

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
April 17, 2019 – Minutes**

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

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Student Board Representative Bella Troyer; approximately 22 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: Dee VanDerGeest for going above and beyond to help her student and family through a tragic situation. The Bletsoe family and Bletsoe Cheese Factory for the many years they have supported our school-wide fundraising events. We are grateful to have a strong community willing to partner with us for these events. We wish the Bletsoes the very best in their future endeavors. Laurie Pagel for going above and beyond by assisting administration during the DPI Title Monitor. Laurie collected and uploaded required Title documents to the DPI website. She also agreed to participate in the monitoring process, on behalf of the C&I Office, in the absence of a MAPS Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Quinn Steckbauer for scoring his 1,000th point in his Merrill High School basketball career! Quinn scored his 1,000th point against Wausau West. Quinn is the 7th player in Merrill history to score 1,000 points and is currently in 2nd place with 1,259 points! (Paul Jespersen, 1,696 pts.; Quinn Steckbauer, 1,259 pts.; Jordan Stine, 1,124 pts., Zach Mootz, 1,087 pts.; Jim Langenkamp, 1,074 pts.; Rory Osness, 1,068 pts.; and, David Jespersen, 1,051 pts.). Head Coach Jake Schalow and the Varsity Boys Basketball Team for winning the school's first ever conference championship, 97 years in the making!! Grace Schultz for being recognized by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association as Honorable Mention All State in the 100 Back for DII.

Bella Troyer, Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: musical, *Mamma Mia!*; Prom, with dance at the Expo Center and Post Prom at Les n' Jim's; new iPad deployment; ACT Aspire testing for freshmen and sophomores; softball; baseball; and, soccer. Troyer also brought a concern to the Board about students, especially student athletes, being stressed with homework and lack of wifi when traveling for games with most homework being done on their iPads.

Troyer left at 5:43 p.m.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: Climate/Culture report; PRSYL monthly data; Special Education/Pupil Services report; Human Resources report; food

participation report; quarterly out-of-state travel report; quarterly summary of purchases between \$5,000-\$9,999; monthly budget update; review of policy regarding graduating students' lunch account balances; technology update; Lincoln County nurses' report; and, the Superintendent's report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services, Finance/HR, Facilities (Ashbeck left the meeting at 6:33 p.m.) and Policy Committees.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve (revised Bylaw 0155 Committees). Motion carried unanimously (without Ashbeck)

Ashbeck returned at 6:38 p.m.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to approve the 8th grade trip to Washington DC and New York City for June of 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the listed summer maintenance projects for 2019-2020 as funding allows. MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to withdraw the motion and table this item to the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the 2019-2020 student handbooks/agendas for elementary, middle and high school. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the Principal and Activities Director salary schedule and placement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the Superintendent's salary schedule as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve a 1% increase to each cell in the teacher and support staff compensation schedules. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Proulx to approve the contract with E-Funds for Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve updates to the 2019-2020 Support Staff and Teacher Employee Handbooks as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the main index of the Policy Manual, showing which committee administration is recommending be reviewed by.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Woller to approve Policy 8420 School Safety and Emergency Preparedness as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve Policy 8462.01 Threats of Violence as a first reading. 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. Woller asked to pull item D Personnel Reports. Yingling asked to pull Policy 6440 Cooperative Purchasing.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve consent agenda items a, b, c and e, which includes second readings of Policy 8510 Wellness; Policies 1130, 3230 and 4230 Conflict of Interest; Policy 2260 Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity; Policies 3122 and 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity; Policy 5517 Student Anti-Harassment; Policies 3362 and 4362 Employee Anti-Harassment; Policy 3120 Employment of Professional Staff; Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students; Policy 5113 Open Enrollment Program (Interdistrict); Policy 5114 Nonimmigrant Students in Visitor Programs; Policy 5512 Use of Tobacco or Nicotine by Students; Policy 6220 Budget Preparation; Policy 6235 Fund Balance; Policy 8330 Student Records; Policy 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions or Complaints; Policy 9150 School Visitors; Policies 3213 and 4213 Student Supervision and Welfare; Policy 5112 Entrance Age; Policy 5500 Student Code of Conduct; Policy Suspension, Pre-Expulsion and Expulsion; Policy 7440.01 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring; and, Policy 8462 Child Abuse or Neglect; minutes of the March 6, 2019, March 13, 2019 and April 3, 2019 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,270,381.69; and, donations totaling \$904.60. AMENDMENT by Volpe, second by Proulx to add the approval of the second reading of Policy 7440. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to approve the consent agenda items a, b, c and e carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to approve item D (Personnel Report). Motion carried.

MOTION by Yingling, second by Volpe to approve Policy 6440 Cooperative Purchasing as a second reading. Motion carried unanimously.

For Items for Future Meetings: 1) Maria Volpe asked to have options for wifi on the busses for athletes and activities. 2) Maria Volpe asked for a follow up on students leaving the district, an ongoing running list of reasons why. 3) Maria Volpe asked for a follow up on the Adopt-A-Board Member program, how board members view that and how we see that moving forward. 4) Maria Volpe said that she would like to see a presentation on our Youth Apprenticeship program since it was recognized as the top in the state. 5) Linda Yingling would like to discuss the policy on bidding for purchasing vehicles and when we go out to bid. 6) Brett Woller asked for an update on the full time sub position at the high school. 7) Jeremy Ratliff would like an update on what students do for homework that do not have wifi. 8) Maria Volpe would like information on e-sports in the Merrill Schools.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Strategic Planning Executive Committee Meeting: Monday, April 22, 2019 @ 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Organizational Meeting: Monday, April 22, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the MHS Library
- Safety Committee Meeting: Monday, April 29, 2019 @ 12:30 p.m in the Board room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room

- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, May 13, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove
- Head Start Policy Council: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 15, 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; and, 118.125 for the purpose of considering student Early College Credit and Start Now 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 persons discussed. The purpose of the closed session is for review of performance evaluation data of teachers, for consideration of continued employment/renewal of teacher contracts for the 2019-2020 school year, and for consideration and potential action approving issuance of preliminary notice of consideration of nonrenewal of teacher contracts for the 2019-2020 school year; and, to consider and act upon parental requests for student opt out of state assessments, including the potential for a closed session(s) to review the specifics applicable to the affected student(s) if the discussion of such in open session would be likely to have an adverse effect upon the reputation of such student(s) pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats. Any such closed session(s) shall be immediately followed by reconvening in open session for further consideration and, ultimately, action upon the parental requests. MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

7:20 p.m. - 9 minute break.

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

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Volpe to approve the renewal of the 2019-2020 teacher contracts, which will be issued electronically. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve the parental request for Student A to opt out of state assessments. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.



Nubs Ashbeck

Tammy Woller

Clerk

Recorder

