

# Merrill Area Public Schools

*MAPS Mission Statement: Merrill Area Public Schools, in partnership with the Merrill Community and our families, will empower students to be lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and productive community members.*

## Facilities Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 6, 2021

**3:30 PM**

**Central Office Board Room**  
(1111 N Sales Street, Merrill, Wisconsin)

## Minutes

### I. Call to Order and Roll Call –

Kevin Blake called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Present: Dale Bergman, Kevin Blake, Darryl Frick, Chad Krueger, Nubs Ashbeck in place of Ron Liberty, and Dr. John Sample

Absent: Eddie Then

### II. Approval of [September 1, 2021 Facilities Committee Minutes](#)

**MOTION** by Chad Krueger to approve the September 1, 2021 Facilities Committee Minutes, second by Kevin Blake. Darryl Frick and Nubs Ashbeck abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

### III. Discuss Meeting Days and Times

Kevin Blake provided the Committee with the rationale for the need to discuss making a change to the meeting time or date to include: that the meetings are always followed by the HR/Finance Committee Meeting and often run out of time.

The Committee discussed the length of time the meetings need versus how much is planned. As well as options to adjust the date of the meeting and the start and end times.

Kevin Blake will address extending the Facilities Committee Meeting until 4:45pm and starting the HR/Finance Committee Meeting at 5:00pm with the HR/Finance Committee.

### IV. Facility Tours for Board Members

Kevin Blake provided the Committee with a history behind the request to provide facility tours for Board members to include: the importance of having consistency, ensuring that

all important areas of facilities are covered and keeping the tours purposeful with an agenda.

The Committee discussed the differences between CTP and Facility tours, making sure that Board members are getting the type of tour that they want and the possibility of giving tour options.

This item will be discussed at the Board/Admin retreat. If there isn't a retreat prior to the November Board meeting, it will be added to the Board agenda.

V. Air Conditioning for Prairie River Middle School

**Discussion for feasibility / need.**

Dale Bergman informed the committee of the overall aspects to cooling PRMS to include: the expenditure of roughly \$700,000 to bring AC to the building (this does not include the cost of ensuring the univents/air handling system would be able to handle AC), the recommendation to bring in an engineering firm to look at the system as a whole, the current process of adding spot cooling systems through room analysis, the difference between cooling and reducing humidity and the focus on preventing mold and maintaining building and classroom integrity.

The Committee discussed the benefits and limitations of spot cooling systems along with what method will be used to determine which areas will be provided cooling versus which will go without. The Committee discussed that adding AC to PRMS was brought up during August when school was not in session.

VI. Merrill High School Baseball Field Fencing

Dale Bergam provided an overview of the request to purchase fencing for the MHS baseball field to include: the bids have been received and reviewed, the cost of the 8 ft fence will be paid by the booster club, and the added crushed gravel will be paid through the maintenance budget.

The Committee reviewed the fencing proposal and discussed the advantages to adding the fence.

**MOTION** by Nubs Ashbeck to forward to the full Board the approval to purchase the fencing project upon receipt of funds from the booster club, second by Chad Krueger. Motion carried.

VII. School Forest Updates

Dale Bergman provided the Committee with an overview of the Friends of the Schools Forest meetings to include: the current status of the pond drawdown project, the dam inspection and the acquisition of a used dock.

## VIII. School Forest Generator

Dale Bergman provided the Committee with an overview of the need for a generator at the School Forest to include: that phones, cameras, alarm system connectivity was lost for several days during the last outage, extended power outages would be covered versus the 12 hour backup coverage we currently have and alarm notifications would be sent out if the generator was engaged.

**MOTION** by Chad Krueger to forward to the full Board the approval of the purchase of a backup generator at the School Forest, second by Nubs Ashbeck.

The Committee discussed that a portion of the cost of the generator would be paid by the Friends of the School Forest.

Motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

## IX. Kate Goodrich Parking Lot

Dale Bergman provided the Committee with an overview of the current parking situation at Kate Goodrich to include: there are more staff than spaces available, Lincoln Wood Products will allow parking in the back lot of their building as long as space is available, and a proposed option for creating more parking spaces.

The Committee discussed several options adding more space including, blacktopping the district-owned city lot that is connected to Prospect Street, allowing for 25 additional parking spots at the approximate cost of \$40,000. The committee discussed possible alternative areas for adding parking.

Dale Bergman will reach out to Rod Akey to determine any additional considerations such as permits or existing easements. He will provide the Committee with updates as information becomes available.

## X. Transportation Updates

### A. Facility Consolidation and Transportation Update

Dale Bergman provided the committee with an update on the current transportation status.

The Committee discussed several of the reasons why it's difficult to schedule buses for extracurricular trips.

The Committee discussed the removal of the standing agenda item for building consolidation.

**MOTION** by Nub Ashbeck to remove this topic as a standing agenda item for all committee meetings and return related topics to the Facilities Committee on an as-needed basis, second by Chad Krueger. Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Standing Agenda Item - Safety Sub-Committee Minutes

A. August 30, 2021 Safety Sub-Committee Minutes

No new information available.

XII. Standing Agenda Item for Review of Safety Policies and Policy Review by Facilities Committee

Kevin Blake provided the Committee with an overview of the standard process for reviewing policies.

XIII. Items for Next Meeting and Next Meeting Date

A. November 3, 2021

B. Policy Review

C. Kate Goodrich Parking Lot

XIV. Adjournment

**MOTION** by Nubs Ashbeck to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chad Krueger. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:37pm.