

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
September 26, 2018 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:30 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Eric Geiss, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Paul Proulx. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Gerald Beyer, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovic, Middle School Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Bella Troyer and Abe Akey, Student Representatives; approximately 22 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

During recognition, new staff members were recognized and introduced to the Board. The Board also recognized: Cindy & Jeff Artus for their ongoing support at Maple Grove School; as well as their help in installing the Maple Grove School Forest sign. Without Jeff's equipment, we don't think they could have gotten through all those rocks! Thank you also to Riverwood Originals LLC for the beautiful sign. Michael Lind for preparing the district for any outages or changes in internet services and his attention to details. Lynn Kurth for applying for and receiving a WISELearn OER Innovation Grant in the amount of \$10,000. During the implementation of this grant, Lynn will be working with the WI Historical Society and WI Sea Grant to develop additional curriculum materials. The newly developed materials will compliment our current ROV curriculum. In addition to addressing NGSS, the material will include literacy standards and some of the new social studies standards. Sea Grant will be serving as the fiscal agent of the grant. Adam Smith for receiving a grant from the Walmart Community Grants Team Facility #1366 in the amount of \$300 for providing clothing to students in the worksite program. Cameron Stadler for earning his Eagle Scout Rank by building an extraordinary tricycle path at Pine River School for Young Learners. Rhonda Bengtson for participating in the 2018 Forward Exam Item Review at Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

The Merrill Area Public School District recognized that October 7-13 is Wisconsin School Board Appreciation Week.

Abe Akey and Bella Troyer, Student Board of Education Representatives, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: fall sports starting; Link Crew helped out freshmen; students adapting to new schedule well; Monday was the Powderpuff; daily dress up days; Friday is the assembly and bonfire; and, Saturday is the parade, game and dance; and college tours starting soon.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: Back-to-school activities, 2018-2019 preliminary district student enrollment numbers, (Proulx here at 5:46 p.m.) Human Resources report, monthly budget update, technology update, District Scorecard update, Employee Engagement Survey Results Report and the Superintendent's report.

Committee reports were shared with the Board from the Safety Sub-Committee, Curriculum/Technology/Special Education, Policy, Legislative, Facilities and Finance/HR Committees.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the Resolution in Support of Increasing Special Education Funding in Wisconsin Public Schools on 90% of the Cost Incurred. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Blake tabled the agenda item "line of credit in the amount of \$5,000,000 for school district expenses."

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to table the agenda item "loan in the amount not exceed \$1,000,000 for maintenance projects." Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to table the agenda item "line of credit in the amount of \$5,000,000 for school district expenses." Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve a motion to update the Teacher Salary Plan to reflect a deadline of September 15th for submitting proof of a Master's Degree for placement in the Master's lane of the salary schedule. Teachers that submit proof of a Master's by September 15, 2018, will be placed in the Master's lane for 2018-2019. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Proulx to approve updating the language in the Teacher Handbook under 'Mentors' to reflect three years of teaching experience required, rather than five. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ashbeck to approve the purchase of Smartnet coverage through CDW. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Woller to pre-approve Fab Lab related purchases as presented provided that the appropriate bidding criteria, as outlined by Board Policy 6320 are followed and that a summary of the purchases are shared with the Board in a timely manner. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding policies going to respective committees for review. The consensus of the Board was to send policies to their respective committees before going to the Policy Committee.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to waive the second reading of Bylaw #TBD Communicating with the Board and approve it as written. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to also suspend the first reading of Bylaw #TBD Single Unit Control and approve as a second reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Ratliff to adjourn at 6:27 p.m.



Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder

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

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

MOTION by Geiss, second by Volpe to approve consent agenda items a through e, which included second readings of Policy 5610 Suspension, Pre-Expulsion and Expulsion; Policy 6235 Fund Balance; Policy 7530.02 Staff and School Officials Use of Personal Communication Devices; Bylaw 0144.1 Compensation; Bylaw 0161 Parliamentary Authority; Policy 0164.2 Special Meetings; Policy 2271 Early College Credit Program; Policy 2461 Recording of IEP Meetings; Policy 3120 Employment of Professional Staff; Policies 3122 & 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity; Policies 3230 & 4230 Conflict of Interest; Policies 3430.01 & 4430.01 Family & Medical Leave of Absence; Policy 4440 Job-Related Expenses; Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students; MAPS district-specific Policy 5200 Attendance with NEOLA's Notice of Truancy section added to it; Policy 5512 Use of Tobacco by Students; Policy 5516 Student Hazing; Policy 5540 The Schools and Governmental Agencies; Policy 5630 Corporal Punishment; Policy 5772 Weapons; Policy 6700 Fair Labor Standards Act; Policy 7217 Weapons; Policy 7440 Facility Security; Policy 8146 Notification of Educational Options; Policy 8310 Public Records; Policy 8462 Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect and Threats of Violence; Policy 8500 Food Services; Policy 9130 Public Requests, Suggestions, or Complaints; Policy 9160 Public Attendance at School Events; delete Policy 0165.3 Special Meetings; minutes of the August 9, 2018 and August 15, 2018 meetings; receipt of the minutes of the September 17, 2018 Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,191,321.37; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$922.00. Motion carried with Woller abstaining from the August 9, 2018 and September 17, 2018 minutes and Proulx, Volpe and Yingling abstaining from the August 9, 2018 minutes.

For Items for Future Meetings, Volpe asked with regards to schools and consistency in messages to parents, especially at the elementary, how we as a district are ensuring that we have consistency with messaging to the parents. Smith asked about an update on the Fab Lab and Makerspaces in a long-term plan; who oversees, what training is received; funding; to get a perspective on it as a whole.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, October 8, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove School
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room