

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
October 24, 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, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Paul Proulx and Brett Woller. 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; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; John Hagemeister, BVA Administrator; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovic, Middle School Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; Bella Troyer, Student Representative; approximately 13 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

During recognition, the following were recognized by the Board: Michelle Heeg for her Future Farmers of America (FFA) volunteer work. There have been FFA alumni since the 1970's that are now involved with classroom activities because of Michelle. Michelle has grown the program into two classes - it's not just cows and plows anymore; she has tapped into the community for speakers related to jobs; she and a group participated in the Homecoming Parade; and, she continuously goes above and beyond with enthusiasm. As an added note, we received this message from Jamie Johnson from Grampa's Farm: "I would like to compliment Michelle Heeg and her FFA students. They have been working at Grampa's Farm for the past two weekends and are scheduled to come again this Saturday and Sunday. My family has been very impressed by the dedication of Ms. Heeg, as well as her students. We are very thankful that she is willing to give up her weekends in order to provide students in her classes the experience they gain with both the animals and the public at Grampa's Farm. They come with a smile and are willing to help where needed. Please pass our thanks on to them. You can be very proud of the FFA students in your district!" Josh Olson and Tiffany Bucheger for being selected as the choral directors for the children's choir program at the Wausau Conservatory of Music. The children's choirs will be featured in the Wausau Pro Musica Christmas Concert on November 30th at 7pm and December 2nd at 2pm at First English Lutheran Church in Wausau. Joan Tabor for applying for and receiving a Meemic Foundation Grant in the amount of \$100.00 for PRSYL students. Thank you, Joan! Carey Mullenberg and Jessica Westphal for their recognition by the Wausau Recruiting Center and their continuous support of. Denny Knott, William Folta and Gerald Koch for their dedication to MAPS. Since 1998, 2004 and 2013, this team of three has assisted with the installation of network drops, projectors and interactive whiteboards. Thank you for their service to the District and making sure our classrooms are set up for success! Christy Rasmussen for her participation in the Bucky on Parade. Bucky on Parade is a free public art event featuring 85 life-size Bucky Badger statues through Madison from May 7-September 12, 2018. Christy transformed a Bucky statue into a unique work of art. Students were able to watch their teacher's progress, as Christy had the Bucky set up in her PRMS art classroom.

Bella Troyer, Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: Homecoming - saying that all classes participated in dress up days, Katie Ball was crowned the queen and the Football Team won their homecoming game; fall sports have ended; college tours are happening; the Fall Play is November 1-3; winter sports are starting, including Ski Club; National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will be October 30 and all school board members are invited; this weekend is Make A Difference Day.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: Professional Learning Communities, Summer School, Fall MAP Test Cohort Group Data, PRSYL monthly data, review of County Truancy Plan, (Ratliff left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.) Third Friday Enrollment, (Ratliff returned to the meeting at 6:01 p.m.) Family Engagement Liaison, Human Resources report, monthly budget update, quarterly out-of-state travel report, quarterly summary of purchases between \$5,000-\$9,999, food service participation update, technology update, Parent Satisfaction Survey Results report, Head Start Project Single Audit, update on Fab Lab and Makerspaces in a long-term plan, update on consistent messaging to parents among schools and the Superintendent's report.

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

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

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Ashbeck to approve the 2018-2019 budget revisions as presented and certify the 2018-2019 levy at \$10,880,283. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ratliff to approve the MAPS 4K Contracts for 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Volpe to approve the Lincoln County Nursing Contract with PRSYL for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a Head Start Training for the Board of Education.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to approve the Head Start Annual Report as presented to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to approve SGS Environmental for the plowing of snow as per the contract for the 2018-2019 school year and to use Peterson Sand and Gravel for any pick up plowing, removal and hauling of snow during the winter season 2018-2019. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ratliff to table this topic (approval of the 2-year HVAC service agreement with Complete Control Inc.). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the curriculum purchases/contracted services over \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the superintendent evaluation tool and will add it to the Finance/HR Committee.

Ratliff left at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ashbeck to approve the donation of funds from Miron Construction valued at \$10,000 for the Jay Stadium Renovation Project. Motion carried unanimously.

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 Volpe, second by Yingling to approve consent agenda items a through d, which included minutes of the September 26, 2018 and October 3, 2018 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$5,409,882.85; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$11,111.36. Motion carried unanimously.

For Items for Future Meetings, Volpe stated that there were discussions about testing compliance of safety and ALICE training for students in March and bringing that to the Safety Committee, would like information as soon as possible. Blake said that he would like this to go to the next Safety Committee and then to the next Regular Board Meeting. Yingling wants to learn more about annual independent auditing for finance and how that works, how long, who does that. Blake said that he would like Brian Dasher to bring that to Finance Committee and then to the Board. Smith added on that he would like insight from the company that does the audit and what they do for us for the money they charge. Volpe asked for committee minutes to be added on the website. Smith asked that agenda notes/packets for the community be shared on the website. Volpe saw that Maple Grove is selling maple syrup with our name on it, wants to make sure we are protected in general liability if someone gets sick. Blake said that this could go to Finance/HR Committee.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Policy Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, November 12, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove School
- School Forest Advisory Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 @ 4:00 p.m. at School Forest
- PRSYL Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room

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 any 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; and, (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of 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. The purpose of the closed session is to review a vendor contract and vendor interactions with district staff. MOTION by Blake, second by Yingling to adjourn into closed session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote. Board members present in closed session were Yingling, Ashbeck, Geiss, Smith, Volpe and Blake.

MOTION by Geiss, second by Volpe to adjourn at 9:57 p.m.



Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder