

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting
June 9, 2020 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:30 PM in the Merrill High School Auditorium and also by Google Hangout virtual meeting.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Ron Liberty, Paul Proulx, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller and Kevin Blake. Board members absent: Jeremy Ratliff and Linda Yingling. Others present were: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; one member of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder. Others present remotely were: Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Edward Then, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Elementary Teaching Principal; and, two members of the staff and public.

President Blake announced 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; (e) deliberating or negotiation of 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; (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, (g) conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. The purpose of the closed session is for consideration of impact of educational programs/staffing decisions upon employment/compensation for personnel for the 2020-2021 school/contract year, including: (1) The potential lay-off of aide(s) based on the outcome of litigation associated with Maple Grove School; (2) The review of assignments and compensation for aides (health, library, and instructional), including the issuance of letters of assignment and/or letters of reasonable assurance; and, (3) The potential contract review and reassignment of an administrator based on the outcome of litigation associated with Maple Grove School; and, to confer with legal counsel who is rendering legal advice regarding the litigation (including strategies/options available to the Board) involving the closing of the Maple Grove School, and take possible action related to the same. MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

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

MOTION by Proulx, second by Liberty to approve the support staff letters of assurance and assignment for the 2020-2021 academic year for aides as presented to include library, instructional, and health aides. Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to authorize the district's attorneys' Boardman & Clark to initiate the appeals process as a result of today's Maple Grove decision. Motion carried 6-1-0 on a roll call vote (Ayes - Woller, Smith, Volpe, Liberty, Proulx and Blake. Nay - Ashbeck.).

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Nubs Ashbeck
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder