

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
February 21, 2018 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Jen Seliger at 5:31 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Kevin Blake, Eric Geiss, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Linda Yingling and Jen Seliger (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; John Hagemeister, BVA Administrator; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Student Representative Rachel Rell; 5 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Seliger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

During recognition, the following were recognized: Khala Welnetz, with guidance from Jill Seaman, for a being awarded a \$1,000.00 gardening grant in which Kids Forward awards the grant using funds from the WK Kellogg Foundation. This was a collaborative effort with Daithi Wolfe from Kids Forward in Madison Wisconsin who we contacted to find out more about the grant's requirements. The Discovery Garden Project Committee at Pine River School for Young Learners has begun to make plans which will start when the snow is melted. Also recognized was Kim Sample for receiving the VFW Post 1638's Citizenship Education Award for her Portraits of Bravery Project.

Rachel Rell Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including the Bill Cortright assembly; scholarship week; in wrestling there was one regional champ from Merrill, but no one advanced on to State; Tuesday was snow day; today was Winterfest; Friday off for inservices for teachers; ACT for juniors next week; winter sports wrapping up; and, spring sports starting.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: PRSYL monthly data; food participation report; MAPS Special Education/Pupil Services report; Second Friday in January Enrollment report; Human Resources report; monthly budget update; (Rell left that meeting at 5:38 p.m.) technology update; District Services survey results report; Employee Engagement survey results; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Job Description; MAPS Reconfiguration presentation; and, the Superintendent's report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Policy, Teacher Salary, Facilities and Finance/HR Committees.

The Board discussed an athletic club/booster club/parent-teacher organization review of budget allowances.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to approve the 2017-2018 Community Assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Ashbeck to approve the Head Start Transportation Waiver for 2018-2019. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve the 2018 Revised MAPS Head Start Five-Year Strategic Goals. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Blake to approve the 2018-2019 Federal Head Start Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Shannon Murray presented information about the student trip to Spain in March 2019.

MOTION by Blake, second by Geiss to approve the 2018-2019 Merrill High School Course Description Book as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Ratliff to approve the purchase of the updated mic system for the High School Auditorium from Soundworks. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Geiss to contract with Jill Huskisson for another 15 hours of service, not to exceed \$1,500. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Blake to approve the Discoveries course at Prairie River Middle School for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to establish the maximum number of credits that a student can take under the new Early College Credit and Start College Now programs to a maximum of 18 total credits for their 9-12 academic career, pending the development of formal Board policy regarding these programs. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Smith to approve the donation of funds from Sierra Pacific Foundation regarding the donation of funds valued at \$2,500.00 for Prairie River Middle School's digital sign project. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Sample updated the Board on the Community Conversation outcomes.

President Seliger asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from the consent agenda, hearing none, she called for a motion.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve consent agenda items a through e, which included second readings of Policy 2522 Classroom Use of Commercially Produced Materials; and, Policy 5230 MAPS Head Start Student Release Policy; minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,266,019.91; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$7,009.88. Motion carried unanimously.

For future meetings, Volpe asked about the safety policies and would like to visit that - how as a district we are handling security at each location; how do we address viable threats; how we ensure we are compliant with our policies and procedures; and, how are those policies checked. Volpe asked about ALICE training for students, as she understands that there is now training

available, including training for elementary students. Volpe asked about incident reports and injuries that occur on district property - for students, guests or employees - how are they handled and what policies are in place. Ratliff asked to have the SRO (Student Resource Officer) come in, via in writing or in person, to address the Board about how he covers various schools in the district; does he visit elementary schools; and, procedures for how long he visits schools, is it done regularly? Smith asked to discuss further Fund 46 and Fund 10 - the potential benefits of maximizing that particular funding. Are we foregoing by delaying? Re-education and strategy so we can take advantage of return with that fund. Smith asked that in regards to the incident reporting, he thinks the policy is there, but what about the procedure - a document that is generated within 24 hours of the incident.

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

Future Meetings

- Policy Committee Meeting: Thursday, February 22, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 @ 2:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Boardroom
- Head Start Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- School Forest Advisory Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at the School Forest
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom

President Seliger called for a motion to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Sections 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, (e) deliberating or negotiating 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. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss the following: To approve the January 24, 2018 closed session minutes; and, to discuss administrative compensation. MOTION by Geiss, second by Volpe to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote.

6:36 p.m. - 10 minute break

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.



Kevin Blake
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder

