

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
November 17, 2021 – Minutes**

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

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Chad Krueger, Ron Liberty, Kendra Osness, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Linda Yingling. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Eddie Then, Director of Business Services; Karen Baker, Director of SPED/Pupil Services; Glenda Oginski, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Trisha Detert, Director of 4K/Head Start/Early Childhood; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Brad Potter, High School Associate Principal; Megan Kautzer, High School Associate Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Mark Seaman, Middle School Associate Principal; Student Board Representatives Isaiah Rell and Amelia Skoviera; approximately 18 people from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

During Public Comment, Amy Van Alstine commented on policies related to COVID; and, Christine Vorpapel commented on the website, location of meeting and notes on agenda.

During Recognition, Elizabeth Schmidt was recognized for going to State for Cross Country. Liz got 14th out of 151 athletes at the District 2 WIAA Cross Country State Meet on Saturday, October 30, 2021.

Student BOE Representatives, Amelia Skoviera and Isaiah Rell update the Board on high school activities including Link Crew and the last Link Up focused on gratitude and activities; the Swim Team, Claire Schultz and Grace Schultz set new school records; Liz Schmidt went to State for Cross Country; winter sports starting up, including boys and girls wrestling, hockey, and boys and girls basketball; college tours are taking place; fall play, "She Kills Monsters" was a huge success; and, Cayden Diels, Bailey Turenne and Brian Ball participated this last weekend in the Packer Quarterback Challenge and won \$500 for the football program.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including PRSYL Monthly Data; Student Monitor Reports; K-12 COVID Testing Program 2021-2022 School Year; Business Services Update; Food Participation Update; Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Update; and, the Superintendent's Report.

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

There was a presentation from School Perceptions on the review of findings from the referendum survey results.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ashbeck to approve the MHS course description book for 2022-2023 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve the FY22 pool overhead cost rate of \$25.32 per hour for audit purposes. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Woller, second by Krueger to approve the FY23 budget development calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Technical corrections to Policy 5513 and Policy 7410 were presented to the Board.

President Blake asked if anyone wanted anything pulled from the consent agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve consent agenda items a through e, which includes minutes of the October 26, 2021, October 27, 2021, with the [revised personnel report](#) attached to it, November 2, 2021 and November 10, 2021 meetings; second reading of Policy 7300 Disposition of District Property; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,775,130.42; the personnel report [as presented](#), contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable; and, donations totaling \$19,484.98. Motion carried with Ashbeck abstaining from the October 26, 2021 minutes; Krueger and Volpe abstaining from a portion of the October 26, 2021 minutes; and, Volpe abstaining from a portion of the November 2, 2021 minutes.

There were no new items for "Items for Future Meetings and Possible Action to Approve the Future Discussions Thereof".

Radio Schedule: Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Special Board Meeting - Board Candidate Interviews: Thursday, December 9, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Head Start Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Merrill High School Auditorium

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 an 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; (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 discussion of and potential action on approving a leave of absence for two employees; consideration and potential action of a mid-year retirement proposal for a professional staff member; the Superintendent evaluation initial dialogue/prep; and, to conduct specified public business which for competitive or bargaining reasons requires a closed session, to wit, the consideration and discussion of the sale of personal and real property associated with Maple Grove School, and the division of assets and liabilities between Merrill Area Common Public School District and Athens School District, which may occur as a result of granting petitions for detachment of property in the Town of Hamburg, and to take action regarding the same. The Board may reconvene to open session and may take action upon the matters discussed during the closed session portion of the meeting. MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Volpe to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

6:17 p.m. - 5 minute break to get organized.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Amy Dinges and Robin Hein through January 31, 2022 with a re-evaluation in January, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Volpe to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.



Ronald Liberty
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder