

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
December 20, 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, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Linda Yingling and Jen Seliger. Board members absent: Eric Geiss. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; two members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Seliger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to go back to one meeting a month starting in January, reserving the first Wednesday of the month for Committee Meetings; the second Wednesday of the month reserved for Special Board Meetings, as needed; the 3rd Wednesday of the month for Regular Board Meetings (except the originally scheduled January 24 meeting); and, then other Special Board Meetings as needed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to approve the amendment to the performance contract with Nexus Solutions. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed potential 2018-2019 budget reconciliation strategies.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the resolution authorizing the school district budget to exceed revenue limit by \$2,500,000 per year for four years for non-recurring purposes. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to approve the resolution providing for a referendum election on the question of the approval of a resolution authorizing the school district budget to exceed revenue limit by \$2,500,000 per year for four years. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

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

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve consent agenda items a through l, which includes approval of the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school calendars; approval of the 2017 MAPS Head Start Policy Council Bylaws; to disband the Board Health Insurance Advisory Committee and allow the administration to implement an Employee Health Insurance Committee (Smith left that meeting at 6:04 p.m.) that will not include Board representation; approve the revised 2017-2018 budget as presented; allow the creation of a separate student activity account specific for Glee Club; approval of the enrollment caps for Maple Grove School and Bridges Virtual Academy as presented; (Smith returned at 6:04 p.m.) approval to enter into a timber sale contract with Marthwood Shavings for at the Nels P. Evjue Memorial School Forest; minutes of the November 14, 2017 Long Range Financial/Referendum Planning Meeting;

November 15, 2017 Regular Board Meeting; November 29, 2017 Long Range Financial/Referendum Planning Meeting; December 6, 2017 Special Board Meeting; December 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting; and, December 13, 2017 Special Board Meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$4,147,427.03; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$8,003.56. Motion carried unanimously with Proulx and Volpe abstaining from the November 14, 2017 minutes; and, Volpe abstaining from the December 13, 2017 minutes.

For future meetings, Ashbeck asked to look into what the Governor said last week about there being grants for rural areas for technology. Do we qualify as rural and if we do, can that money be used as a fab lab.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 8:15 a.m. at WJMT Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Head Start Policy Council: Tuesday, January 9, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- School Forest Advisory Committee Meeting: Monday, January 22, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m. at the School Forest
- Regular Board of Education Meeting: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom

MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to adjourn at 6:08 p.m.



Kevin Blake
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder