of the recipients for Engineering with Remotely Operational Vehicles and received \$1,000. Elli Wilk and the High School Band, for their excellent performance and showmanship at the 2016 Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) State Marching Band Championship in October. Ryan Martinovici, Carrie Pierschalla and Trina Knospe for presenting at the 2016 DPI Academic and Career Planning Leadership Conference (ACP). Joseph Ladewig for placing 1st in the 2016-2017 Student Art Exhibit and Awards at the State Education Convention. Others that placed in the contest were Ananda Van Wie, 3rd; and, Makyah Goetsch, 7th. The Board would also like to recognize their instructor, Linda DeBroux. Laurie Smith and her culinary students, Laura Krause-Zastrow and Taher Food Service for bringing international culture to our high school.

There were no public comments.

Trevor Stadler and Rachel Rell, Student Board of Education Representatives, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including the December 4 Messiah concert; MHS students helped out with Secret Santa at some of the elementary schools; the Peppermint took place December 10; students did a blanket drive for the fire victims in Tennessee; the MHS Book Club is doing a book drive and donating to the Salvation Army and kids in need; the girls basketball team got gifts for needy students at Washington; Coach Scott Arneson was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame; next week is Christmas break; and, the semester ends on January 19, 2017. The featured new teacher of the month was Mr. DeCleene; a “get to know you” interview was shared with the Board.

There were administrative reports shared with the Board including: after-school activities, extra-curricular and athletics; PRSYL monthly data; food service participation update; human resources report; monthly budget update; technology; and, the superintendent's report, which included monthly activities, Bierman Foundation meeting, Employee Engagement Survey results and Strategic and Long Range Financial Planning Committee.

There were committee updates shared with the Board from the Health Insurance Advisory Committee, Facilities Committee, Finance-Human Resources Committee and Jay Stadium.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ratliff to approve the 2017-2018 Merrill High School Course Description Book. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed and gave feedback on the draft 2017-2018 school calendars.

Brian Dasher presented the 2017-2018 budget forecast and adoption of expenditure assumptions.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed 2017 recommended WASB resolutions for the state convention in Milwaukee in January.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Ashbeck to approve the 2017-2022 Bridges Virtual Academy contract with MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Blake to approve the enrollment caps for Bridges Virtual Academy and Maple Grove Charter School as presented in the administrative reports. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Blake, second by Ashbeck to allow BVA to create an Rtl Coordinator position, to be compensated as determined by the BVA Governance Board from the BVA budget. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the community conversation outcomes standing agenda item.

Ratliff left the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

President Seliger asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from the consent agenda, hearing none, she called for a motion.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Geiss to approve consent agenda items a through d, which included: minutes of the November 16, 2016 meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,012,069.62; the personnel report, which includes the hiring's of: Amanda Schmidt, MHS Special Education Aide, effective December 19, 2016; Virginia Simon, PRMS Attendance Secretary, effective date January 2, 2017; Tara Hannemann, PRMS Activities Secretary, effective date January 2, 2017; Rita Brodjieski, HR/Finance Assistant, effective January 2, 2017; Colton Holz, MHS Custodian, effective November 29, 2016; and, Maxine Schuetze, PRMS Special Education Aide, effective January 2, 2017; and, the following donations: popcorn, soda and water from Ascension/Good Samaritan Health Center valued at \$216.00 for providing refreshments for MAPS staff viewing of *Paper Tigers*; Judy Moody books from an anonymous donor valued at \$66.00 for reading enjoyment at Jefferson Elementary School; cash from Misty & Dean Kreamsreiter valued at \$40.00 for the 6th grade field trip activity account; art supplies from Friends of Maple Grove valued at \$173.47 for creating beautiful art projects at Maple

Grove School; expedition and literacy resources from Friends of Maple Grove valued at \$217.73 for teaching 3rd-5th grade students reading workshops and science lessons; Mexican food/candy from John & Janice Rydeski valued at \$25.00 for sharing with the PRMS Spanish students; funds from Secret Santa valued at \$1,000.00 for student needs at Prairie River Middle School; a 6 x 12 dog kennel, house and wooden platform from Gerald & Amy Beyer valued at \$300.00 for providing a safe house facility for "Forest" (the school forest dog); transportation costs from the Friends of Maple Grove valued at \$127.00 for outdoor educational learning at Maple Grove School; the following donations for the Jay Stadium: funds from Bret and Sarah Miller valued at \$1,000.00; funds from Jodi Bloch and Karen Gavake valued at \$100.00; funds from Michael & Tammy Saal valued at \$300.00; funds from the paper football sales valued at \$270.00; funds from Riiser Energy Pride Pump valued at \$1,178.15; funds from an anonymous donor valued at \$1,500.00; and, a bench from the Apprill, Malinowski, Klebenow, Rudie and Skic Families valued at \$1,000.00 in memory of Dave Hoff; funds from Jennifer Willman valued at \$50.00; funds from the PRMS student activities valued at \$500.00; funds from Keene & Susan Warren valued at \$50.00; and, funds from Bruce English valued at \$50.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 8:15 a.m. at WJMT Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday - January 4, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- PRSYL Policy Governance Board Meeting: Tuesday - January 10, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m. @ PRSYL
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday - January 11, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Health Insurance Committee Meeting: Wednesday - January 25, 2017 @ 4:00 in the Small Conference Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday – January 25, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Policy Committee Meeting: Thursday - January 26, 2017 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room

President Seliger called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 19.85(1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. The purpose of the closed session was to conduct a review of current administrative contracts and timelines and for considering recommendations of the Superintendent for continued employment/contract renewals of administrative employees; to consider changing educator effectiveness project status from year two to year three for a stipend increase for a high school teacher; and, to discuss the possible salary increase of the Human Resources Director. MOTION by Geiss, second by Blake to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

7:01 p.m. – 9 minute break.

7:24 p.m. – Proulx returned to the meeting.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Blake, second by Geiss to approve the status change from year 2 to year 3 for Jennifer Peterson and to increase the stipend in regards to the Educator Effectiveness Project. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Kevin Blake
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder