

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
September 24, 2019 – Minutes**

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

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Christi Stellingworth, Maria Volpe, Linda Yingling, Brett Woller and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. 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; Jill Seaman, Director of Head Start/Early Childhood/4K; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Megan Kautzer, High School Associate Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Mark Seaman, Middle School Associate Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Heather Skutak, Elementary Principal; Amy Stutzriem, Elementary Principal; Alex Mashak, Elementary Associate Principal; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Teaching Principal; Bella Troyer, Student Representative; approximately 21 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

During public comments, Karen Nocco commented on the use of more therapy dogs in Merrill Schools, allowing ATD members on policy committee to address issue. Eileen Guthrie commented on Therapy Dog Policy and the support of.

During recognition, new staff members were recognized and asked to introduce themselves to the Board. Also recognized was Colleen Schult for being a parent volunteer extraordinaire at Maple Grove School.

The Merrill Area Public School District recognized that October 6-12 is Wisconsin School Board Appreciation Week.

Bella Troyer, Student Board of Education Representative, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: freshmen adjusting well at the high school, awesome Link Crew; 15 foreign exchange student her until September 28; fall sports - football, volleyball, soccer, swimming, cross country; Link Crew helped out freshmen; Homecoming - this Friday up to 25 students per grade can help paint windows, build floats; daily dress up days; Friday is the assembly and bonfire; and, Saturday is the parade, game and dance.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: MAPS/CESA 9 Data Retreat; DPI Self-Assessment Cycle; Zones of Regulations Training; FastBridge Benchmark Assessment update; 2018-2019 Retirements and Resignations Exit Survey Data; Human Resources report; monthly budget update; technology update; and, the Superintendent's report.

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

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Ashbeck to approve the Lincoln County Nursing Contract with PRSYL for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Updated athletic code of conduct language was shared with the Board, additional updates will be made to clearly define gathering.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to work with Systems Technologies to provide an updated paging system and synchronized clock system not to exceed \$28,000 for Kate Goodrich Elementary School. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,165,000 taxable general obligation refunding bonds, Series 2019. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Ratliff to approve the resolution authorizing temporary borrowing in an amount no to exceed \$6,800,00 pursuant to Section 67.12(8)(a)1, Wis. Stats. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to amend both the support staff and teacher handbooks to consistently reflect the ability to use up to three (3) days of PTO regardless of whether or not it was scheduled and without a doctor's note. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Stellingworth to approve the revision to the Merrill Adult Diploma Academy charter school contract for the 2019-2021 school years. Motion carried unanimously.

President Blake asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from the consent agenda. Smith asked to pull Policies 3120 and 4120 for a possible edit.

MOTION by Smith, second by Yingling to table these two policies (Policy 3120 Employment of Professional Staff and Policy 4120 Employment of Support Staff). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Proulx to approve consent agenda items a through e, which included the second readings and approval of Policy 2131.01 Reading Instructional Goals and Kindergarten Assessment; Policy 5530 Drug Prevention; Policy 3120.01 Job Descriptions; Policy 4120.01 Job Descriptions; and, Combined Policy 7300/7310 Disposition of District Property; minutes of the August 21, 2019 and September 11, 2019 meetings; receipt of the minutes of the September 16, 2019 Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$2,142,509.65; the personnel report, which includes the hirings of Diane Cashman, District-wide Physical Therapist, effective date to be determined; Tanya Wyland, Kate Goodrich Elementary SPED Classroom Aide, effective August 27, 2019; Katie Capelle, Washington SPED Classroom Aide, effective date September 30, 2019; and, Leah Vanderloop, PRMS SPED Classroom Aide, effective date September 11, 2019; the resignations of Matthew Uelman, effective August 30, 2019; and, Sarah Miller, effective immediately; and, donations totaling \$923.00. Motion carried with Volpe abstaining from the August 21, 2019 minutes; Ratliff abstaining from the September 16, 2019 minutes; Stellingworth abstaining from the September 11, 2019 and September 16, 2019 minutes; and, Woller abstaining from a portion of the September 11, 2019 minutes and all of the September 16, 2019 minutes.

For items for Future Meetings, Yingling asked for the CTP Committee to have a discussion about the therapy dog policies.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Special Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Monday, September 30, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Special Board Meeting - DAPES Formative: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, October 14, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 23, 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))(a) deliberating concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body; (b) considering discipline of any public employee or the investigation of charges against such person; (c) considering employment 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 was to discuss a student's reinstatement conditions. MOTION by Proulx, second by Ratliff to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:51 p.m. - 6 minute break

MOTION by Proulx, second by Ashbeck to adjourn at 7:16 p.m.

Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder