

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
February 20, 2019 – 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, Paul Proulx, Jon Smith, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Jeremy Ratliff and Eric Geiss. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Cindy Heinz, Director of Human Resources; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Glenda Oginski, Elementary Principal; Dawn Nonn, Elementary Principal; Jill Seaman, Head Start/4K/Early Childhood Director; approximately 8 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: Pam Suchocki who is a new teacher at Jefferson that is always being recognized by her peers for the super job she is doing. She is one of the first to volunteer when an extra hand is needed and supports all students in the building. Melanie Hagemester, who has been selected as the Wisconsin VFW District Seven winner of the 2018-2019 Smart-Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award at the Elementary School level. District Seven consists of 11 counties located throughout Central Wisconsin. Kim Sample, who was selected as the Veterans of Foreign Wars Schmitt-Manecke-Donner Post 1638 Citizenship Education Award winner; as well as, recognized for the Portraits of Bravery Project. (Abe Akey here at 5:34 p.m. and Eric Geiss here at 5:35 p.m.) Von Saunders, MAPS School Psychologist, for coordinating and presenting a KTEA-3 training session for special education staff. He recognized a need for this online assessment tool and developed a presentation to inservice special education staff on the implementation of the assessment. The Merrill Dance team (MDT) took 1st place in their region for hip hop and 3rd place in Jazz at Wausau East High School on Saturday February 2nd, both of which qualified them to perform at State in LaCrosse on Saturday February 9th, ending one point short of placing at state.

Abe Akey, Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: Dance Team going to State; Boys Basketball leading the conference; Girls Basketball and Hockey are ongoing; Wrestling just ended with five making it to sectionals; ACT's; musical practice; this weekend is Solo and Band Ensemble; and, next week is Winterfest.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: Achievement Gap Reduction mid year update; (Jeremy Ratliff here at 4:41 p.m.) PRSYL monthly data; Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale report; Special Education/Pupil Services report; Human Resources report; Second Friday in January Enrollment report; food service participation report; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the Superintendent's report.

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

MOTION by Volpe, second by Yingling to ensure that the ALICE Training for students is incorporated, at the very latest, in the 2019-2020 curriculum. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to approve the 2018-2019 Community Assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Woller to approve the Head Start Transportation Waiver for 2019-2020. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Woller to approve the 2019-2020 Federal Head Start Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Volpe to approve the 2019 Federal COLA Supplement. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Volpe to approve the co-op for boys hockey with Wausau East and Wausau Newman Catholic for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve two 1.0 FTE special education teachers and four 1.0 FTE teaching assistants to continue to provide a self-contained program for students with cross-categorical needs. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Ratliff to approve a 1.0 FTE special education aide position (28 hours) at Pine River School for Young Learners to be funded through SPED flow through dollars. This will be for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Woller to approve the 1.0 FTE special education aide position at PRMS to be funded through SPED flow through dollars. This will be for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Planned maintenance projects from the referendum were shared with the Board.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Volpe to approve the purchase and installation of LED egress lighting for Merrill High School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Proulx to approve the purchase and installation of new starting blocks for the pool at Prairie River Middle School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Woller to approve the make-up days on the proposed 2018-2019 calendar to meet the requirements established by WI DPI. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was notified that technical corrections were made throughout the policy manual to change the District Compliance Officer from Gerald Beyer to Brian Dasher.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the donation of funds from Sierra Pacific valued at \$5,000.00 for equipment purchase in the MHS Fab Lab. 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 January 16, 2019, January 17, 2019 and February 11, 2019 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$4,134,332.54; the personnel report; and donations totaling \$3,799.59. Motion carried with Proulx abstaining from the January 16, 2019 and January 17, 2019 minutes.

For Items for Future Meetings 1) Jon Smith would like the Board to consider revising Bylaw 0155 Committees to include the definition of a quorum; what do we do when we need to reschedule; if someone can't attend, can there be a sub; who are voting members? Smith will draft the revisions for the March meeting. 2) Yingling said that they talked about taking "gun" out of the hunter safety curriculum title. Dr. Sample said that this would be part of the summer school curriculum coming to the Board in March.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room
- Safety Committee Meeting: Monday, March 4, 2019 @ 12:30 p.m in the Board room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, March 11, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove
- Head Start Policy Council: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Policy Committee Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 @ 5:00 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; (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 Superintendent's performance evaluation; and, review administrators' compliance with school board policy. MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:39 p.m. - 14 minute break

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Proulx to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder