

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
May 17, 2017 – 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, Eric Geiss, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Linda Yingling and Jen Seliger. Board members absent: None. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Karen Baker, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education; Joan Krohn, Director of 4K/Early Childhood/Head Start; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Eric Becker, Elementary Principal; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Elementary Teaching Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Doug Coddington, Elementary Principal; John Hagemeister, BVA Administrator; Dale Bergman, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor; Rick Bonnell, Activities Director; Mark Heckendorf, Student Resource Officer; Student Board Representative Rachel Rell; approximately 22 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Seliger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

The following were recognized by the Board of Education during recognition: Our returning student board representative, Rachel Rell, for her service. Tony Grenwalt, a Maple Grove volunteer. Tony's children all came through Maple Grove, the last one being 2 years ago. Even though his children have moved on, he continues to have a strong presence at the school, building his own traditions. Tony comes in on a regular basis to drop off homemade desserts for staff or to make popcorn for the staff and students. Everyone knows when it is a popcorn day, Tony makes each student a small bag for their afternoon snack. He also helps with making pancakes, tapping the Maple trees, and supporting the chick hatching, including fixing the incubator. In April, he showed up with 24 fertilized chicken eggs. The primary students are excited to see these little ones develop. Maple Grove is lucky to have such a special volunteer that is always willing to help out! Jared Ollhoff, who set two new school records. On March 22nd he broke the indoor record jump of 43-05.00" and on April 18th he broke the outdoor record with a jump of 44-09.00"; and, Adam Laehn, who tied a school record on March 22nd in the Long Jump with his jump of 21-03.00".

Abe Akey was introduced as the new student school board representative for the 2017-2018 school year.

Rachel Rell, Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School including the Otto Bacher, which is the first time it was held at Jay Stadium; On Stage; AP tests are wrapping up; yearbooks for seniors went out today, the rest out tomorrow; the seniors' last day is May 24, with the awards ceremony that evening; and, the graduation is at 6:00 p.m. on May 26 located at Jay Stadium, weather permitting.

Officer Mark Heckendorf gave an update to the Board on Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate (ALICE) training.

Kristen Novitch and Talena Bliven gave a brief presentation to the Board in regards to a Kenya project they are doing at Washington Elementary School.

There were administrative reports shared with the Board including an end-of-year wrap up for the buildings; Pine River School for Young Learners monthly data; food service participation report; human resources update; Jay Stadium; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the superintendent's report.

President Seliger presented the board committee assignments for 2017-2018.

There were committee updates shared with the Board from the Health Insurance Committee, Finance-Human Resources Committee and Policy Committee.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to recognize the current Merrill Club bowling team as the Merrill High School Bowling Team starting at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. The members of the team will be eligible for recognition and awards. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Blake, second by Proulx to allow Merrill High School to add a fishing club to their list of activities. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to approve the elementary, middle school and high school handbooks for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss to approve the renewal of the Merrill Adult Diploma Academy charter school contract for the 2017-2018 school year and approve the 2017-2018 MADA calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Ratliff left the meeting from 6:47-6:50 p.m.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to approve the revised FY17 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the 2017-2018 preliminary budget without the increase in per pupil adjustment aid. Motion carried unanimously.

Smith left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

MOTION by Yingling, second by Blake to approve the hire of Jill Seaman for the position of Pine River School for Young Learners Director of Head Start/Early Childhood/4K, pending final approval by the Office of Head Start. Motion carried unanimously (with Smith absent for the vote).

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve Nexus Solutions as MAPS preferred Energy Services Corporation (ESCO). Motion carried unanimously (with Smith absent for the vote).

Smith back at 7:21 p.m.

7:34 p.m. – 13 minute break due to weather.

Ratliff left the meeting from 7:48-7:49 p.m.

Proulx left the meeting from 7:58-7:59 p.m.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to approve employee health insurance premium contributions of 12%, effective July 1, 2017. The savings to the District will be earmarked or offset the increase to employees if the State Budget allows it. Unless a budget that removes this provision is signed into law prior to June 13. AMENDMENT by Smith, second by Volpe to strike out, "The savings to the District will be earmarked or offset the increase to employees if the State Budget allows it. Unless a budget that removes this provision is signed into law prior to June 13." and add, "to review at a future date after the budget passes." The amendment carried unanimously. Motion to approve employee health insurance premium contributions of 12%, effective July 1, 2017, to review at a future date after the budget passes carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve the \$0.10 increase in lunch prices for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Geiss to authorize a 1.0 FTE Special Education/Elementary teaching position to support the needs of BVA students. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ashbeck to authorize the creation of the 1.0 FTE ACP-College and Career Resource position to be shared between MHS and BVA with 0.33 FTE to be paid by MAPS and 0.67 FTE to be paid by BVA. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Geiss to approve the revised section 66.0301 WERMC agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Geiss to approve the Support Staff Compensation Plan and the use of the framework to develop appropriate salary schedules for Custodians and Computer Techs which will be back to the Board for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Yingling to approve the 2017-2018 Wisconsin State Head Start Supplemental Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Sample gave the Board an update on the Community Conversation outcomes.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve the donation of funds from ExxonMobil valued at \$5,000.00 for Merrill Area Public Schools as a donation from their Mobil Retiree Matching Gift Program that matches contributions made by Peter G. Caylor. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ashbeck to approve the donation of funds from an anonymous donor valued at \$3,344.90 for the Merrill High School Theater/auditorium LED lighting needs. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Geiss to approve consent agenda items a through f, which included: minutes of the April 19 and April 24, 2017 meetings; Second readings of Bylaw 0100 Definitions; Policy 3120 Employment of Professional Staff; Policy 3120.01 Job Descriptions; Policy 3310 Employee Expression of Non-instructional Settings; Policy 4120 Employment of Support Staff; Policy 4120.01 Job Descriptions; Policy 4310 Freedom of Speech in Non-School Settings; Policy 5111.01 Homeless Students; Policy 5460 Graduation Requirements; Policy 6145 Borrowing; Policy 6700 Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA); Policy 8330 Student Records; Policy 8500 Food Services; and, Policy 8531 Free and Reduced Price Meals; the deletion of Policy 6350 Prevailing Wage Coordinator; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$5,247,005.96;

the personnel report, which includes the hirings of John Miller, Activities Director, effective July 1, 2017; Heather Kahr, Washington Elementary Teacher, effective August 22, 2017; Brian Zorowski, High School Special Education Teacher, effective August 22, 2017; Catherine Demmon, Elementary Music Teacher, effective August 22, 2017; Hannah Froberg, Middle School Teacher, effective August 22, 2017; and, Matthew Schult Middle School Teacher, effective August 22, 2017; the resignations of Chelsea Schenck, effective June 9, 2017; Karla Tennant, effective June 9, 2017; Christine Hadju, effective June 9, 2017; and, Michelle Schotz, effective June 9, 2017; and, the transfers of Kim Hoff; Holly Shannon, Shannon Pichler and Emily Gonzales; the following donations: a gift card from Secret Santa valued at \$1,000.00 for providing innovative learning experiences to Jefferson Elementary students; 10 dilly bars from Dairy Queen valued at \$13.49 for 6th grade Compass Learning incentives; funds from the Merrill Lions Club valued at \$250.00 for the PRMS pen making project for the Never Forgotten Honor Flight; Scholastic books from the Jefferson PTO valued at \$250.00 for educational enjoyment at Jefferson Elementary School; funds from Ev & Dick Bjorklund valued at \$200.00 for the PRMS pen making project for the Never Forgotten Honor Flight; donations for the Jefferson Elementary School PTO Family Fun Fair fundraiser: gift cards from Cellcom valued at \$20.00; a free exam, x-rays and massage from The Wellness Center at Gress Chiropractic valued at \$415.00; 4 calzones and 6 sub sandwiches from Subway Sandwiches valued at \$50.00; a free oil and filter change from Brickners Park City valued at \$38.00; gift certificates from the Friendship House Family Restaurant valued at \$60.00; a family pass from Grandpa's Farm valued at \$50.00; a raffle basket from H & R Block valued at \$75.00; a gift certificate from Sawmill Brewing Company valued at \$10.00; two admissions and a large combo each month for a year from the Cosmo Theatre valued at \$312.00; a gift certificate from Merrill House of Music valued at \$25.00; a gift certificate for a ½ day guided musky trip from Musky Moon Guide Service valued at \$265.00; five car wash tokens from Z-Best Car Wash valued at \$55.00; two gift certificates from Kathy & Cal's Club 64 valued at \$20.00; one month Crossfit/Parisi kid membership from Riverside Athletic Club valued at \$59.00; six cutting boards and six key chains with Jefferson's logo from Precision Laser Cutting LLC valued at \$102.00; a stuffed seasonal owl from Blooming Wishes LLC valued at \$40.00; two banks, stuffed animal and sets of markers from BMO Harris Bank valued at \$15.00; a Pampered Chef gift basket from Stephanie Kufahl/Pampered Chef valued at \$140.00; a Home sign from Megan Mueller valued at \$40.00; a deluxe studio session with ducklings from Phil Ziesemer Photography valued at \$150.00; a Stormy Kromer hat from Generations Antique Company valued at \$45.00; a flower girl lamp from Courtside Furniture valued at \$100.00; fuel and plane for one hour from Merrill Municipal Airport valued at \$115.00; flight of an aircraft for one hour from Merrill Municipal Airport valued at \$40.00; ride to school in a fire truck from Merrill Fire Fighters valued at \$100.00; 2016 NAPA race car transporter from NAPA valued at \$50.00; a can cooler, winter hat, baseball hat and sweatshirt from Sierra Pacific Windows valued at \$60.00; 2# of pulled pork from Ed & Sharon's valued at \$15.00; a hat, towels, Citrol and sockets from Carquest Auto Parts valued at \$40.00; four admissions to the Bierman Family Aquatic Center from Merrill City Smith Multi Center valued at \$16.00; a gift certificate for a vehicle detail from Stark valued at \$80.00; gift certificates from First Street Coffee Station valued at \$10.00; gift certificates from Los Mezcales valued at \$20.00; gift cards from Kwik Trip valued at \$20.00; a gift basket from Johnson's of Merrill valued at \$128.00; 60 minute Swedish massage from Presence of Balance Massage valued at \$65.00; a professional tray whitening from Midwest Dental valued at \$200.00; 9-holes, hat and a shirt from Merrill Golf Club valued at \$50.00; a gift certificate from 2510 Restaurant valued at \$30.00; a kid's gift basket from Park City Credit Union valued at \$35.00; a gift certificate from Collins Bar & Grill valued at \$10.00; a gift certificate from Kozy Korner valued at \$15.00; a gift certificate from Ku's Wokery valued at \$15.00; a gift certificate from Les & Jim's Lincoln Lanes valued at \$30.00; a gift basket from Lincoln Community Bank valued at \$25.00; a gift card from Family Video valued at \$10.00; a gift certificate and products from Waves Full Services valued at \$30.00; sport items and gift certificates from Culver's of

Merrill valued at \$60.00; an organizing bag from VIP Office Products, Inc. valued at \$50.00; a gift basket from Hugo's Pizza valued at \$40.00; car washes from Holiday Station valued at \$40.00; a gift card from SGS Environmental Contracting valued at \$20.00; gift certificates from Clark's Cup N Cone valued at \$25.00; one month free karate classes from Center for Creative Wellness valued at \$50.00; a gift certificate from Star Nails valued at \$20.00; two gift certificates and hats from Breaman Ford Merrill valued at \$84.00; a gift certificate from Central Carpet & Flooring valued at \$25.00; gift cards from Auto Jockeys valued at \$100.00; a Merrill t-shirt from Dave's County Market valued at \$15.81; a gift basket from Rezin Optical LLC valued at \$75.00; free sandwiches from Arby's valued at \$30.00; a gift certificate from AmericInn valued at \$100.00; a gift certificate from Images Hair & Spa valued at \$35.00; a gift certificate from Pine Ridge Family Restaurant valued at \$30.00; a gift certificate from Chips Hamburgers valued at \$24.00; a low backrest pillow from Silverman Chiropractic valued at \$22.99; a gift certificate from Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe LLC valued at \$30.00; pair of boots from Weinbrenner/Thorogood Shoes valued at \$120.00; two shirts, two jackets, two hats, three flashlights, a multi-tool, picnic blanket and phone charger from Interflex Group valued at \$100.00; a check from Church Mutual Insurance valued at \$250.00; a Dorinda's zebra bag and sweatshirt from Dorinda's Dance Studio valued at \$90.00; a 4 piece garden tool set from Merrill ACE Hardware valued at \$10.00; a gift card from Super-Lube valued at \$50.00; gift cards from Z's Fork Horners valued at \$20.00; 9 hole golf and chicken dinner from Club X to C Golf Course & Restaurant valued at \$25.00; funds from the following individuals for purchasing a 10" VS Lathe and two turning tools for the PRMS Honor Flight pen project: The Roc, LLC valued at \$350.00; and, Merrill Community Bank valued at \$350.00; funds from the Bierman Family Foundation valued at \$1,000.00 for purchasing bike helmets for student safety at Pine River School for Young Learners; funds from Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin valued at \$1,000.00 for the Never Forgotten Honor Flight pen project through the Beyond Crayons & Computers Grant funding; vases and tea cups from St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store valued at \$30.00 for the Washington Elementary Mother's Day fundraising sale for Kitulu Primary School in Kenya; funds from State Farm Companies Foundation valued at \$1500.00 for the Jay Stadium and matching funds of Bob Grunenwald through the Matching Gift Program; and, transportation costs from Friends of Maple Grove valued at \$860.85 for Maple Grove Students to go to the School Forest, Madison and Rhinelander. Motion carried unanimously with Volpe and Ashbeck abstaining from the April 19, 2017 minutes.

There were no items for future meetings.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 8:15 a.m. at WJMT Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Special Board Meeting - Board Retreat: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 @5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- School Forest Advisory Meeting: Thursday - June 1, 2017 @ 4:00 p.m. at the School Forest
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday - June 7, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Long Range Financial/Referendum Planning Meeting: Wednesday - June 7, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m. at the MHS Library
- Design Team Meeting: Tuesday - June 13, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday – June 21, 2017 @ 5:30 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; and, 118.125 for the purpose of considering open enrollment applications that may involve discussions of confidential student records, and to discuss other matters involving student records and personal histories, that if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse effect on the reputations of the person discussed. The purpose of the closed session is to consider open enrollment applications; and, discuss administrative contracts and salaries/wages for 2017-2018. MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

8:45 p.m. – 6 minute break.

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

MOTION by Blake, second by Geiss to approve 458 new students open enrolling into MAPS and 603 students continuing to open enroll into MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Blake, second by Ratliff to approve 33 new students open enrolling out of MAPS and 101 students continuing to open enroll out of MAPS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss to approve a 1.5% salary increase for all effective administrators. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to eliminate all administrative stipends. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss that as a strategic market adjustment, they move to increase the Human Resources Director position's annual salary to \$90,500 for the 2017-2018 budget year, which is to include a 1.5% increase. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Geiss to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Kevin Blake
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder