

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
April 18, 2018 – 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 member absent: None. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Laura Krause-Zastrow, Director of Food Service; Student Representatives Rachel Rell and Abe Akey; approximately 46 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Seliger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

During public comments, Tom Andreska commented on health premiums

During recognition, the following were recognized: Nancy Reinhardt Porath - on April 3, 2018, Nancy saw that co-worker was choking; acting quickly, Nancy performed the Heimlich maneuver on the co-worker to help her breathe again. We want to thank Nancy for not panicking in a very scary situation and her quick reaction to an employee in need! Addie Elliott, Grace Hooch and Bella Kottke for coming up with a plan and creating a monthly presentation to share Jefferson events, tips and information through a news show called the Jaguar Report. They planned all of the segments, shot footage and wrote the scripts themselves. We are proud of them for taking the initiative to start this and working so hard as a team! Also being recognized are Evan Elliott, Zach Schmeltzer and Colton Burrows, who put in a ton of work and planning on their Sports News section this month. Russ Noland on being selected to receive a School Forest Award from the Wisconsin School Forest program and LEAF, Wisconsin's K-12 forestry education program. Russ not only provides rich, hands on projects to all of the students in the Merrill Area Public Schools, but also the community through MAPS School Forest Family Fun Days. Under his leadership, the Forest continues to expand in its offerings to students, including summer school, its community partnerships including bobcat tracking and celebrating Merrill's history, and finally, fostering strong ties through the Friends of the Forest. Abe Akey for achieving a perfect score on the ACT Test. Our departing student board representative, Rachel Rell, for her service the last two years.

Jen Seliger was recognized for her years of service as a school board member.

Rachel Rell and Abe Akey, Student Board of Education Representatives, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including the musical; Inspire testing; track indoor season just ended; spring sports on hold for weather; Prom is on Saturday with the Grand March at 6:30 p.m. and then the dance at the Enrichment Center; and, the end of the school year fast approaching.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: climate/culture; (Rell and Akey left at 5:49 p.m.) MAP cohort data; PRSYL monthly data; food participation report; Special Education/Pupil Services report; Human Resources report; quarterly out-of-state travel report; quarterly summary of purchases between \$5,000-\$9,999; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the Superintendent's report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Curriculum/Technology/Special Education, Facilities, Finance/HR Committees and Teacher Salary Committee meetings.

It was the consensus of the Board to move "agenda item i. Approval of 2018-2019 Budget Reductions to Be Made in the Event of a Successful Referendum" to the second place under Board of Education Business.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to approve the Head Start Point System for Student Applications for 2018-2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Ratliff left the meeting 6:23-6:24 p.m.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the Budget Reconciliation Strategies for 2018-2019 due to the referendum having passed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ashbeck to approve the Teacher Salary Plan effective with the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the renewal with Security Health Plan for 2018-19 at a 0% increase, move to one plan option which is the current Option 1, and increase the employee health insurance premium contribution to 8% for 2018-19 with an HSA contribution of \$600 for a single plan and \$1200 for a family plan and a 12% employee contribution effective in 2019-20 with an HSA contribution of \$600 for a single plan and \$1200 for a family plan. Ratliff requested a roll call vote. Motion carried 7-2 (Ayes - Volpe, Yingling, Proulx, Blake, Geiss, Smith, Seliger. Nays - Ashbeck and Ratliff.)

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the 2018-2019 teacher contracts, which will be issued electronically. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Blake, second by Ratliff to approve the listed summer maintenance projects for 2018-2019 as funding allows. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Blake, second by Proulx to approve the 2018-2019 student handbooks/agendas for elementary, middle and high school. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the potential benefits of maximizing Fund 46 and Fund 10.

The Board discussed a possible business model for the District.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Blake to proceed with Phase 2 of the stadium renovation project as [presented](#). Motion carried.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx that as instructed by the community via the Spring 2018 referendum, a new position of MHS Fab Lab Lead Teacher be created and hired and that a budget of \$400,000 be created to support the Fab Lab efforts. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Blake to approve the revisions to the 2017-2018 School Calendar; add April 27, 2018 as a student make-up day; and, approve the revision to the Summer School schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Sample updated the Board on the Community Conversation outcomes.

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

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to approve consent agenda items a through d, which includes minutes of the March 21, 2018 and April 4, 2018 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$2,934,568.94; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$4,175.95. Motion carried with Proulx and Volpe abstaining from the April 4, 2018 minutes.

For Items for Future Meetings, Smith asked whether or not the Board would consider a resolution that would explain some of the history of how they got to the salary plans and ask future board members to strongly not change the plan.

The Board decision financial impact summary was shared with the Board.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. at WJMT Radio Station

Future Meetings

- Organizational Meeting: Monday, April 23, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Policy Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Head Start Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, May 14, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. at MGCS
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 17, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom

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, (e) deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss the following: To discuss and finalize administrative compensation.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote.

8:13 p.m. - 11 minute break

MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to reconvene into open session for the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION BY Volpe, second by Ratliff to increase the wages of the administration and cabinet by 1.5% across the board. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to adjourn at 9:26 p.m.

Kevin Blake
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder