

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
January 26, 2022 – Minutes**

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

Board members present: Jacqueline Gremler, Chad Krueger, Ron Liberty, Kendra Osness, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Nubs Ashbeck. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Glenda Oginski, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education & Pupil Services; Eddie Then, Director of Business Services; Trisha Detert, Director of 4K/Head Start/Early Childhood; John Hagemeister, BVA Administrator; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Student Board Representatives Isaiah Rell and Amelia Skoviera; approximately 5 people from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

Student BOE Representatives, Amelia Skoviera and Isaiah Rell update the Board on high school activities including Youth Apprenticeship; approaching graduation with scholarship applications due February 7, cap and gown information coming out, and “This Bluejay has a Plan” posts; Winterfest; Fastbridge testing; and, musical practice has begun.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including PRSYL Monthly Data; Resource Update for Prairie River Middle School; Project SEARCH 2021-2022; Business Services Update; Food Participation Update; Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Update; and, the Superintendent’s Report.

There was a Board of Education learning opportunity presentation by Edward Then regarding compensation plans and options available for configuring them.

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

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve the revised teacher contract for the 2022-2023 fiscal year [as presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Woller, second by Liberty to approve the creation of full-time sub pay rate of \$175/day for full-time student teachers interested in subbing for MAPS after their fall student teaching placement has ended. MOTION by Woller, second by Volpe to CALL THE QUESTION. Motion carried. The motion to approve the creation of full-time sub pay rate of \$175/day for full-time student teachers interested in subbing for MAPS after their fall student teaching placement has ended carried with Blake abstaining from the vote.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Woller to approve the leave of absence policies [as presented](#) for policy numbers 3430, 3161, 4430 and 4161. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Volpe to approve the Board budget priorities for planning related to the 2022-2023 fiscal year [as presented](#). Motion carried.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve the audited financial statements and supporting documents from CLA [as presented](#) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Woller to approve the 2022-2023 MAPS Head Start Five-Year Strategic Goals. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve the 4K contracts [as presented](#) with any follow up information with background checks for FY23. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the Head Start Transportation Waiver for 2022-2023. Motion carried unanimously.

There was information presented to the Board regarding increasing access to high quality care.

MOTION by Osness, second by Liberty to approve the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 School Calendars. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Krueger to approve the revised BVA contract as presented for a five-year cycle commencing on July 1, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve Policy 8510 Wellness as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the classroom capacity for open enrollment purposes and to not deny students with disabilities based on space, for the 2022-2023 open enrollment period. Motion carried unanimously.

Per Bylaw 0131.1, the Board was informed of technical corrections made to policies from Neola's Volume 31, Number 1 Technical Corrections update.

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

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve consent agenda items a through e, which includes the second reading of Policy 9700.01 Advertising and Sponsorship in Schools; minutes of the December 9, 2021, December 15, 2021, and January 12, 2022, meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$1,187,534.80; the personnel report [as presented](#), contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable; and, donations totaling \$8,443.09. Motion carried with Gremler abstaining from the December 9, 2021 minutes; and, Blake abstaining from the part of the personnel report that refers to his daughter.

For "Items for Future Meetings and Possible Action to Approve the Future Discussions Thereof", Osness asked to review substitute pay rate and the different tiers. Volpe asked to review the drop-off points at the middle school, specifically crossing 3rd Street and getting into vehicles on 2nd Street. Linda Yingling asked to learn more about the 504 combinations and different types

of IEPS. Linda Yingling would also like to have our lenders come in and speak to us about our finances.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

#### Future Meetings

- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Head Start Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. location to be determined

There was no need to adjourn into executive session.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Yingling to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.

Ronald Liberty  
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller  
Recorder