

Merrill Area Public Schools

MAPS Mission Statement: Merrill Area Public Schools, in partnership with the Merrill Community and our families, will empower students to be lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and productive community members.

Facilities Committee Meeting

January 4, 2023

3:30 PM

Central Office Board Room

(1111 N Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin)

Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call – Dale Bergman, Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Ron Liberty, Shannon Murray, Dr. Kelley Strike and Linda Yingling

Kevin Blake called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Present: Dale Bergman, Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Ron Liberty, Shannon Murray

Absent: Dr. Kelley Strike, Linda Yingling

Guests: Chad Krueger (For Linda Yingling)

- II. Public Comments to the Committee / General Subject Matter Discussion

NOTE: The Committee shall schedule five minutes at the beginning of each regular meeting for members of the public to speak. Speakers will be allotted two minutes to address the Board. If you have a large group, please designate one representative to speak. Committee members may ask clarifying questions during the comment section, but will usually postpone further discussion and/or action until further public input.

No Public Comments.

- III. Approval of [November 2, 2022 Facilities Committee Minutes](#)

Darryl and Ron should abstain from the approval of these minutes.

Motion by Kavin Blake to approve the November 2, 2022 Facilities Committee Minutes, seconded by Dale Bergman. Motion carried unanimously. Darryl Frick and Ron Liberty abstained.

- IV. Review of [November 14, 2022 School Forest Advisory Committee Minutes](#)

For your information only.

Dale Bergman discussed information Russ gave about the mission, vision, and purpose of the school forest. Russ wants to define the purpose of the committee and wants to redefine the mission statement. They want to get a few teachers involved with the school forest to get their input like they have in the past.

They also discussed the use of the fireplace and maintenance of the fireplace. Fixing the chimney or getting an electric fireplace would cost roughly \$10,000 for either option, so at this time they will be shutting down the fireplace but keeping it installed. If the facility is rented and they want to have a fire, there is a fire ring outside they would be able to utilize.

Russ wants to get the pond restocked with fish and is looking for help to get ideas on restocking. Right now they are working on a grant for aerators for the pond for when they restock the pond to keep the fish population healthy. Discussion on a windmill and solar for the aerator for better operation. This would be sponsored by the Friends of the Forest (FOF).

They are looking to get funds together to build a pavilion by the pond for an outdoor classroom and protection from storms when kids are present. The idea is a 20'x25' shelter with the idea of solar panels for lights.

Did maintenance on the cordwood shelter, and made a cover for the piping but the animals were still chewing on and damaging so hardware cloth was installed.

Logging sales, Zach from the DNR for forestry takes care of school forests. Logging sales are not a high priority as the DNR does not have the resources to help right now.

Friends of the Forest (FOF) donated funds to purchase a new CanAm Defender. They will be updating from the Kawasaki Mule that they recently have. Looking at spring time for the delivery of the CanAm.

Discussed some maintenance that needs to get completed for siding, windows, and roofing. We will also need to address the gravel roads.

New business discussion on creating a butterfly garden.

V. Digital Mapping Grant

Please see the attached [topic summary sheet](#) from Dale Bergman

I recommend a motion to forward to the full Board the approval of CRG for digital mapping services.

In May 2022, Dale Bergman applied for a grant for Digital Mapping The company (CRG) will come in and map all buildings. This mapping will be given to all emergency staff and will help locate people better in case of an emergency. Department of Justice School Safety granted \$40,000. This also allows us to do the school forest and MADA which is technically not ours but will map out where the students/staff are in the building. CRG will come in to do a site visit to take measurements and 3D scans. There is no cost to the district, we pay the cost up front and then we get fully reimbursed.

Motion by Ron Liberty to approval of CRG for digital mapping services, seconded by Chad Krueger. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Future of Jefferson School

This is on the agenda at the request of a Board member and will be a standing item for updates.

Discussion only

Dale Bergman invited three companies to complete building assessments for all of our buildings. ISG declined. The two other companies will bring information to the special board meeting on Wednesday 1/11/2023 where presentations will be done. Dale Bergman, Shannon Murray, and Kevin Blake will talk with the teams and get into detail what we are looking for and use of the facilities. Capital improvement costs will be given. March 2023 is the deadline for reports. Need recommendations for what to do with Jefferson and ideas to better utilize the space we have. This will give us a better idea going into a referendum in the future.

VII. Donation of Funds for Bleachers in the PRMS Pool

Please see the attached [topic summary sheet](#) from Dale Bergman; as well as, the [donation form](#).

I recommend a motion to forward to the full Board the approval of the purchase of bleachers as presented, upon receipt of funds from The Bierman Family Foundation, Inc. and the Booster Club.

Dale Bergman explained how we held swim sectionals here this year and the parents asked if we would be able to get extra bleachers for the pool. Dale reached out to the Bierman Family Foundation. \$6,600 was donated from the Bierman Family Foundation and the Aqua Jays donated \$3,000. The bleachers of 3 sections and 5 tiers allow for 150 more spectators to come to the pool. Chad Krueger asked if there will be a plaque on the bleachers for the Bierman Family Foundation, but Bierman doesnt like to be recognized for that. Dale Bergman mentioned that we could contact the Fab Lab and they could create a plaque for us.

Motion by Ron Liberty to approve the purchase of bleachers as presented, upon receipt of funds from The Bierman Family Foundation, Inc. and the Booster Club, seconded by Chad Krueger. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Standing Agenda Item - Safety Sub-Committee Minutes

A. December 20, 2022 Safety Sub-Committee Minutes

Please see the attached [safety committee meeting minutes](#) from the December 20, 2022 Safety Committee Meeting.

Dale Bergman mentioned that we are going through our mental health and threat assessment procedures. We reviewed other schools' assessments and they had some consistency and some were just a judgment call. If there isn't a plan in place, there could be liability issues. The school counselors are creating checklists and processes through the training they have gone through. We are including that into our emergency operations plan (EOP). Allie Libby, Von Saunders, Trisha Kubichek, Megan Kautzer, Tracey Folz, and Dale Bergman met to make sure all protocols are followed. Threat statements need to go through the process and keep the school safe. We discussed ideas of creating flip charts to place back into each classroom which will get high level information more accessible to students and staff. Red/Green cards will be made for situations to show if you are green "good" or red "need help" and maps by doors for exit plans in case of a fire or tornado. Dale Bergman and Tracey Folz received information for My-EOP custom Mobile Application which is similar to Crisis-Go. The initial investment for this app would be \$4,500 and an annual renewal rate of \$1,500. This will give you information at your fingertips. This is not only for school shootings, this is for all accidents or situations that may happen. Biggest hurdle with crisis-go was having someone here to update it annually. Dale mentioned that now with him having an Administrative Assistant we could keep up with the updates annually with changing staff and contact numbers.

- IX. Standing Agenda Item for Review of Safety Policies and Policy Review by Facilities Committee

Please see the attached [main index](#) for Committee review of policies. At this point, The Facilities Committee is up-to-date on their policy updates.

It is up to date at this time.

- X. Items for Next Meeting and Next Meeting Date

A. March 1, 2023

1. Vehicle traffic by West Side market, get flashing guard signs as there are frequent red light runners for our buses. (contact the City and see if they will help). Safety concern. Ron will put it on the Board of Public Works meeting for the City. Discuss the progress of this.
2. Playground updates

- XI. Adjournment

Motion by Chad Krueger to adjourn, seconded by Ron Liberty. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.