

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
December 19, 2018 – Minutes**

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The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:32 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Eric Geiss, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board member absent: Jon Smith. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Bella Troyer and Abe Akey, Student Representatives; approximately 23 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

During recognition, the following were recognized by the Board: Amy Beyer for applying for and receiving a Meemic Foundation Grant in the amount of \$100.00 for Kate Goodrich students. Coach Kristie Winter and the 5 state qualifiers for swimming: Erin Kanitz, Trinity Kanitz, Camryn Schulz, Claire Schultz and Grace Schultz for going to State. Coach Kris Krug and All State Volleyball Players Kelsie Belfiori and Megan Schroder. Pete McConnell and Christy Rasmussen for applying for and being chosen as the recipients of the Innovative Educator Grant offered through Wisconsin Public Service Foundation. Prairie River Middle School was selected for Solar Pyrography and will receive a check in the amount of \$1,000.00!

Jon Smith here at 5:35 p.m

Bella Troyer and Abe Akey, Student Board of Education Representatives, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: Peppermint was last Saturday; Santa and Smiles Program at MHS, which helps kids who aren't as fortunate to receive presents; choirs and jazz band toured PRMS and introduced to 8th graders what was available at MHS; there is a Christmas Assembly this Friday; winners of the Caught Being Good Initiative will be announced; ACT practice has started with the ACT's in February; and, *Mamma Mia* will be the Spring Musical and will take place the first week in April.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: parent involvement updates; State Report Card and District Report Card, PRSYL monthly data; Special Education/Pupil Services Professional Development Training; Human Resources report; food service participation report; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the Superintendent's report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services, Policy, Facilities and Finance/HR Committees.

There was an audit report and findings and independent update to the Board.

The Board reviewed the WASB proposed resolutions for the 2019 Delegate Assembly.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to approve the BVA and Maple Grove Charter School enrollment limits for the 2019-2020 school year as indicated in the topic summary sheets. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the Merrill Police Department School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding for January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to approve the MAPS Head Start Student Release Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Ratliff to approve the Head Start Point System for Student Applications. Motion carried unanimously.

Information was shared with the Board regarding the morning milk program participation at a Board member's request.

Information was shared with the Board regarding Peer Mentoring Program participation and qualifications at a Board member's request.

The Board discussed general liability for selling syrup at Maple Grove.

Information was shared with the Board regarding consistency in messaging to parents at the elementary schools at a Board member's request.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to increase the identified positions to 8 hours per day as indicated by the topic summary sheet. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to increase the contract of the BVA Music teaching position from a 0.33 FTE to a 0.66 FTE. This increase is retroactive to the beginning of the 2018-2019 contract year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ashbeck to approve the DAPES evaluation tool for purchase and implementation. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Woller to approve the purchase of the Apple lease. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Proulx to accept the evacuation drill logs and submit them to the Department of Justice, Office of School Safety. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to accept the Emergency Operations Plan and submit them to the Department of Justice, Office of School Safety. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ashbeck to approve the new courses and the 2019-2020 Merrill High School course description book as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ratliff to approve the donation of funds from the Stephany Smith Estate valued at a total of \$104,751.92 for MHS marching Jays and the MHS Scholarship Fund respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

Akey left at 6:58 p.m.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to approve the purchase of the semi trailer for the Marching Jays program. Motion carried unanimously.

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

President Blake asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from the consent agenda and Smith asked to pull item a. Second Readings.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe approved consent agenda items b through e, which included minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,253,824.93; the personnel report; and, donations totaling \$3,620.09. Motion carried unanimously with Geiss abstaining from the November 14, 2018 minutes.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the second readings and approvals of Policy 5460 Graduation Requirements and Policy 8453 Direct Contact Communicable Diseases, waiving the first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

For Items for Future Meetings 1) Maria Volpe requested a discussion to add to the curriculum, whether at the middle school or the high school, gun safety or hunter safety, or even snowmobile, ATV and boat safety. Dr. Sample said that this item would first go to the CTP committee and Mrs. Detert mentioned getting this into the summer school program at the middle school. Smith clarified Volpe's request adding that it would be students receiving certification *and* students participating in a gun safety class that would be issued credit as a PE course. 2) Jon Smith requested that a comparison of the April teacher salary plan with projections with the actuals costs that they were adopted under, taking into account attrition. Dr. Sample said that this would go to Finance/HR Committee first. 3) Jon Smith also requested that the Board discuss tackling 1-2 policies at each pertinent committee meeting to eventually get through our policy manual and make sure all have been Merrillized. Chair Blake said that this would be under new business at next month's meeting.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

#### Future Meetings

- Head Start Policy Council: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 @5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- School Forest Advisory Meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m. at the School Forest
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove

- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room

President Blake called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 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 discuss administrators' and supervisors' evaluations; conduct a review of current administrative contracts and timelines and for considering recommendations of the Superintendent for continued employment/contract renewals of administrative employees. MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to adjourn into executive (closed) session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

7:17 p.m. - 10 minute break.

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

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss to approve all administrator contracts, to be renewed for two years. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.



Nubs Ashbeck  
Clerk

Tammy Woller  
Recorder