

**Merrill Area Public Schools
Regular Board of Education Meeting
December 18, 2019 – Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:32 PM in the Central Office Board Room.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Paul Proulx, Jeremy Ratliff, Jon Smith, Christi Stellingworth, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling, and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: Maria Volpe. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Brian Dasher, Director of Finance; Eddie Then, Director of Human Resources; Glenda Oginski, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Keshia Mashak, Director of Technology Integration; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Trisha Detert, Elementary Principal; Dr. Dawn Nonn, Elementary Teaching Principal; Levi Black and Bella Troyer, Student Representatives; approximately 60 members of the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Volpe here at 5:34 p.m.

During public comments, Rebecca Primm commented on the Maple Grove Charter contract and vote to break. Kelly Hirn commented on the Maple Grove vote. Peter Fromm Wade commented on agenda item XVIII (closed session). Shawn Henrichs commented on the Maple Grove closure and MAPS school closure. Jenny Winter commented on Maple Grove. Trina Lutzke commented on solutions for declining enrollment. Rob Klug commented on the approval of the 2020-2021 calendar.

During recognition, Ellie Hartson was recognized for being named Honorable Mention for All State for Girls' Volleyball for Division 1. The Girls Swim Team was recognized for going to State and breaking records this year. Records broke the 2019-2020 school year: Evelyn Blennert (100 Free, 200 Free and 100 Fly); Amber Winter (100 Breast); and, Team of Camryn Schulz, Evelyn Blennert, Amber Winter and Trinity Kanitz (200 Medley). State recognition: Evelyn Blennert (100 Free, 200 Free, 200 Medley Relay and 200 Free Relay); Trinity Kanitz (500 Free, 200 Medley Relay and 200 Free Relay); Amber Winter (100 Breast, 200 Medley Relay and 200 Free Relay); Erin Kanitz (200 Free Relay); and, Camryn Schulz (200 Medley Relay). And, Karen Baker was recognized for being chosen to serve on the State Superintendent's AODA Advisory Council, and will serve the CESA 9 area well.

Bella Troyer and Levi Black, Student Board of Education Representatives, updated the Board on activities at the Merrill High School, including: volunteering opportunities at the high school such as Jr. Optimists and National Honor Society holding events at the elementary schools and businesses and DECA giving back to the community with their "Warm Hands Warm Hearts" initiative; Peppermint was last Saturday; this week's dress up days; the Christmas assembly on Friday; winter sports; Juniors took another optional ACT practice test; this month the MHS Band and Choir each held their first concerts of the year.

Troyer left at 6:05 p.m.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including: ALICE Lessons/Drills; District Wide PBIS System; PRSYL monthly data; Lincoln County Health Department e-cigarette display and survey at PRMS and MHS; Human Resources report; resignee/retiree trend data; food participation update; 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 Volpe, second by Ratliff to approve the purchase of Microsoft licensing through Heartland Business Systems. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the process of the WASB resolutions and the Delegate Assembly at the State Education Convention.

MOTION by Ratliff, second by Yingling to approve the Bridges Virtual Academy and Maple Grove Charter School enrollment limits for the 2020-2021 school year as indicated in the topic summary sheets. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the new courses and the 2020-2021 Merrill High School course description book as [presented](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Ratliff to approve the MAPS Head Start Program Performance Summary Report. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Stellingworth to approve the 2018-2019 Program Information Report for MAPS Head Start. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the 2020-2021 School Calendar as [drafted](#). Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Woller to approve the MHS Boys Basketball trip to Florida over the winter break of 2019. Motion carried with Stellingworth abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sample presented the Strategic Academic Plan and District Plan Timeline.

President Blake asked if anyone wanted anything pulled from the consent agenda, hearing none, he called for a motion. MOTION by Volpe, second by Proulx to approve the consent agenda items a through e, which includes the second readings and approval of Policy 9211.01 Concession Stands and Policy 5513 Care of District Property; minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,121,020.16; the personnel report, which includes the hiring's of the following limited-term employees: Jason Wadzinski, MHS Track & Field Head Coach; Kathryn Korff, MHS Head Girls Soccer Coach; Christy Rasmussen, PRMS Ski Club Co-Advisor; Virginia Simon, PRMS Ski Club Co-Advisor; Nancy Dewar, PRMS Ski Club Co-Advisor; Tim Moe, MHS Play Director; Katherine Szmanda, MHS Fall Play Production Manager; Nathan Meyer, MHS Fall Play Lighting/Sound Assistant; Sara Belz, MHS Fall Play Lighting/Sound Assistant; Jean Nelessen, PRMS Forensics Co-Advisor; Michelle Smith, MHS Spring Musical Costume Designer; Michael Rindt, PRMS Forensics Co-Advisor; Joel Freiburg, MHS Spring Musical Sound Technician; David Rusch, MHS Spring Musical Light Technician; Jennifer Freyer, MHS Spring Musical Backstage Director; Joanne Anderson, MHS

Spring Musical Production Manager; Ellie Wilk, MHS Spring Musical Orchestra Director; Josh Olson, MHS Spring Musical Vocal Director; Ken Stetzer, MHS Spring Musical Choreographer; Jon Smith, MHS Spring Musical Set Builder; and, Andrew Watzka, MHS 2020 Head Varsity Boys Soccer Coach; and, donations totaling \$546.73. Motion carried with Smith abstaining from the hirings of Michelle Smith, MHS Spring Musical Costume Designer and Jon Smith, MHS Spring Musical Set Builder.

“Items for Future Meetings and Possible Action to Approve the Future Discussions Thereof” was shared with the Board.

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

Radio Schedule: Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. at Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

Future Meetings

- Safety Sub Committee Meeting: Monday, January 6, 2020 @ 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Maple Grove Governance Board Meeting: Monday, January 6, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m. at Maple Grove
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Information, Question & Answer Session: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 @6:30 p.m. in the MHS Auditorium
- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Special Board Meeting - DAPES Formative: Wednesday, January 8, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Policy Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- PRSYL Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 @ 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; (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, (g) conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss administrators' and supervisors' evaluations; to discuss a support staff member's medical leave; and, to confer with legal counsel who is rendering legal advice regarding the consideration of the closing of the Maple Grove School, specifically the potential/likelihood of litigation associated with doing so, and the strategies/options available to the Board which may be the subject of negotiations with the

Maple Grove Governance Board. MOTION by Volpe, second by Woller to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

6:51p.m. - 9 minute break.

MOTION by Proulx, second by Yingling to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.j

MOTION by Smith, second by Volpe to approve the leave of absence for Theresa Swiechowski. Motion carried unanimously

MOTION by Proulx, second by Smith to adjourn at 10:59 p.m.

Nubs Ashbeck
Clerk

Tammy Woller
Recorder