

**Merrill Area Public Schools  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
December 15, 2021 – Minutes**

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The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Blake at 5:30 PM in the Merrill High School Auditorium.

Board members present: Nubs Ashbeck, Jacqueline Gremler, Chad Krueger, Ron Liberty, Kendra Osness, Maria Volpe, Brett Woller, Linda Yingling and Kevin Blake (a quorum was present). Board members absent: None. Others Present: Dr. John Sample, Superintendent; Eddie Then, Director of Business Services; Dale Bergman, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Trisha Detert, Director of 4K/Head Start/Early Childhood; John Hagemeister, BVA Administrator; Shannon Murray, High School Principal; Megan Kautzer, High School Associate Principal; Ryan Martinovici, Middle School Principal; Mark Seaman, Middle School Associate Principal; Student Board Representatives Isaiah Rell and Amelia Skoviera; approximately 17 people from the staff and public; and, Tammy Woller, Recorder.

President Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

New Board Member Jacqueline Gremler was introduced, recited the oath of office and was officially seated on the Board of Education.

During Recognition, the following State Swim Meet Qualifiers were recognized - Claire Schultz, Grace Schultz, Amber Winter and Bailee Sommer. Individual participants - Claire Schultz (50 Free, finished in 8th place and also set a new school record); Grace Schultz (200 IM, finished in 10th place and also set a new school record. 100 Back, finished in 7th place and also set a new school record. Earlier in the season Grace also set a new school record in the 100 Butterfly.); and, Amber Winter (200 IM, finished in 15th place. 100 Breast, finished in 11th place and also set a new school record. These 3 ladies then joined together with Bailee Sommer for 2 Relays - 200 Medley Relay, finished 8th place and also set a new school record; and, the 200 Free Relay, finished in 7th Place.

Student BOE Representatives, Amelia Skoviera and Isaiah Rell update the Board on high school activities including winter sports; DECA the Halls; dress up days; fundraisers; Spring musical tryouts; Peppermint; and, 1st semester ends on January 14.

There was a presentation by our Instructional Coaches.

Administrative reports were shared with the Board including PRSYL Monthly Data; School Report Card; Continuation of Professional Development; Business Services Update; Food Participation Update; Buildings & Grounds/Transportation Update; and, the Superintendent's Report.

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

MOTION by Volpe, second by Woller to go with Neola's language for letting the vacancy be filled by the Board President (adding to Bylaw 0142.5 Vacancies). Motion carried.

MOTION by Liberty, second by Woller to approve the Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 Per Year for Four Years for Non-Recurring Purposes. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve the Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$2,500,000 Per Year for Four Years for Non-Recurring Purposes. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

The Board had the proposed WASB Resolutions for the 2022 Delegate Assembly before them to review and give the Board's Delegate, Kevin Blake, direction for the State Convention.

MOTION by Ashbeck, second by Osness to approve the placement of three current employees onto Grade 8 level of the Support Staff Compensation Plan with retroactive payment starting July 1, 2021 and to have them placed on the personnel report for this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve the BVA Governance Board enrollment limits for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the preliminary 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 School Calendars.

MOTION by Osness, second by Krueger to approve the creation of a scholarship account for William C. Gennrich and Merle A. Gennrich and accept receipt of future funds for scholarship related purposes as defined in the attached exhibit. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MOTION by Volpe, second by Liberty to approve consent agenda items a through d, which includes minutes of the November 17, 2021 meetings; claims, vouchers and receipts totaling \$3,364,989.23; the personnel report [as presented](#), contingent upon the satisfaction of the appropriate liquidated damages for resignations, if applicable; and, donations totaling \$6,109.85. Motion carried with Gremler and Yingling abstaining from the November 17, 2021 minutes.

For "Items for Future Meetings and Possible Action to Approve the Future Discussions Thereof", Blake asked to have an update on the details of adding Instructional Coaches. This will be added to the January Finance/HR agenda.

Radio Schedule: Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 8:15 AM @ Bluejay 730 Radio Station.

#### Future Meetings

- Safety Committee Meeting: Monday, January 3, 2022 @ 12:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Facilities Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 @ 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Finance/HR Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- Head Start Policy Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. at PRSYL

- Curriculum/Technology/Pupil Services Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room
- BVA Governance Board Meeting: Thursday, January 13, 2022 @ 12:45 p.m., virtual
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Merrill High School Auditorium

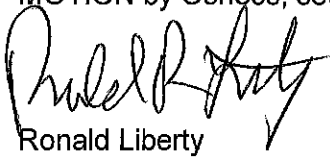
President Blake called for a MOTION to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of an public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises 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 for discussion of and potential action on approving a leave of absence for multiple employees; to discuss administrators' and supervisors' evaluations; to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation goals; and, to conduct specified public business which for competitive or bargaining reasons requires a closed session, to wit, the consideration and discussion of the sale of personal and real property associated with Maple Grove School, and the division of assets and liabilities between Merrill Area Common Public School District and Athens School District, which may occur as a result of granting petitions for detachment of property in the Town of Hamburg, and to take action regarding the same. The Board may reconvene to open session and may take action upon the matters discussed during the closed session portion of the meeting. MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to adjourn into executive session. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

6:58 p.m. - 10 minute break to get organized.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Volpe, second by Osness to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Sandra Sartain through February of 2022; Saraphena Jochman through February 2022; Carla McLenithan through January of 2022; Susan Keller through January of 2022; and, Jaimie Bushar through January of 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Osness, second by Yingling to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.



Ronald Liberty  
Board Clerk

Tammy Woller  
Recorder

**MAPS Monthly Personnel Report: Who, When, Where, & Why**

| Position  | Location           | Prior Employee     | Internal or External Hire               | New Hire    | Salary / Wage           | Start Date |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|---|-------------|-------------------------|------------|
| School Psychologist   | District           | Veronica Krueger   |   |             |                         |            |
| School Psychologist   | District           | Von Saunders       |   |             |                         |            |
| School Psychologist   | District           | Joey Powell        |   |             |                         |            |
| High School Science Teacher   | MHS                | Tamara Lahren      | Filling with Long Term Sub at this time |             |                         |            |
| High School Physical Education Teacher  | MHS                | Lauren Bullis      | External                                | Jodi Lehrke | 50% of \$67,721 (MA,15) | 1/17/2022  |
| Early Childhood Education Teacher   | PRYSL              | Family Support     |   |             |                         |            |
| Part Time Aquatic Director  | PRMS               | Cherish Hoy        |   |             |                         |            |
| Human Resources Assistant   | CO                 | Natalia Swatloski  |   |             |                         |            |
| Special Education Aide  | WASH               | Nancy Beyersdorf   |   |             |                         |            |
| Instructional Coach   | PRMS               | Matthew Schult     | Not Being Filled At This Time           |             |                         |            |
| All Positions Below are Being Hired with ESSER 2 or 3 Funding (Unless Stated Otherwise) |                    |                    |   |             |                         |            |
| Special Education Instructional Coach (2 of 2)  | Multiple Buildings | New ESSER Position |   |             |                         |            |
| Regular Education Aide (4 of 5)   | KATE               | New ESSER Position |   |             |                         |            |
| Regular Education Aide (5 of 5)   | KATE               | New ESSER Position |   |             |                         |            |

| Leaving Employee | Location | Leave Type | Last Date Employed | Years of Service       | Position  |
|------------------|----------|------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| James Schooley   | MHS      | Retirement | 2/4/22             | 24                     | Custodian |
| Amy Beyer        | PRMS     | Retirement | 6/30/22            | 15 -Pending Completion | Teacher   |

| Transfers     | Employee Type | Previous Position            | New Position                 | Effective Date | Authorizer(s) |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Dennis Knottl | District      | Part Time- Technology Depart | Part Time- Technology Depart | 11/28/2021     | Sample, Then  |
| William Folla | District      | Part Time- Technology Depart | Part Time- Technology Depart | 11/28/2021     | Sample, Then  |
| Gerald Koch   | District      | Part Time- Technology Depart | Part Time- Technology Depart | 11/28/2021     | Sample, Then  |

| Position             | Location   | Season/Type         | Supervisor     | New Hire       | Salary    |
|----------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| After School Program | KATE       | 2021-22 School Year | Heather Skutak | Irene Blennert | \$8.25/HR |
| After School Program | KATE       | 2021-22 School Year | Heather Skutak | Lily Kerins    | \$8.25/HR |
| After School Program | KATE       | 2021-22 School Year | Heather Skutak | Haylea Drabek  | \$8.25/HR |
| After School Program | Washington | 2021-22 School Year | Amy Stutzriem  | Austin White   | \$8.25/HR |
| After School Program | Washington | 2021-22 School Year | Amy Stutzriem  | Acazia Clayton | \$8.25/HR |

| Leaving Seasonal, Limited-term & Grant Employees | Location | Leave Type  | Last Date Employed | Years of Service | Position  |
|--|----------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Ethan Cordova                                    | PRMS     | Resignation | 11/28/2021         |                  | Lifeguard |

| Clarifications   |  |                      |                |
|--|--|----------------------|----------------|
| Definitions:   |  | Reported to the BOE? | Responsibility |
| <u>Transfer</u> : Same type of position AND same task (could be different grade level too), but a different building   |  | Yes                  | Principals     |
| <u>Scheduling</u> : Same building AND same task, but a different grade level   |  | No                   | Principal      |
| <u>Hiring Process</u> : The task is new to an individual and/or the individual was not asked by an administrator to "move."  |  | Yes                  | HR             |
| <u>Substitutes</u> : Individuals hired to do work when a regularly scheduled employee is absent  |  | No                   | Mixed          |
| <u>Student Workers</u> : Students hired at minimum wage for a variety of tasks (after school programs, clerical, lifeguard, etc.)  |  | No                   | Mixed          |
| When the Board hires a coach and there is a shuffle that needs to happen due to an empty position or someone does not sign the "dotted line" after board approval, etc., Administration has taken the liberty of moving approved coaches from one position to another without re-approval at this time. The same will happen when a position gets "split" between two individuals as a result of time constraints. |  |                      |                |

Updated AFTER committee meeting but BEFORE the posting for the regular board meeting

Updated AFTER the regular board meeting was posted, but BEFORE the actual board meeting

\*\*All summer school positions will be filled based on enrollment\*\*

\*\*All co-curricular pay rates are subject to any future changes made to the compensation plan established by the Board\*\*