

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
August 21, 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, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Christi Stellingworth, Linda Yingling, Brett Woller and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board member absent: Maria Volpe. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Karen Baker, Director of Special Education/Pupil Services; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Glenda Oginski, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Eddie Then, Director of Human Resources; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; John Miller, Activities Director; Alex Mashak, Elementary Associate Principal; Mark Heckendorf, Student Resource Officer; approximately 38 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: Kelci Peterson, Adam Smith, Kaitlin Kolehouse, Kaylin Byer and Dawn Smith for their support of the Adapt to Achieve summer school program for students with disabilities. Kelci designed the program with an interest in helping students with disabilities thrive in their community. Adam was instrumental in connecting students to the program and helping coordinate activities. Kaylin and Kaitlin helped students by building relationships with them and served as role models. Dawn Smith has acted as the number one supporter of the program and has helped connect community resources. The Merrill High School Bluejay Trap Shooting Team was also recognized for being Varsity Conference Champions. Please see the [attached list](#) of all those on the team.

Ratliff left the meeting 5:41-5:42 p.m.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: Student Resource Officer report; 2019-2020 School-Based Mental Health Grant; mandatory 2011 Wisconsin Act 125 Seclusion and Restraint Reporting; Human Resources report; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the Superintendent's report.

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

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the updated version of the Activities Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Stellingworth to approve the Merrill High School Band and Choir trip to New York City for the spring of 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the draft 2019-2020 Budget Book.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to approve the Lincoln County Health Department School Health Services Agreement for the 2019-2020 school year for Grades 4K-12 in the amount of \$100,440. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to approve the extension of minutes to the PRMS school day to reflect the start of school as 7:50 a.m. and the end of day at 3:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Woller to approve the updated Teacher Handbook as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Proulx to approve the updated Support Staff Handbook as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Yingling to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Merrill Area Public Schools and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northcentral Wisconsin for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Stellingworth to approve Policy 5530 Drug Prevention as a first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to approve the second reading and approval of Policy 2340 School Trips and Field Trips. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed an upcoming legislative meeting regarding school funding flaws.

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

MOTION by Stellingworth, second by Proulx to approve consent agenda items a through e, which includes second readings and approvals of the following policies: Policy 7440.01 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring; Policy 8390 Animals on District Property; Policy 0142.4 Oath; Policy 0165.1 Notice of Regular Meetings; Policy 0168.1 Meeting Minutes; Policy 2260 Nondiscrimination and Equal Access; Policy 2260.01 Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability; Policy 2260.02 English Language Proficiency; Policy 2411 School Counseling and Academic and Career Planning; Policy 2451 Program or Curriculum Modifications; Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students; Policy 5112 Entrance Age; Policy 5113 Open Enrollment Program (Inter-District); Policy 5340 Student Accidents/Illness/Concussions; Policy 5460 Graduation Requirements; Policy 5830 Student Fundraising; Policy 6152 Student Fees, Fines and Charges; Policy 6470 Payment of Invoices; Policy 6610 Student Activity Fund; Policy 7434 Use of Tobacco on School Premises; and, Policy 7540.01 Technology Privacy; Policy 8330 Student Records; minutes of the July 23, 2019, July 25, 2019 and August 14, 2019 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,433,693.04; the personnel report, which includes the hirings of Kathleen Nichols, Kate Goodrich Elementary Teacher, effective August 20, 2019; Lindsey Breheim, Jefferson Elementary Teacher, effective August 20, 2019; Amy Hahn, PRMS Teacher, effective August 21, 2019; Baonhia Lor, Kate Goodrich Elementary Teacher, effective August 20, 2019; Beth Shull to Washington Special Education Aide, effective August 20, 2019; Jessica Parrett, Kate Goodrich Classroom Aide, effective August 20, 2019; Heather Klimek, NAC Classroom Aide, effective August 20, 2019; and, Theresa Swiechowski, Washington Elementary After-School Coordinator, effective August

27, 2019; the transfers of Megan Sherman to Washington/Jefferson Library Media Specialist, effective August 20, 2019; Laurie Jacoby to PRSYL Teacher, effective for the Fall of 2019; and, Talina Bliven, to Washington Elementary Teacher, effective for the Fall of 2019; the resignation of Jennifer Winter, effective June 28, 2019; and, Sheryl Berton, effective August 14, 2019; and, donations totaling \$320.00. Motion carried with Yingling abstaining from the July 23, 2019 minutes and a portion of the July 25, 2019 minutes; and, Ratliff abstaining from the July 25, 2019 minutes.

For items for Future Meetings, Yingling asked to discuss the process for the hiring of our coaches, football, athletic, etc. Does the principal select? The Athletic Director? Who is all involved? It was unanimous consent by the Board to add this item to the Finance/HR Committee agenda for further review. Ratliff asked to add on to that how coaches salaries are decided.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing: Monday, September 16, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the MHS Auditorim
- Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 @ 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; (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. The purpose of the closed session is to update the Board regarding the transitioning process of a professional staff member; and, to discuss a citizen's request to be added to the agenda. MOTION by Ratliff, second by Yingling to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:41 p.m. - 8 minute break

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder